

the Tiger Rag



827th Tank Destroyer Bn.

We Strike The Final Blow

Brain Trust of T.D.s Holds Session



Mulling over problems in connection with the operation and training of the 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion are pictured, left to right, W.O.J.G. Ira Kyles, personnel section, Capt. Louis C. Cox, supply officer, Capt. Leo Schassberger, battalion adjutant, Major Harry L. Lyon, commanding officer, Capt. Douglas Sullivan, plans and training officer, and 1st Lt. Louis Brescia, motor officer. —U. S. Signal Corps Photo.

Battalion Staff News

A hint to the wise should be sufficient. Upon the completion of the ITP test, the 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion will be a few steps closer in helping defeat the Axis.

Functioning under the efficient command of Major Harry E. Lyon, formerly of the Unit Training Center, Camp Hood, Tex., the Battalion is rapidly gaining the reputation of being the best TD Battalion that ever emerged from the Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Tex.

While officiating as school troops for the Tank Destroyer Center, this organization has gained world wide reputation for their contributions, in helping to train officers and enlisted men.

It is an old saying that no organization can function without efficient non-commissioned officers, which is true. However, a non-commissioned officer, to be efficient, must have orders to do so, they have to receive orders through channels.

Particularly vital to the Battalion is the staff, some of whose members are:

Battalion Executive Officer, Capt. George W. Hartung, has a job which calls for the knowing of his personnel and officers, the job of the executive is a hard one. He not only must have fortitude and initiative but also the ability to make decisions in the absence of the Battalion Commander, Capt. Hartung, formerly of the 168th F. A. Battalion, came to this organization from the Tank Destroyer School Instructor) in Camp Hood, Tex.

Capt. Paul M. Burtis, formerly of the RTC-Pool, Camp Hood, Tex., is the Bn. S-2, his job is to keep down all subversive attitudes or activities that might occur at any time, also assist the S-3 in training and operations.

The job of supply is a complicated one. Food, equipment and clothing are the things that help keep the morale of an organization up, without these essential items, there will be no functioning at all. This job comes under the heading of S-4. Our new Supply Officer, Capt. Louis C. Cox, came to this Battalion on March 3, 1944. Many improvements have been made in the Supply Rooms of the Companies since he joined the organization.

The Adjutant is Capt. Leo J. Schassberger, formerly of the 657th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Camp Hood, Tex., who joined this organization April 18, 1944. Stepping into a position that requires the knowledge of all the technical as well as administrative aspects of the organization was done with such zest that he rapidly won the good will and respect of members of this unit.

Assistant Adjutant is 1st Lt. Adolph Holmes, formerly a member of the cadre that helped to organize this Battalion. Upon the completion of his training at O.C.S. Lt. Holmes was summoned back to the Battalion as Personnel Officer to iron out all the rough spots in the Personnel Section. Practically a walking Army Regulation himself, Lt. Holmes is definitely an individual who thinks of his men first.

Energetic Capt. Douglas H. Sullivan, formerly of the 657th Tank Destroyer Bn., joined this Battalion April 17, 1944. He was assigned to the job of S-3, upon his arrival. Capt. Sullivan is the man who is supposed to keep the battalion rolling forward at all times.

Assistant S-3 is Capt. Lester D. McMillin, who is more than efficient. He assumes nothing but seeks facts. Due to his planning and operations, on Corps and Division maneuvers, this organization, gained a wide reputation as being second to none in Tank Destroyer operations.

The job of motors and maintenance of motors has been handled by 1st Lt. Brescia, now attending a maintenance course at the Tank Destroyer School, Camp Hood, Tex. He should

subjects and are doing fine jobs. So hail to these Golden Rule men of Co. "B."

Here's to Pvt. Frederick H. Nicholson who has just returned from Camp Hood, Tex., bringing with him quite a reputation as an artillery mechanic. Although spending some of his time in the hospital, he still came through with flying colors. . . . Who can tell, maybe there's something in store for him.

Furlough men: Cpl. Jepsy Brown and Pvt. Burl Ledbetter who just received their furloughs are fast going to Louisiana and Washington, D.C. Happy furloughs, fellows! Pvt. Amos Crittenden just returning from his furlough found the G.I. life very different from the Jody world.

Congratulations to Sgt. T. B. Smith for his fine work as supply sergeant. Sgt. Smith has just been promoted to the grade of staff sergeant. The company will never forget his gallant work on maneuvers and the desert.

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

be commended on the new and many improvements that have been made in the maintenance section of both company and battalion shops, since joining the organization.

Warrant Officer Ira A. Kyles, formerly of the 627th Quartermaster Battalion, in San Bernardino, Calif., came to this organization on the 20th day of January, 1944, and has proven himself an asset to the battalion as far as records are concerned. The upkeep of the battalion's correspondence and records is his job. This job calls for technical ability in many ways, and Mr. Kyles has the task well in hand.

1st Lt. Lincoln C. McNeill, the new liaison officer, came to this organization January 15, 1944. His first job in the organization was executive officer of Hq. Company. He was then transferred to the transportation officer, and after doing a bang-up job there was promoted to 1st lieutenant and also to the battalion staff.

Liaison Officer-No. 2 is 2nd Lt. Lester S. Young, assistant to the S-2; he has quite a reputation for being the best orientation officer in the battalion. He keeps the battalion orientated on the world wide situation.

Acting Motor Officer, 1st Lt. Vincent, formerly of the Tank Destroyer Proving Grounds in Camp Hood, Tex., and the 651st Tank Destroyer Bn., is doing a bang-up job as motor officer in the absence of Lt. Brescia. His advanced training on the M-18 has done much to speed up the training of the enlisted personnel on this particular vehicle. Lt. Vincent is a cavalry officer, hailing from the 8th Squadron at Republican Flats, Fort Riley, Kans.

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations and handshakes were in order, smiles and everything that goes to make men happy, why? Promotions. They flew around awhile. Cigars were gratis for one week in this battalion. 1st Lt. Willie A. Mayo received notice of his promotion to captain; 2nd Lt. Lincoln C. McNeill received notice of his promotion to first lieutenant; and last, but not least, 1st Lt. Lester D. McMillen was promoted to captain.

HONORABLE MENTION

New officers joining the battalion recently are 2nd Lt. Robert F. Jones, 1st Lt. G. F. Young, 1st Lt. L. C. Woods, 1st Lt. Gamble, 1st Lt. A. E. Chase, 1st Lt. Gallahan. These officers came to us from Camp Hood, Tex., and are already doing a swell job in most of the line companies and Reconnaissance company.



Ending a week of ITP examinations and another 48-hour problem with the Tankers the dust-covered men of Company "A" arrived in their area late Saturday evening. A high spirit prevailed, because apparently the exams had been passed and the problem was definitely a success.

INTRODUCING

T/4 George Kelley, an artillery mechanic that knows every gun from the 3-inch towed to the 76 mm. self-propelled. A three-letter man while in school, Kelley now keeps his smoothly developed muscles fit by wrestling with the breechlocks of 76 mm. guns.

George joined this outfit in January, 1942, in Camp Hood, Tex., and for the next eight weeks breezed through basic training in grand style. Upon completion of his basic he was among the first of a group of men sent to Tank Destroyer School where he maintained a fine average. Kelley has more than justified the faith put in him by the valuable work he has done, and is still doing in this company.

OPEN LETTER TO BATTALION

Cpl. Abbie Mille or "A" Company received information from WAC Caroline Dawson stationed at Ft. Des Moines, Iowa, that they receive the Apache Sentinel regularly up there, P.S.—She also stated that the Battalