

The Hood Panther

Published For

Tank Destroyers

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NO. 31.

General Hester Assumes Command Of TDC

Gen. Ward Leaves Hood For New Task

Brought Training Ideas From Battle Action In Africa

Major General Orlando Ward relinquishes command of the Tank Destroyer Center to Major General John H. Hester, on Sunday, October 24, after a brief but active period as the Center's second commanding officer.

General Ward brought to the Tank Destroyers valuable experience gained in an Army career which has included such important posts as Director of the Gunnery Department of the Field Artillery School; Secretary to the General Staff, War Department, Wash., D. C.; and the recent command of the 1st Armored Division in Ireland, England and North Africa. He came to the Tank Destroyer Center direct from the field of battle and brought with him lessons and experiences that can be gained only in actual combat. A veteran of World War I and World War II, he well knew the importance of sending none but well trained units to the battlefields of the world.

Emphasis On Training

In applying principles learned through many years of varied experiences, great emphasis was placed upon the training of the individual soldier and small units. Terrain plots were constructed in the vicinity of each barracks where men could practice proper employment of their weapon and be trained to take advantage of every depression or elevation in the ground. Blankets were spread over tables in quarters, with objects under the blankets to effect hills and valleys, where men might conveniently practice employment of their weapons, using match boxes attached to strings to imitate the movement of tanks.

Must Know Abilities

General Ward insists that each corporal know intimately the abilities and peculiarities of every man under him, and that each higher officer and non-commissioned officer have the same close relationship with the lower units. Gen. Ward has laid great stress upon team work and arranged training schedules intended to mold units into teams that might be handled by the commander as a quarterback would handle a football team. For instance, a unit might receive the command, "Right hook around that woods" or around that hill." Every soldier knew what a right hook was before he became a soldier. With this type of training on the drill field, it would be second nature for a unit to perform as a team in actual combat. "The degree of proficiency on the battlefield is directly dependent upon the amount of thought, energy, and preparation expended in training," General Ward points out.

Aggression Was Taught

The fact that victory can not be won by "digging in" but by intelligent aggression has been constantly emphasized.

General Ward constantly cautions his command down to the individual soldier, to ask himself what the battlefield application of the training immediately at

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Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

NAMED AFTER A FAMOUS WOMAN—Yeah, you guessed it. Crew of this M-10 in the Tank Destroyer School Weapons Department has named their destroyer after a lady famous in song and story—"Pistol Packin' Mama." Of course she packs a little more than a pistol, but you get the idea. Crew of the "Pistol Packin' Mama" consists of Sgt. Anthony Kozminski, Pfc Claudio Dapra, Pfc Clifford Singer, Pvt. William Clock and Pvt. Boyd Scroggs.

Camp Invests Huge Sum In War Bonds

During September, military and civilian personnel in Camp Hood purchased a total of \$137,521.25 worth of War Savings Bonds and Stamps by cash alone, a report of Lt. John H. Morris, camp war bond officer, revealed this week.

Civilian employees are now participating in pay reservations for the purchase of bonds in the amount of 94.5 percent, the report stated, and invested \$37,935.50 in this manner during the month.

Military personnel arranged for 2,091 new Class B allotments during the month.

Col. C. M. Thirkeld, camp commander, said that he hoped that 100 percent of the civilian personnel employed on the post would soon be investing their extra money in War Bonds through the pay reservation plan.

One new 100% bond club member was added to the civilian roster this week when the Signal office, South Camp signed.

He'll Never Know If He Doesn't Now

Lt. Dan McCleod, III, who graduated with the 1st TD OCS class just a year ago, who served in Tunisia, and who received the Purple Heart as the result of wounds received in battle, is now at Camp Hood.

This week he is attending a company officers' course designed to get the men used to battle noises!

Parlays Pie Into A Crisp 3-Day Pass

Pfc. S. E. Uschin can thank his ability as a pie maker first class for a most enjoyable three day pass.

Major Degenhardt, CO of the 667th Bn, while partaking of a very sumptuous meal in headquarters mess hall, sampled a piece of Uschin's culinary art in the form of apple pie. The major it seems is a connoisseur on pies, having descended from a long line of pie masticators. After eating the first piece of pie the major smacked his lips and called for another along with the cook. He ate the pie but congratulated the cook on his pie making ability and rewarded him with a three-day pass.

Men Invited To Dance

Camp Hood men will have an opportunity to "meet the Governor" and dance with Temple girls at the Governor's Ball to be held in the Temple High School gymnasium Friday night starting at 9 o'clock. The First TD Dance Band from camp will furnish the music.

The dance will follow a program beginning at 8:00 o'clock in the gym during which Governor Coke Stevenson will present certificates to members of the Temple Girls Service Organization honoring their participation in events for servicemen.

Men from camp have been especially invited to attend by the committee in charge of arrangements. The vent is free.

SSO Officers Plan Program Of Education

Capt. Wilson T. Betts, Special Service Officer of UTC, returned to Camp Hood during the past week after attending a four-weeks course of instruction at the School for Special Service at Lexington, Va. Since returning to duty, Capt. Betts has been busy holding conferences with group and battalion special service officers of UTC, making plans for fall activities.

Under present organization as taught by the school at Lexington, Capt. Betts states that the duties of the special service officer have been considerably broadened to include not only athletic and recreational activities, but to assist actively in the physical conditioning of soldiers and cooperate with the Operations and Training section of the staff to put over an enlarged program of information, orientation and education for the men.

Capt. Betts plans to form an athletic council and a recreation council for UTC, and has made the initial step toward getting under way an educational program which will offer many courses to officers and men who wish to improve themselves.

Through the cooperation of the Post Special Service Office the program will include academic, technical and business subjects, with foreign languages taught in a new and novel way by the use of phonograph records.

Arrives In London

Safe arrival in London, England, of Ruth M. Stenvick, American Red Cross Hospital social worker, has been announced.

Miss Stenvick was hospital social worker in camp before her new assignment.

Brings Battle Knowledge From Pacific

Commanded Occupation Forces On Russell, New Georgia Islands

Recently returned from the South Pacific, and awarded the Legion of Merit for his skill in commanding occupation forces in that theater, Major General John H. Hester assumes command of the Tank Destroyer Center, Oct. 24.

General Hester brings to the center a wealth of experience particularly pertinent to the current training objectives. Troop commander, instructor, tactician, general staff officer; his breadth of duty assignments during 35 years military service provides a fund of experience which will prove of immeasurable value to the personnel at Camp Hood.

Attended Many Schools

Upon graduation from the U. S. Military Academy in 1908 he was assigned to the 17th Infantry. Duty at other stations in the U. S. was followed by Philippine service until 1915. He participated his assignment in June, 1919, Mexico under General Pershing. One year of duty with the War Department General Staff preceded his assignment in June, 1919, to France where he was in charge of a depot until December of that year.

He is an honor graduate of the Army Staff College, 1923, and a graduate of the Army War College, 1927.

From 1923 to 1926 he served in the office of the Chief of Infantry; in 1929 he held the post of Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the University of Minnesota, continuing there until 1933 when he was sent to Porto Rico as Executive Officer, 65th Inf.

A four year detail with the operations and Training Division of the War Department General Staff was completed in the summer of 1939 when he was assigned to command the First Infantry. In Sept., 1940, he was appointed Brig. Gen., Regular Army, and assigned as Executive Reserve in ROTC affairs in the office of the Chief of Staff, Wash., D. C.

Commanded RTC

The following year he commanded the RTC at Camp Wheeler, Ga. In Oct., 1941, he was detailed to command the 43rd Inf. Div., Camp Blanding, Fla., retaining command until August, 1943.

He commanded the occupation force in the Russell Islands expedition in the South Pacific, and initially commanded occupation forces in the New Georgia group.

The award of the Legion of Merit carried the citation, "for exceptionally meritorious conduct", and recorded his skill in planning and carrying out the occupation of the Russell Island group and their subsequent defense and development, together with his services in conjunction with the planning of the occupation of the New Georgia group, including the capture of four important localities while in command of the occupation forces.

General Hester's experience, especially that gained in recent

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Men Of 660th Battalion Score High In Firing

Results of weeks of diligent training were reflected in the record-breaking performance by the firing companies of the 660th TD Battalion, UTC, in their three-inch SP proficiency test.

Lt. Col. Fred L. Plahte, battalion commander, commended the men in a critique held immediately following the test. Col. Plahte emphasized phases which needed polishing and stressed the value of marksmanship training in preparation for combat.

The companies finished in this order: Co. A, 90 percent; Co. B, 80 percent; Co. C, 78 percent. Third platoon of Co. A received particular praise from the battalion commander for its record of 95 percent.

Eleven gunners shot perfect targets. They were Cpl. Rathbun, Pfc. Decker and Mill, Co. A; Cpls. Warner and Shields and T-5 Wilson, Co. A; and Cpls. Allen, Rich, Cesario and Conrad, Co. C.

The battalion has received letters of commendation from the commanding officer, UTC, and the commanding officer of the 18th Tank Destroyer Group.

Mess Staff Does Well

"Cooks or Commandos?" is the current question in Company B of the 662nd Bn., UTC. So fine a showing did the boys from the kitchen make during the battalion's recent visit to the Battle Conditioning Course, that Lt. C. W. Lynch, Company Commander, and his men now fear they may see their mess hall squadron drafted for active battle service.

Mess Sergeant Dunkelson can feel justly proud of his men, T-5's Leo Trohlick, Joe V. Goeffrey, Petty and Pfc. Keats and Brown, who not only can cook, but also can leave the pots and pans behind and go through the tough Battle Conditioning program with one of the finest records made.

The company is happy about the showing made by their cooks,

Terrain Plot Is Redesigned

Redecoration was the order of the day on the 19th Group Headquarters Terrain Plot which was redesigned last week to an exact 1 to 600 scale model reproduction of the Crossville Mt. Road-Ivy Mt. Road section in the extreme Southern Extension of Camp Hood.

The redecoration was the work of T-Sgt. Ira J. O'Connor, who took time out from his usual duties in the Intelligence Section, to work out the new detailed area study. Sgt. O'Connor made several trips to the area to study the part to be reproduced and then worked from charts and sketches he had made. The plot has been remarked upon by many officers for its accuracy and detail and Sgt. O'Connor has been frequently complimented for the care and accuracy of his reproduction.

Authenticity has been added to the plot through the use of various colored sands made by the designer himself which simulate remarkably streams, roads and other terrain features. The plot is in frequent use by members of the group and in its present form has proven of value for the study of tactical problems.

General Hester Brings Experience From Pacific Battles To Camp Hood

(Continued From Page 1)

combat, will prove highly beneficial to the numbers of younger officers and NCO's at Camp Hood, upon whom rests the responsibility for training and leadership of their primary battle units.

General officers assigned to command the Tank Destroyer Center continue to bring battle-field experience into the training program, and General Hester's assignment indicates the importance of tank destroyer units in War Department planning for victory.

Gen. Ward Leaves Hood

(Continued From Page 1)

hand is and does he know all that is to be known about his job.

With the picture of the North African campaign vivid in his mind, he has constantly stressed the importance of coordinating activities with those of other arms—infantry, tanks, engineers and artillery, gaining all possible information of the situation from troops on your right and left and those who have been in the vicinity.

His experience caused General

Ward to constantly stress training in gunnery. "The effort of the enlisting officer, the Quartermaster, the instructor, the transportation officers and the munitions manufacturers all count for naught if the team that fires the gun, through lack of training or for any other reason, misses the target," he reiterates.

Took Personal Interest

Regardless of the hour, day or night, General Ward can be found making periodic personal observations of the training on the ranges. He is never too busy to discuss practical training with the newest recruit. He is extremely considerate and so easy to approach that the recruit feels no

restraint in discussing training. As an artillery officer, a General Staff officer, the former Commander of the 1st American Armored Division to engage the enemies' armor, his esteem for tank destroyers has confirmed the confidence of these units in the importance of their missions. Recalling General McNair's comment in May that "Tank Destroyer organization is based on the concept, now proven thoroughly in battle, that the concealed anti-tank gun, with its effective range, is superior to the tank," General Ward recently remarked, "I believe that today's tank destroyers will materially influence the course of this war; they have more than justified their existence."

General Ward leaves the Center for an unannounced destination.



A GROUP OF STRAIGHT SHOOTERS—These men of the Third Platoon, Co. A, 660th Bn., fired 95 percent in Army Ground Force, three-inch SP proficiency tests. The platoon is commanded by Lt. S. Kiscadden. See story at left.

Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

106th Cavalry Orchestra Gives Concert In Clubs

Last week the orchestra from the 106th Cavalry made a journey to the 37th Street Service Club where they put on another concert, strictly sweet and hot.

Monday night the band again put on its hiking boots and ventured to the 162nd Street Service Club.

Outstanding on the program was their rendition of "Thumps Up", which also exhibited the vocal ability of the band when they sang in harmony the lyrics to this song which acquired its start and fame in England. Changing their instrumentation and adding a bass clarinet and flute, the band again did something extra-ordinary when it played "Pavanne", "Finlandia" was played in all its color as it was meant to be played by its composer Sibelius. Although they might have been rushing things a bit, the haunting choruses of "White Christmas" were enthusiastically received by the audience. This concert was conducted by Sgt. Harold Schmidt in the absence of Mr. Madden.

The 106th Cavalry band has a concert every Friday evening in the 172nd street Rec. Hall.

Captain Sells \$72,000 Worth Of Bonds In Home Town On Leave

While home, in Munster, Ind., on a recent leave Capt. Henry S. Daugherty, 5th Tank Group, led a victory rally parade, and was responsible for the sale of \$72,000 worth of war bonds.

Capt. Munster led the parade driving a fire truck, and claimed afterward that it wasn't half as hard to sell the bonds as it was to keep the fire horses in line.

Private In 19th Group Sets Record On Obstacle Course

Records toppled last week when the Headquarters Company of the 19th TD Group, UTC, hit the Battle Conditioning Course. Honors for the occasion went to Pvt. Edward J. Bednar who smashed previous performance records when he completed the record run of the obstacle course on Cowhouse B.C.C. No. 3, in seven minutes and 10 seconds. This is the best time that has been made on the three-quarter mile run since the addition of new and difficult obstacles to the future TD Commandos, and according to officials of the course, it is unlikely that such a record will soon be beaten.

Pvt. Bednar, a native of Cleveland, has been noted in the company for his athletic ability. Officials of the course and mem-

bers of other companies were left mildly amazed by his display on the run which is no easy 15 minute task for the majority of them.

Despite their less spectacular accomplishments, heartiest compliments were paid by the company to Pfc. Robert E. Guenther and Pfc. James O. Kinner for their excellent spirit of co-operation in sacrificing chances for personal achievement to aid other members of their group.

Turtle Borne Message Haunts TDS Sergeant

Sergeant Francis Hamilton and Cpl. Alton Howell found a large turtle in the TD School area, and promptly painted the following sign on the shell: "Return to Sergeant Robert Harris, TD School Message Center, phone 605. Reward, \$5.00."

The turtle has been roaming all over camp with the result that Sgt. Harris has been the recipient of scores of phone calls by sympathetic soldiers who want to return the turtle to him—and collect the \$5.00.

Harris, of course, has been protesting any ownership, until he has become so weak, that at this stage he'll gladly pay \$5.00, just to get the turtle back to its rightful owner, if any—minus the paint job.

General Is Guest

Brig. Gen. Walter A. Dumas, commander at the Replacement Training Center and Mrs. Dumas were guests of RTC officers at their monthly dinner party Friday night. The dinner was served in the Headquarters Officers' Mess and the party adjourned to the Officers' Club for the evening.

Sergeant From Combat Praises TD's

In an interview with Sergeant Raymond Fuller at McCloskey Hospital, by Lt. L. R. Barnhill, of the Tank Destroyer School, the youthful sergeant, a combat tank commander who is convalescing from wounds, voiced high praise for tank destroyer gunnery which he had witnessed in North Africa.

This boy, who had twice escaped from light tanks shattered by German 88's, said in his talk with Lt. Barnhill: "The TD's probably saved us from annihilation in the big drive on Oran." And then he went on to describe an amazing feat of marksmanship.

It was during the assault upon Oran. As the column of light tanks and its supporting elements surged forward on the highway leading into the city with all guns trained straight ahead, suddenly a second story window dropped open in a building at the edge of the town, revealing the muzzle of a 75 poked menacingly upon the approaching column. Before his own driver brought his destroyer to a halt, the TD gunner in the outfit exploded a shell right into that window. The gun crew inside the house never knew what hit them.

"That was enough for me. The TD's right then made themselves a permanent member of my fighting team," commented Sergeant Fuller.

Executive Promoted

The advancement of Major I. Epperson, 23rd Group Executive Officer to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel was announced this week.

Before coming to the 23rd Group, Colonel Epperson was Commanding Officer of the 671st Battalion.

An officer of wide experience, he has seen 20 years service in the Regular Army, the Reserve and the National Guard. An authority on the East and the Chinese Army, the Colonel has spent much time in the Orient.

Colonel Epperson was in Manchuria when that rich Chinese Province was invaded by the Japanese. The fall and destruction of Shanghai, he also saw.

For the fighting quality of the Chinese Soldier, Colonel Epperson has the highest praise. Indebtedly impressed by the cold efficiency of the Japanese soldier, the Colonel observes, "They lack imagination."

Ten years ago his articles predicted our war with Japan.

Company B, 671st Bn., Host At Dancing Party

Company "B," 671st Bn., UTC, 23rd Group was host at a party Oct. 13.

From 8 p. m. until 12 Company "B" Enlisted men and ladies from Lampadas danced to the music of the T.D.C. dance band. The refreshments hit the spot. The shindig was held in the 19th Group Recreation hall.

The Hood Panther

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Editor
T-Sgt. Ivan Smith

Sports Editor
PFC Keith Quick

Associate Editors
Cpl. Norman Perlstein
Pvt. Wilfred Weiss

What About Morale?

All this talk about "morale" by people who don't know soldiers very well is becoming a little boring to most men in the Army.

"Morale," an advertisement states, "is a lot of little things." With that we can agree, but its some pretty big things too. Persons who think a fighting man's morale can be insured for the duration alone by the prancing of a half-dozen bare-legged girls is a little off the track too.

Not that a good show now and then doesn't cheer a fellow up and there's no doubt that we appreciate everyone we get to see.

BUT—the all-inclusive word morale involves all these things and something else which is a part of a soldier's everyday life between entertainments, between letters from home, between furloughs and passes, between dinners in the mess hall.

Pride Is The Thing

That's pride in his organization.

The Bombardier, AAB, Sioux City, Idaho puts it pretty well: "Morale is a soldier strutting down the avenue with his chest out, his chin up and that "I can lick the world" glint in his eye.

"It is his absolute confidence in the ability of the American forces to clean up the whole mess as soon as he can get there.

"It is his grumbling about mopping the floor, shining his shoes, and straightening things up, yet his indignation at even the suggestion that his barracks is not the neatest one."

We can add a few things to that.

It's Camp Hood men cheering in the theaters when a news-reel shot shows lumbering M-10's entering Naples.

It's the feeling of pride every Hood man had when Secretary of War Henry Stimson declared: "Camp Hood is the best the army has . . . with perfect terrain and setup admirably equipped and suited to carry out the objectives of the army."

Doing A Good Job

It's General Ward declaring: "All reports received by the Tank Destroyer Center from North Africa indicate that the losses inflicted on German tanks are in a VERY favorable ratio against tank destroyer losses. Tank Destroyer units have been given no mission, to our knowledge, that they did not accomplish."

Tank Destroyer soldiers don't have to take a back seat to any member of any branch of service. We have one of the youngest arms which we have pioneered in the true American fashion; we have splendid new intricate equipment; we have made an excellent record in this war.

What have you got, Bud, that we haven't?

Guard Duty

When a soldier goes on duty as a guard on any post, The lives of many others are depending on him most. He must know his General Orders and his Special Orders, too. Among the many other things a sentry has to do. He must watch his post alertly and all property in sight, And report all misbehaviors occurring day or night. He must watch all things that happen within his sight or hearing And never fail to be alert should enemies be nearing. He'll report all violations he's instructed to enforce And will not make exceptions while walking on his course. If he hears a sentry calling from a post that is more distant, He'll repeat that sentry's message with an echo on the instant; He must not ever leave his post till properly relieved, And the new guard will take over with orders all received. He must not talk to anyone, not even to his friends, Except in line of duty or when his duty ends. He must watch out for fires in buildings and in halls, And report those fires immediately by shouting fire calls. If he must reckon with a case not covered by instructions, He'll call the Corporal of the Guard and follow his deductions. All officers and colors, and standards not encased, Will ever rate his best salute and halt him in his pace; During the time for challenging he'll let no one go by, Without proper authority or else someone may die. A soldier must remember that while he is on his post, His buddies are sleeping, resting—they're depending on him most.

By Pvt. William E. Cranmer
Co. B. 136th Battalion. RTC.



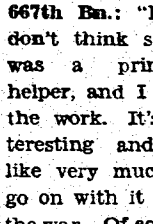
Considering the variety and extent of talk and newspaper discussion about jobs for servicemen after the war, the Polling Reporter asked four soldiers:

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED A DIFFERENT JOB AFTER THE WAR?



Pvt. James E. Robinson, Med. Det., Training Brigade: "Yes I would. I worked in a textile mill before I came into the army, but I'd certainly like a chance to study art. I most certainly would like to see something done about that bill mentioned in the Panther which would help us finance going to school after the war."

Pvt. Clarence Quillian, Hq. Co., 667th Bn.: "No, I don't think so. I was a printer's helper, and I liked the work. It's interesting and I'd like very much to go on with it after the war. Of course, if I had a chance to go to a trade school and learn more about the trade, that'd be a big help."



Pvt. Kenneth L. Seaman, Co. C, 692nd Bn.: "I worked in a bakery before the war. It was all right, but I would be interested in learning a trade—especially printing—if I had a chance to learn. Going to school would be a big help. I'd sure like the chance to go."



Pvt. Paul Holland, Hq. Co., 657th Bn.: "No, I don't think so. I was a welder and I like the work. There's a good chance for advancement in the trade. I could probably advance more quickly if I could go to trade school, and I'd certainly like to have a chance to go to school."

Quote Of The Week

Prejudices are the triggers of tragedy.—R. L. Stevenson.

Went Through Snow And Sleet To Be In Draft

Corporal Charles W. Harmon really fought to get into the Army. It was a cold wintry February day, when he set out on snowshoes, across wild country bedded with deep snow, a distance of 75 miles to Salmon, Idaho, to report to his draft board. Harmon, a trapper, homesteader, and prospector, made the cross country trek through icy blasts, in two and one-half days.

He's in a warm shed in the TDS Communications Department now, but it's not permanent comfort. He's going back to Idaho when this is all over, where the winter winds and snow and ice will welcome him home.



See Editorial At Left

KP Does A Lot Of Things To Men, Even Inspiring Written Verse

The 662nd Bn., is now in South Camp, located on Battalion Avenue, between 44th and 46th streets in UTC.

While bivouaced at Shell Camp No. 1, PFC Henry P. Long of Co. C. pulled a week of KP, which inspired him to verse, to wit:

For one whole week I've pulled KP,

Working in the kitchen you see, I'd wash a pan, I'd wash a pot, Darn near everyone they've got.

I'd stand out in the red hot sun And work just like a son-of-a-gun And think that when the day is through I'd lay around with nothing to do.

But Sarge says "No"—(He's a heel), You have a bushel of spuds to peel Also peas and spinach too, This news makes me feel blue.

At 10 o'clock we're shelling peas, The table waiters and KP's, And after that the spinach comes, We think that we will ne'er be done.

But the Sarg, hasn't any feeling, And so we have to keep on peeling. And soon when shells cover the floor, We think we have to work no more.

But Sarge says "Boys grab a broom For you've got to GI this dirty room." And then the first day finally o'er The Sarge kicks us out the door.

We go to our tents and fall in bed Clothes and all, as tho' we're dead. But e'er we've fallen fast asleep We hear the whistle give a peep.

The chow line forms before the door, Such as you never saw before, You serve them food, quick and fast Hoping each man is the last.

Lost: Waltham wrist watch with gray summer band. Initials H.F.B. Jr., on back. Lost at 37th St. theater or vicinity about Oct. 5.—Pvt. Hugo F. Bouse, Jr., Hq. Co. Training Brigade.

But the Army is swell, A nice place to be, When you don't have to pull A week's KP!



Editor, The Panther:

In the October 14 issue of the Camp Hood Panther, I made a statement on the phrase: "What a Better World Means to You."

This statement, as it stands, I believe, will lead readers to believe that I feel as though the Regular Army man will go into a little world of his own after the war. I wish to try and clarify the fact that whether a man stays in the army after peace is declared, or returns to civilian life, that he is going to have plenty of opportunity to make the post war world a better place to live in. Strangely enough I don't believe the Army will lose close contact with the civilian population. I believe we will continue to have a standing army of the finest men in America.

To sum it all up, in my opinion, we must strive to one aim and that is to make this world free for the things we are fighting for: Democracy, free speech, and the right to live as free people.

M-SGT. PAUL R. WILLIAMS
Sergeant Major, 672nd TD Bn.

You Can't Tell A Thing By The Name Of It!

The phone rang at the Tank Destroyer Board.

"Is this the visual aids department?" asked a twittersy feminine voice.

"No," came the prompt reply, "Colonel Nolte, who is in charge of that department, has been transferred to the Tank Destroyer School."

"Well," continued the feminine voice, "maybe you could tell me where I could get an eye examination?"

The young lady was referred to the station hospital.

You Can Learn From This TD Gunner's Experience Fighting Nazis In Africa

By Pvt. Fred Lonberger, Co. "B", 776th TD Bn.
(As Told to Lt. L. R. Barnhill)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Private Lonberger, 24, of West Plains, Mo., received his final training in Camp Hood's Unit Training Center before going overseas to fight in Africa. He received his basic training at Camp Bowie. Before joining the Tank Destroyers he was in the 155th Infantry, 31st Division. Private Lonberger is convalescing at McCloskey Hospital from injuries received in action at Bizerte. He has been awarded The Purple Heart.

Col. James P. Barney, Jr., fighting commander of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion, climbed into the gunner's position of an M-10 poised in defilade behind the ring of hills encircling Maknassy, a small central Tunisian town. Fifty yards to the front, his eyes glued to field glasses, an artillery officer shouted back shot sensings. The colonel shifted range and deflection settings and let fly with the destroyer's sharp-speaking three-inch. The projectile whistled across the valley to explode into the tail of a fleeing German column.

A flight of Mustangs joined in the fight and zoomed over the column with all their guns pouring a fiery stream of lead among the fleeing Nazis.

A heck after the action showed 35 German vehicles knocked out and many Nazis dead and injured.

That was Private Fred Lonberger's introduction to warfare following extensive training with half-tracks mounting 75-mm guns in Louisiana maneuvers and at Camp Bowie and Camp Hood, Texas. It was the first time any member of the crew had witnessed indirect fire from a destroyer.

In Last Phase

The battle for Tunisia was entering its last phase as Allied forces closed a gigantic pincers on Germans retreating northward along the Tunisian coast. The M-10's were hustled aboard huge British trailers and rushed overland more than 200 miles north to the Mateur area where General Von Arnim's men were trying to break through Allied lines to relieve the pressure on Rommel, scampering north from the Mareth line.

Private Lonberger's destroyer was drawn into a position in readiness in a small grove under intermittent German artillery fire just south of Mateur. The Germans were ranging their guns up and down a road that passed near the destroyers' position. As assigned gunner, Lonberger checked the gun's sights, bore, and firing mechanism while other members of the crew stowed aboard the destroyer's usual allotment of 90 rounds of ammunition—most of it high explosive.

The destroyer commander received a shrapnel wound from a bursting artillery shell and was removed to the rear area just a few minutes before the order to move out was received. The destroyer moved slowly out over the open ground to its assigned firing position half a mile distant to avoid raising a dust cloud that would give away its position. The driver avoided the road that was being pounded by the Germans.

It was 3 p. m. and visibility was unlimited as the destroyer hove to in its hull-down position overlooking Mateur.

Lonberger and his assistant gunner dismounted and crawled forward to the hill crest shielding their destroyer from enemy view. An officer pointed out the three targets assigned to their vehicle. The driver checked his engines to make sure he could move out in a hurry. The assistant gunner manned the 50 caliber machine gun against a possible air attack.

Here, as in the previous action, the M-10's were to be used as supplementary artillery. The specific task was to knock out three German 88-mm batteries located by reconnaissance units. The general assignment was to join in the softening-up process of the German positions in preparation for an American tank assault.

Private Lonberger brought his gun to bear on the first target, an 88-mm. gun concealed in an Arab's straw shack. The fourth round set the shack afire. A gun position in an olive grove was next brought under fire. The second shot flushed four men from the

position. They were run down by the advancing American tanks before they could escape.

The TD's then shifted their gun onto another position, dug in on a hillside so skillfully that only a portion of the barrel was visible. After three rounds, the German crew came running from the position to surrender.

German artillery shells bursting near the destroyer forced it to move to an alternate position some 300 yards to the right. Three tanks were observed advancing toward the destroyer as it pulled into its new position. Lonberger fired five shots, two of them armor piercing. One tank was set afire and the other two ducked back into the foothills.

By this time the American tanks had disappeared into a smoke screen laid down to cover their advance and the tank destroyers were ordered to withhold their fire. Two more German shells burst near Lonberger's machine but it was withdrawn down the side of the hill before damage was sustained. The men remained in that position throughout the night, awaiting orders.

Join 39th Infantry

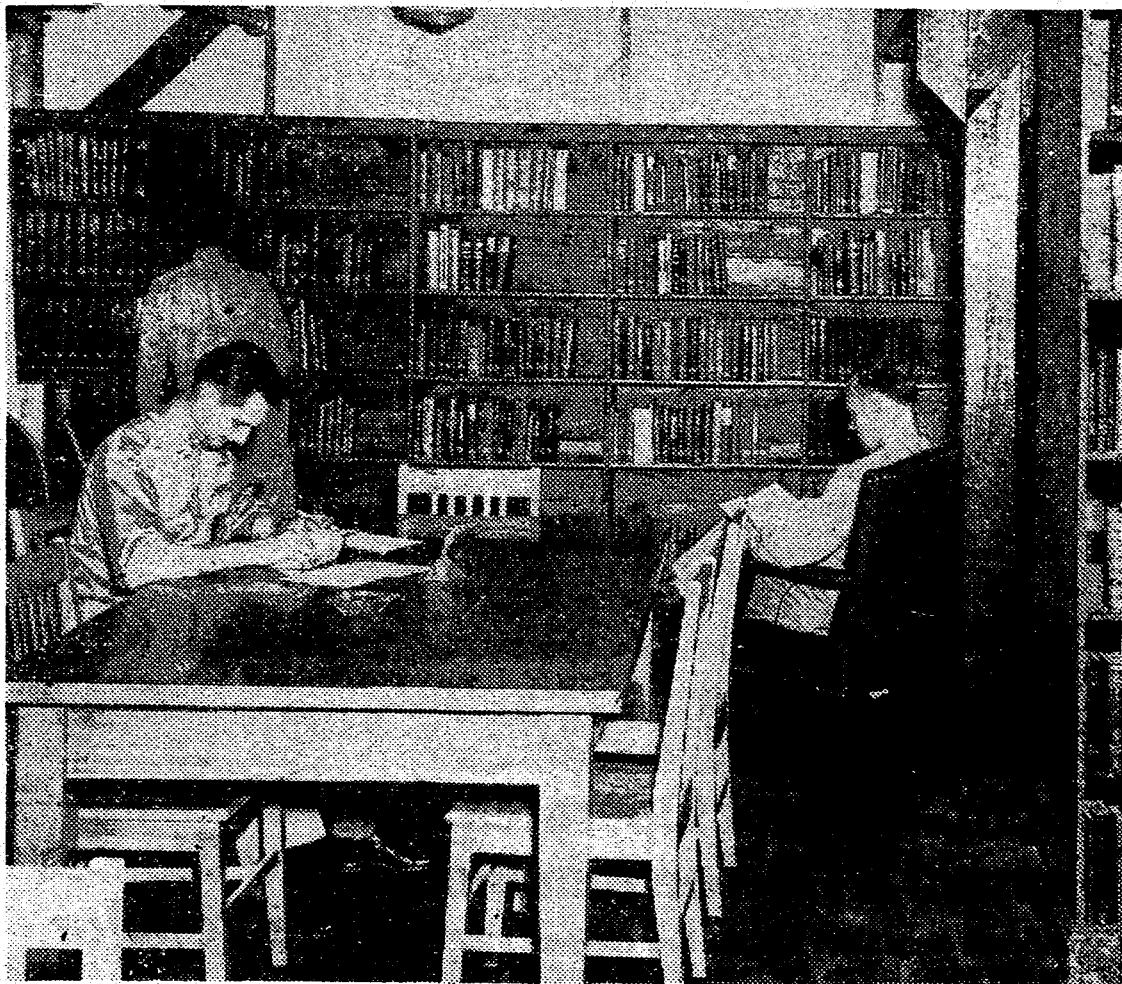
The next day the unit moved north again, this time under its own power, and in the first week of May joined the 39th Infantry south of Bizerte, where the doughboys were doing a cleanup job.

The destroyers moved in support of the infantry as it mopped up scattered pockets of resistance. The roads were filled with Germans and Italians moving toward the rear of the American lines to give themselves up. The destroyers advanced behind their own reconnaissance units, some two or three miles behind the foot soldiers.

Then it happened. Three 47 mm. shells hit the destroyer almost simultaneously, at least so it seemed to the crew. The men tumbled to the ground, double quick. Lonberger discovered he was injured. A shell fragment, or splinter from the destroyer, he doesn't know which, had pierced his leg at the ankle. Other members of the crew, he learned later, were not injured, but the vehicle was knocked out.

Lonberger was given first aid treatment and removed to the first of three field hospitals. He was flown to Oran and then moved to Casablanca by train before taking ship to this country. Only now is he able to sustain his weight on the ankle. Doctors at McCloskey hospital in Temple say he may have a little stiffness in the ankle, but that otherwise he will be all right.

One fatality and several injuries to men in Private Lonberger's unit were caused by failures to follow orders. Several men received minor injuries from bomb fragments when they were caught wandering about in the bivouac area near Maknassy during a high-level bombing attack. Soldiers who remained in their foxholes escaped injury. However, during a later action one soldier was smothered to death in a fox hole that he had dug too deep. Concussion of an artillery shell caused the sides to cave in upon him. The body was not found until a checkup next morning.



TDS HAS MILITARY LIBRARY In the library in Tank Destroyer School Headquarters, books are selected on the basis of reviews in service magazines. Story below.

Hood Soldier Given Praise For Conduct

Pvt. Melvis Brown, 761st Tank Bn., Training Brigade, has received the commendations of his commanding officer, Major Paul L. Bates, and the commanding officer of the Fifth Tank Group as well as a letter of praise for his conduct from Jake W. Ault, adjutant of a Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Schoolfield, Va., for unusual service he rendered at the scene of an accident recently while on furlough.

Wrote Adjutant Ault: "I have been directed to write you relating an incident which occurred on the highways in North Carolina on the night of Sept. 1.

"On this night there was an automobile accident on the Yanceyville highway, and there was a man imprisoned inside a closed car. This accident was discovered by a young lady who flagged the first motorist that came along to assist in freeing the man.

"This motorist was one Melvis Brown, a soldier of your command, who displayed unusual

of your men does not cease at the training centers but follows through his life even though he is on leave he still remembers that there is a duty to humanity and does not let even a few hours more time for pleasure interfere with the training that your command has given him. The writer is of the U. S. Marines in World War I, and appreciates service regardless of color, race or creed."

WAC Served Two Nations

Private Hila Kohler, of the WAC Detachment stationed here, can boast of having seen service in World War II in armies of two nations, the Dominion of Canada and the United States. A native of New York City, Private Kohler, as a child, went to Canada with her father who was associated with an international advertising agency.

She joined the Women's Division of the Royal Canadian Air Force in Montreal and served with that organization for nine months. Having retained her American citizenship during her residence in Canada, she had no difficulty transferring to the Army of the United States which she did in New York City in May of this year.

She took her basic training at Fort Devens, Mass., and after several weeks at Fort Oglethorpe she was assigned to Camp Hood. She has been approved, and expects to leave soon, for Officer Candidate School.

672nd Exec. Officer Promoted To Major

Major Robert E. Reilly, executive officer of the 672nd Battalion, 23rd Group, was promoted to his new rank of Major from Captain, October 6.

He has been identified with the Tank Destroyers as a former member of the 605th Battalion. Prior to his assignment to the Tank Destroyers, Major Reilly, was a member of the Infantry at Fort Custer, Michigan.

New WO Assigned

W. O. John D. Fawver former personnel officer of the ITC in North Camp, was assigned Oct. 13, to the 672nd Battalion, 23rd Group as personnel officer.

Mr. Fawver was Sgt. Major for the 4th T. D. Group until his appointment as Warrant Officer March 27.

TDS Library Helps Ready Men To Fight

With the underlying thought of preparing men for combat, the number of books in the Tank Destroyer School library have been augmented greatly during the months of its existence by the addition of hundreds of titles.

While the usual library caters to the less serious side of human nature, this library stresses books reviewed in military journals, and selected by them as volumes most currently significant from the standpoint of the war.

Located in the TDS Headquarters Building, this is the only library on the post to keep back copies of magazines.

Also, newspapers from 18 large cities in the United States come in daily to enable the soldiers to read their hometown news.

Wins Plaque For Mess Hall

The 131st RTC Bn. pushed forward this week to win the best battalion mess hall plaques beating out the 139th by one tenth of one per cent, while Co. C, 144th RTC Bn. won best company mess in the 6th Regt., and Co. A, 143th RTC Bn., took the honors in the 7th.

The WAC Detachment, North Camp, again scored as the best TD Company Mess, with the two Hq. Co., RTC mess halls taking second and third places.

The Headquarters RTC Officers Mess scored 99. to lead the Officers mess halls.

These standings are for the week of Oct. 11-16 in this regular weekly competition.

Ration Book No. Four Ready For Military Personnel Eligible

Military personnel eligible to receive them, will be issued Ration Book number four at the Office of Transportation Advisory Committee at Post Hq. Building, Oct. 21, 22, and 23.

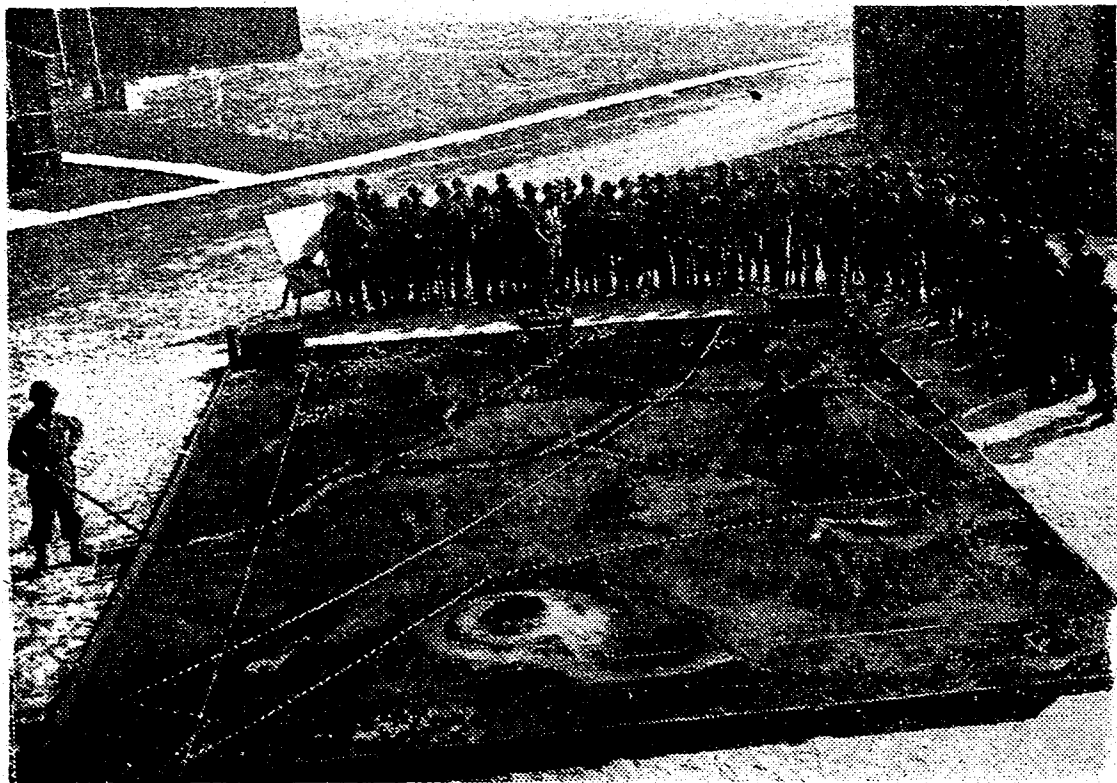
This is for soldiers only — their families will obtain the books at schoolhouse nearest their residence. Book Three must be presented at the time of request for book four.

To be eligible, soldiers must be married and their family in residence close enough for the soldier to go home during the week as well as weekends.



training when he entered the automobile through a small hole in the windshield and brought out a man much larger than himself through the same hole in the windshield, and then took the injured man to the Memorial Hospital in Danville, Va., while he was in a state of unconsciousness. The most noticeable part of the performance was when the next morning the wrecking crew went to the scene of the accident to salvage the car this soldier was standing guard to prevent anyone from stealing anything from the car.

"I am sure that you will appreciate knowing that the training



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

Electro-Magnet Operates Unusual RTC Terrain Plot

Cadremen of the 135th RTC Bn. have completed a 26' by 36' terrain plot which utilizes an innovation in the form of an electro-magnet for demonstrating tactical problems.

Built under direction of Lt. H. J. Jackson, Co. B, the plot is unusual in its sharpness of details as well as in the use of removable yellow tape which denotes the grid lines of the area.

Red and white tape indicates the 5th RTC Regimental area, while black and white tape borders off the surrounding country which is off limits as it is not a part of the reservation.

Bold signs describing the marginal data help to clearly present problems, while vari-colored tapes are used to indicate the effective ranges of the model weapons which are constructed of wood.

The plot has been colored with various tints, and when viewed through the wrong end of binoculars, looks amazingly like the actual terrain.

The electro-magnet, mounted on a 10-foot pole, was conceived by Lt. Kingsley Boyd of Co. D. This device has two clamps which are attached to the terminal posts on a jeep battery, and enables the instructor to move the models of tank destroyers, half-tracks and tanks about into different positions for demonstration purposes. Each model vehicle has a thumb tack in it to provide electrical contact with the magnet.

Hold Three Grades In One Day To Enable Transfer To Gunnery

Cpl. George W. Blue and Samuel M. Provine, held three grades in one day.

They were 1-4 Cadremen. Reduced to Privates and promoted to Corporals on the same order. This was necessary so that they could be transferred to Harlingen AAF Flexible Gunnery School at Harlingen, Texas.

TDS Lt. Promoted

Second Lieutenant Lloyd H. Lofquist, personnel consultant at the Tank Destroyer School, was promoted to the rank of 1st Lieutenant recently. Born in Minneapolis, Minn., Lt. Lofquist had been employed by the University of Minnesota in 1941, as test research psychologist, prior to his induction at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

New Classes Are Popular

One of the newer classes which recently began functioning at TDS is becoming widely popular with students. It is the Gun Mechanics and Armors Course for which only enlisted men who have completed the weapons course are eligible.

The men are trained so that when they return to their battalions they will be fully experienced in the weapons of a TD Company, able to maintain these weapons, to keep them firing under any sort of battle conditions. The classes disassemble, repair, and assemble the weapons in this battle training to prevent malfunctions and breakage.

The students spend six days in Ordnance, with three days on destroyer weapons and three days on security weapons. Instruction is individual, with groups of from 10 to 40 men making up a class.

Classes In German At 162nd St. Library

Classes in German speaking and reading will be started tonight in the 162nd St. Library. Those interested in attending must register between 7 and 8 p. m.

Variety Is Keynote In RTC Battalion

An Army training battalion is bound to draw into its ranks men with a diversity of talents and unusual hobbies, but a poll of the 130th TD Bn. at the Replacement Training Center, unearthed some rare specimens of the unorthodox.

For one thing the battalion can claim two genuine radio experts.

Pvt. W. C. Pilon of Worcester, Mass., helped build a radio station for the Air Corps right next to the Arctic Circle. He spent three months in the far north as a civilian employee of the Signal Corps and remembers 50-below temperatures and mile-a-minute gales as the common thing. When the weather got really bad he played checkers with the Eskimos.

Is A "Short Snorter"

Private Pilon had a similar job in Newfoundland, became a member of the "Short Shorters Club" when he crossed an ocean in an airplane, and survived the crack-up of a Douglas C-47 transport.

Another 130th member ran a sort of a radio party line between Montana and Chile, in South America. Pvt. Eugene B. Bunker of Great Falls, Ont., has been a member of the Radio Relay League since 1935 and was chief engineer at Station KGEX in Sidney, Mont., when he was inducted.

As a radio engineer he built a complete police radio system, dismantled and reinstalled a 1,000-watt radio broadcasting station, and operated emergency equipment for the U. S. Forest Service, but got the biggest kick out of putting his neighbors on the air to Chile.

Montana is a copper state, and a lot of Montanans work in Chile's copper mines down in South America. For two years Private Bunker maintained weekly shortwave contact with Potrerillos in Chile on his own set, while residents of the Great Falls area chatted with relatives and friends down in Chile.

During the 10-minute breaks

Instruction will be based on specially prepared texts and phonograph records.

The size of the class will be limited, and those registering first will be given preference.

the trainees of the 130th like to hear tales of great Alcan Highway from Pvt. Elliott Glend of Union, Iowa. Private Glend was a mechanic in one of the bog and mosquito-fighting crews which pushed the highway through from Canada to Alaska in record time.

Pvt. Louis Christopher, Jr., a former student at Gary, Indiana, can also spin some tales about the months last summer when he served as official interpreter for the Yugoslavian ambassador to Spain when that official was touring the U. S. Christopher is a member of several Serbian societies in this country and speaks Serbian fluently. The late ambassador couldn't speak a word of English.

For a messenger the battalion might use a former professional motorcycle racer from Canton, N. Y., Pvt. Stanley Cornell. Cornell has raced for six years and holds the Canadian half-mile record.

Two unusual prize-winners up in the ranks of the Bn. Pvt. Oral McSparrin of Moline, Ill., has a gold cup he won in the state mable championship. Pvt. Albert H. Witte, in civilian life a foreman for a dairy concern, once won a milk-selling contest.

Knows Explosions

Explosions are nothing new to Prys. William F. Miller of Kittanning, Pa., and Woodrow W. Lewis of Smoot, W. a. Miller worked in a TNT plant and one of Private Lewis' former occupations was that of powder maker. The latter is also an experienced taxidermist, farmer and sawmill operator.

Before the draft when Pvt. Edwin A. Brown of Philadelphia, wasn't leading an orchestra or playing semi-pro baseball, he used to manufacture artificial teeth.

Another 130th private, Harley Fruit, used to breed and train fighting and watchdogs at his kennels in Boise, Idaho. At the other end of the animal hobby scale is Pvt. John P. Teitz of Coplay, Pa. Teitz raised and bred canaries.

A lot of the 130th Bn. trainees said traveling was their hobby, and one who hit most of the 48 states is Pvt. Lloyd J. Swa of Montpelier, Idaho.

Two Former Musicians In TDS Find Careers Were Similar

Take two men, add some education, a great deal of music, and you have the ingredients of a pair of soldiers in the Communications Department at the TD School, whose careers bore a musical parallel, which, no doubt, explains why they have come together in their present work in the Army.

Corporal Ray Harris was raised in Bagley Creek, Mich. Between high school and his attendance at Michigan State University, he went to an organist school for one year.

At State his conventional business administration course was more than balanced by his own jive-cutting campus dance band, which at one time or another, was either the salve or scourge of the undergraduates. On leaving State he organized a band in Battle Creek, and toured the country, leading, playing the piano, and doing his own arranging. Arranging music for an entire band ranks in ability next to composing, for the arranger orchestrates for every instrument, and must have an ear sharply attuned to each.

Harris wound up his tour in Detroit and dissolved his band to become chief arranger for several night clubs in the Motor City. Then he joined Gray Gordon's Band in Chicago for another nation-wide tour that included most of the cities in Texas. A session with Leonard Keller's Band, a lot of radio experience, playing for noted musical soloists

a fling as theater organist, were the fractions to make up all that is Cpl. Ray Harris, Ray compares notes very often with Pvt. Albert Lambert, in the adjoining classroom at Communications. They have much in common, their courses having run so strangely parallel!

Lambert hails from Denver. His musical career was professionally launched there when the famous Henry Santrey conducted a junior band contest on the Orpheum Circuit, and Lambert's junior high school aggregation won the contest and landed a contract on the "Orpheum time." He crowded in one year at Denver University while pursuing his music. Aside from singing, he too was a pianist and arranger in night clubs and on Station KOS, Denver, which brought him great local popularity. He conducted a 15 minute morning radio program with a girl singer.

After his induction, Lambert trained at Fort Sill, where he also played in Don Orlando's Band, and then found himself assigned to the TD School, next to Ray Harris. When they talk shop, the octaves and pizzaccos go on a wild rampage and you never know what will emerge. It can be anything from Back to Beethoven, to a juke box, from the "Nut-cracker Suite" to "Sweet Rosie O'Grady." It's all one to Harris and Lambert, fellow artists and fellow soldiers.



(A summary of the week's news prepared by Panther Editors)

Secretary of State Hull and British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden arrived in Moscow for the long-anticipated tripower conference. An Associated Press dispatch from Washington predicted that the conference would concern itself with the sort of Europe that is to be shaped once victory is won.

The British and American troops definitely won the battle of Volturno River when the Nazis fell back to new mountain positions. This coincided with new gains by Montgomery's 8th on the central and Adriatic sectors.

Meanwhile there was no letup in the bomber pounding of Germany proper—the RAF continued to pulverize Hanover and other German industrial centers.

To Smash Germany

Speaking from London, Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts, Premier of South Africa declared that the grand-scale Allied assault on Hitler's central fortress of Europe will be launched next year.

Seemingly preparing for the worst, Hitler held his second grand strategy conference in two weeks, for what the Associated

Press called "presumably to explore avenues of escape from the consequences of total defeat."

Gen. Mihailovic's Yugoslav guerrillas became active again, battling with Marshall Rommel's forces on three fronts. Rommel, to counteract this threat, was forced to open a fierce aerial campaign against villages held by Mihailovic.

In the south Pacific Allied airmen blasted at least 104 Jap planes out of the skies and off the ground in a series of fast-paced raids. In a repeat raid on Rabaul, the Allies destroyed about 60 more planes and inflicted new shipping damages.

New Russian Offensives

The Russian army started two new offensives rolling west of the Dnieper River, to clinch its hold on both banks of the river and to threaten the disintegration of the entire German front.

On all fronts American army and navy planes are besing the enemy by a score of better than four to one, an official report stated. This does not include the thousands of planes only damaged or the "probable losses."

In Parliament Prime Minister

Winston Churchill refused to answer the angry comment and questions of members about the granting of "co-belligerent status" to the Italians. He also declined to discuss the remarks about Britain's war effort by the five touring U. S. Senators.

Speaking in Dallas, Vice President Henry A. Wallace was greeted by a cheering audience, according to a report by the Dallas News. The Vice President said, "Full employment may help solve the whole postwar world picture and prevent future wars."

According to an Associate Press report a grim and graphic account of the war since Pearl Harbor was presented to House members in an off-the-record talk by top-ranking military leaders.

The gist of the talks: The value of Russian bases in Siberia would be nullified by the nearness of large Jap concentrations of troops. The Germans no longer accept battle with our fighter planes if they can escape. The Jap manpower problem has not yet become as serious as ours, and they are building planes faster than we destroy them.

Take It Easy With An M-10, Even If It's 32-Ton Iron Monster

Pertinent hints on vehicle care for tank destroyer drivers who feel their primary mission is to see how much punishment the 32-ton destroyers can take, appear in the August issue of Army Motors, published by the preventive maintenance unit, Tank-Automotive Center, Detroit, Mich.

Editors were aiming their spirited maintenance lesson primarily at tank drivers, but everything they say holds true for tank destroyer drivers.

The article, translated into TD terms, says:

"It's great for a man's ego. It makes him feel infallible. Sit him behind the controls of a 32-ton tank destroyer and he's sure to feel powerful. 'Yah! nothing can stop me.' Jam it in gear. Push that accelerator down to the floor. Drop out the clutch. Feel the lurch as the tracks bite. Give it hell. Pick out the roughest, toughest obstacles. Ram right into or over them. Nothing can hurt this vehicle—it's a tank destroyer."

"Yes, it's a tank destroyer. And because it is, it's subject to more mistreatment than any vehicle in the army. It's mistreated because lots of men don't realize that a destroyer is made up of the same type of gears, pistons, and bushings as those in other vehicles and need the same care."

"From the toughest proving ground in the world come reports that our American vehicles are as good as anything our enemy has or better. In Libya they proved that they could stand up under the worst conditions nature could provide. But even the best materials and engineering can't stand up under the murderous treatment of a careless tank destroyer driver."

Idling Hurts Them

The article goes on to point out that diesel engines are damaged by low idling speeds.

"If you have to idle them, set the hand throttles to idle both engines over 600 rpm."

"And while we're on the subject of engine speeds another way to finish off a good engine is to 'lug' it. Lugging a tank destroyer means to continue driving it in a high gear after the speed of the engine has slowed down. This generally happens when you're driving in a high gear over smooth terrain and suddenly go into

heavy mud or up an abrupt hill. Some greenguards do the same thing by slowing the engine speed in order to slow the destroyer speed. When the engine rpm's drop, the engine can't develop enough torque (twisting force) to keep the vehicle moving. The engine loses speed rapidly. You can almost hear each cylinder firing individually. During this time the engine is knocking itself apart, the pistons vibrate in the cylinders, power is applied in jerks, the vehicle shivers, shakes and gasps. Plenty of parts are being ruined while all this is going on."

Watch The RPM's

"A good driver never allows the terrain or destroyer speed to slow up the engine rpm's. He shifts to a lower gear as soon as the tank destroyer slows up or if he wants to reduce the tank destroyer's speed."

Proper method of climbing hills and cautions against overspeeding are also outlined in the article.

It ends with the following words of wisdom:

"A tank destroyer is big, all right—and it weighs plenty—and you can knock over a house with it. Just remember, though, that it needs loving care and lots of it."

660th Battalion Gives American Defense Award Good Conduct Medals

The 660th Bn. UTC, recently had its second reservation ceremony within as many months.

Those awarded the American Defense Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal were: M-Sgt. Albert J. Ryan, S-Sgt. J. M. Agee, of Headquarters Company; S-Sgt. Floyd S. Mostek and Cpl. Charles H. Eul of Reconnaissance Company; Sgt. Roy E. Caver, and Sgt. Lloyd R. Miller of "A" Company; Pvt. Frank Desilver of Co. "B"; T-4 Nelson L. McGoun, Co. "C" and T-4 Darrel C. Dewberry of the Medical Detachment.

Those receiving only the Good Conduct Medal were: S-Sgt. Charles H. Riegel, Cpl. Richard T. Hoffman and T-5 Froctuso P. Nudo; Headquarters Co. and Cpl. John Amaya of Co. C.

T-5 Louis E. Burns of Headquarters Co. and Pvt. William J. Oswald of Co. "C" received the American Defense Service Medal.

Waltz Time To Jive In Band Concert

Pfc. Kenneth W. Santee

Members of the 106th Cavalry Band were faced with a pretty full schedule, but true to their entertainment principles, came through in great style. On the 15th of this month, they presented a combination concert of band and orchestra music, plus the usual after-concert jam session.

The concert part of the program was interspersed with several well-known march selections used as encores to ever-popular numbers such as: "Mexicali Rose", which was played in a new arrangement and found Cpl. Clarence Benz as accordion soloist; "Minuet in G", difficult as a band selection, but well-rendered; "Shepherd's Dance" was likewise well-played and received.

Feature event of the evening was the rendition of several selections which were arranged by Sgt. Leon Skubish, including an original number written and arranged by him entitled "March of the Gremlins." Two other numbers that were arranged by Sgt. Skubish and well-presented by the band were "Day-dreams" and "La Compansita."

After singing "The Ramparts We Watch," Sgt. Beck was swamped for encores so he replied with "Old Shanty Town", "Just For You" and "Josephine". After this, the group immediately swung into several jam numbers and the "orch", led by Sgt. Kozie gave out with several sweet and hot tunes.

This concert was presented at the 172nd Street Rec. Hall.

Extra Rooms Available In Waco For Hood Men

Colored soldiers visiting Waco have been missing many of the facilities which are available for them. A recent announcement from the director of the Colored USO in Waco stated that they are equipped to care for at least 150 more soldiers than have been using USO services during recent weekends.

The Waco USO is prepared to arrange for sleeping quarters, having a large list of reasonably priced, clean rooms.



This Is Unheard Of; It Shouldn't Happen To A Dogface! Isn't There An Army Regulation To Stop It?

By Pfc. Thomas A. Dundon

First Sergeant Marcucci, Hq's Co., 670th Bn., took a last minute look at his watch, Saturday, grabbed his helmet liner and dashed out into the chill pre-dawn. He inhaled a great lung full of air, raised his whistle in preparation for his usual dream shattering blast, when his hand poised in mid-air, his eyes bulged and his jaw fell agape. The phenomenon that met his eyes left him speechless with disbelief.

The entire company had fallen out for reveille, without benefit of signal or invitation.

When the overwhelmed topkick had recovered sufficiently to give the company 'at ease,' and venture an inquiry, he was informed that a whistle had been heard, followed by a cry of, "Headquarters, —fall out." A diffident voice in the rear ranks, offered the opinion that, "it was probably them gremlins," which were responsible.

When the incredible performance was repeated on Monday, Sgt. Marcucci thought the matter no longer humorous. He snorted, muttered something into his mustache and bellowed, "I don't care whether we have early birds with worms, or gremlins with whistles in the belfry, this business has got to stop. I have been in this Army

for three years, with nine different outfits, six of them Tank Destroyer units, and I have never seen anything like it. It's not G.I., it's not S.O.P., it's not supposed to happen! Either we've got an item for Ripley, or a collective section eight. In the future, men; you will wait until I give the customary signal, before falling out, in the morning."

There was a tremor and a note of embarrassment in his voice, as he added, "It does not look well for the first sergeant to be the last man out for reveille."

Father Of A Boy

Staff Sergeant John A. Campanella of Recon. Co., 663rd Battalion UTC was a worried man this week when he became the father of an 8 1-4 pound baby boy. The Sergeant is afraid that the newcomer will be drafted before he can get home to see it.

Incidentally, the births credited in the Oct. 7 issue of the Panther to members of the 653rd, should really be properly assigned to the stork conscious 663rd.

New Executive Officer

Lt. Col. George T. Gunston, an officer of wide Artillery experience, last week joined the staff of the 19th Tank Destroyer Group UTC, as Executive Officer.



Male Call

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

There's A War On, Don't Be A 'No Show'





With PFC Keith Quick

Pvt. Sam Miller, of the Station Hospital's Medical Detachment who has delivered several sound ideas of different enterprises which could have been put to use toward the betterment of Camp Hood's athletic setup, comes through with another good punch. This time Pvt. Miller's cerebrum gives out with the idea that Camp Hood should stage a camp-wide ping-pong tournament, site of the affair to be at the Field House, where about 20 tables could be set up on the floor area all at one time, thus making way for a total of 20 matches at all one stroke. Miller suggests that all preliminary rounds should be best-two-out-of-three games, with semi-final and championship matches to be three out of five. To add further color to the proposed tourney, Pvt. Miller suggests that the winning prizes be War Bonds. Tables for the tournament could be furnished by the various outfit participating, and after a few sessions of practice, the tourney would get underway. Pvt. Miller is ready to do his part in seeing that this idea doesn't bite the dust like previous ones. So, how's about it, athletic moguls, here's another athletic interest for you. And here's hoping Pvt. Miller wins this time! . . . Lt. George Stautz, of the Tactics Dept., TDS, who has served as referee of every boxing and wrestling match held in the TDS amphitheater, was a referee in Austin, Texas, for 10 years. Prior to his decade of playing the "third man" role, Lt. Stautz boxed on the varsity boxing team at New York University, at which time he tipped the scales at 175 pounds. In 1927 and '28, he was the lightweight champ of the Illinois YMCA district at Bloomington, Illinois. Lt. Stautz's wide experience and fairness have tabbed him as an outstanding ring official . . . Under the tutelage of Lt. William Willard, former star wingman for Stanford university and Lt. Lyman Rose, former pro grid star, 80 men have turned out in an effort to make the TDS football team. Daily practice sessions are already going full steam, and each aspirant is intent on upholding the athletic prowess of TDS, which carried off top laurels in baseball this year . . . After getting off to a sluggish and rather tattered start, we finally went to town on our pigskin picks last week. Out of 32 games on our card, we grabbed off 27 winners and suffered only 5 setbacks, for a batting mark of .844. We even outsmarted the nation's expert prognosticators, when we picked the College of Pacific eleven to trounce the Del Monte Pre-Flights; they did the trick, 16 to 7, and nobody but us said they could do it! . . . Hats off to Alonzo Stagg, 81-year old coach of the Pacific lads. Our wallet wouldn't hold all the greenbacks he won for us!

Collegiate Style Matches Highlight Sports Show

The scheduled wrestling match between Dick Raines and Paul Murdock at the TDS Amphitheater last week was postponed because of Murdock's previous commitment in another ring. However, despite the absence of the pros, the show went on as usual, and the fans were introduced to the less murderous collegiate style of wrestling, which turned out to be as interesting as the grunt-and-groan professions.

Bud Benevento, former Ohio State wrestler and weight-lifting champion, bested Ray Marriucci, erstwhile Michigan State athlete. Benevento, pride of the 635th Bn., took the first and second rounds on points which were determined by near falls and break-aways. Marriucci, of the Student Regiment, came back in the third and final round to split the points with the victor, the final stanza being even.

In addition to the wrestling match, several boxing bouts were held.

Dave Ritchie, Student Regiment, traded blows for three rounds with C. Fox, likewise a Stude, and while Fox made up ground in the final session, Ritchie's clean-cut margin in the first and second rounds earned him the nod.

J. R. Smith, a newcomer to the amphitheater, had plenty of ring ability, winning an easy victory

Game Time Changed

The football game, scheduled between the 665th Bn. and the UTC teams for Thursday evening, will be played Friday evening, it was announced early this week.

Games on the football card for Saturday afternoon include, TDS against the 664th Bn., and the 106th Cavalry against a team not yet named.

over Jake Hilton, leather-slapper of the 635th Bn.

Tomorrow night's program has been announced as follows: Feature bout: Metzger, North Camp, versus Clang, 635th Bn. This will be a heavyweight match.

Other prelims on the card include a lightweight match between Sam Brown, TRK Bn., TDC, and Sgt. Joe Johnson, of the 549th Engineers. Three other fast bouts will round out the evening's fight show.

Red Cross Building

Construction on a new \$10,000 Red Cross headquarters building on Hood Road between the Central Bus Station and the Hood Road Theater has been started here, Field Director Robert H. Watson announced today.

The T-shaped structure, built with Red Cross funds, will contain seven rooms for conducting private interviews with soldiers as well as offices for Red Cross officials here. The contract calls for 60 days' construction.

Hubert McCurley, Red Cross building supervisor, of St. Louis, is supervising construction.

UTC Headquarters Team Faces 655th Red Devils In Football Friday Night

Seeking revenge for a practice game defeat, UTC Headquarters Panthers will face the 655th Bn. Red Devils in the first regular league game tomorrow night at 5:30 on Panther Field, just south of the intersection of Headquarters Ave. and 56th St.

A large crowd is expected to attend and provisions have been made for seating in grand stands.

North Camp's Season Gets Underway

North Camp Hood's basketball season is now underway, with the RTC and ASTP trainees having organized a team to represent North Camp in the Central Texas Cage League, which is made up of three other fast quintets from the Waco Army Air Field, Blacklands Army Flying School and Baylor university.

The newly-formed North Camp court aggregation will journey to Waco next Saturday to play a pre-season game. Their opponent for the preliminary game has not been named.

Members of the North Camp quintet are Lt. French, former Rhode Island State university star, Tommy Warwick, ex-pro star from New York, Pvt. Tolbert, of Indiana University, Pvt. Lyles, San Diego State Pvt. Keeny, RTC trainee, who cracked the great Hank Luisetti's all-time scoring mark of 510 points in one season while still in high school; Pvt. Ossoff, of Westminster College, and Pvt. Jack Behrman, former court ace for the university of Baltimore.

All league games in the Central Texas circuit are to be played in the Waco High School gymnasium.

Lt. Henry Mahley, athletic officer at North Camp, and S-Sgt. Victor Mettler of the Special Services Section will coach the North Camp team.

19th Group Starts Play

The 19th TD Group, UTC, autumn softball season got off to a big start last week, when three hotly contested games were played on the Group's diamonds.

In the 662nd Bn., Company A's softballers went on a scoring spree to conquer Headquarters Co., 15 to 9. Batteries for the game were; Kapron and Murdock for Co. A, and Lukin and Petty for the Headquarters ten.

In another clash between the Company B and Company C clubs, of the 662nd Bn., the Co. B aggregation raced to a 3 to 0 shutout victory over the Co. C team, with hurler Bud Reister taking credit for the superb mound chores.

Other games included a 1 to 0 win for Co. A over Headquarters Co., of the 663rd Bn., and Co. B's 7 to 0 shutout victory over the Medical Detachment ten.

Competition in the 662nd Bn. is especially keen at the present time, for the Battalion's headquarters is posting a fancy trophy which is to go to the team coming in with the best record for the season.

Oil, Water Color Show Held In 162nd Street Service Club

An exhibit of oils and water colors is on view in the club room of the 16th St. Service Club. The exhibit was arranged by Sgt. Arthur G. Bratton, Jr. and Sgt. Stanley Elmer Farnham, who are in charge of the Special Service Office art section.

The exhibit, which was loaned by the Texas Fine Arts Association, is by Lone Star Artists, and represents a wide variety of the state's vistas and is typical of Texas cultural achievement, it was pointed out by Sgt. Bratton.

Waco USO Has Housing Service For Soldiers

If soldiers visiting Waco will report to the USO and make their requests for rooms as early as possible, it will facilitate the job of the USO and make possible better arrangements.

The USO has an authorized list of rooms available—certified as to cleanliness and reasonable price.

145th Battalion Nears Top In Basketball Meet In North Camp Series

By Cpl. James Bergers

The 145th AST Bn., RTC, edged closer to the softball championship of North Camp Hood last week by scoring a last minute surge of powers to trim the 143rd Bn., 6 to 5. The game marked the semi-final round in the Coca-Cola league.

Batsmen of the 145th club unleashed a terrific hitting attack in the last frame of the seven-inning contest to cross the pay station with four big tallies and put the game on ice. Cpl. Thomas Hughes was the big noise in the victorious inning, when he exploded a timely effort into left

field which drove in the tying and winning markers.

143rd Steals Show

In the early part of the game, the 143rd Bn. ten stole the whole show by scoring all five of their runs in the first four innings. The hitting of Sgt. Willie Hale, who collected two timely walkops, one of them a circuit smash, accounted for the greater part of the 123rds early drive. A pair of bingles by Sgt. Clyde Scott led the winners in their last frame rally.

Two runs in the second inning and one each in the first, third and fourth stanzas closed the book for the losers, while the four runs in the seventh, plus one each in the first and second frames did the trick for the 145th.

Strikes Out Five

1st. Sgt. Robert West, the winning hurler, struck out five men and passed only two, while the losing moundsman, Cpl. Eugene Cyganiak, whiffed nine and issued walking papers to 10 others. Both pitchers were able to keep their hits well scattered.

Statistics for the game were: 145th Bn., 6 runs, six hits, and three miscues; 143rd Bn., 5 runs, six hits and one bobble.

801st Keeps Itself Busy

T-SGT. ROBERT J. LEHAN

Men of Headquarters Company, 801st Bn., Tng. Brig., are getting the most from their recreational facilities. They spend evenings playing volley ball, soft ball and work out on the punching bag. As the evening goes on you will find the Day Room crowded with the ping pong fans and darts board enthusiasts, another group around the piano singing their favorite tunes. Further back in the day room, the portion partitioned off for reading and writing, we see those deep-in thought over a letter or an article of interest in the numerous magazines or books. Last but not least is the group around the victrola playing the classics.

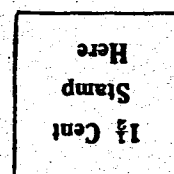
Two nights a week the Company has a movie and Saturday is reserved for a novelty night presented by members of the Company. The company is quarantined hence the mobile canteen which rides up to the company area each night is a welcome sight.

Gatesville High School Plays Tough Game On Home Field Friday Night

Gatesville High School Hornets football team will oppose their toughest conference competition tomorrow night when they collide with the Itasca high school Wampus Cats. The game will be played at the Gatesville Municipal Stadium, one block south of the downtown business section, with the kick-off scheduled for 8:15 p. m.

The Gatesville eleven, coached by Madison Pruitt, former Texas Christian star, is a colorful aggregation, possessing the power and drive of a crack Tank Destroyer unit. They have rolled up four straight victories so far this season, and will be out tomorrow night to make it five in a row. The Hornets will be trying for their second conference win, having turned back the Clifton Cubs, 39 to 0 in their opening district encounter a short time ago.

Mail Your 'Panther' Home!



Camp Hood, Texas

From: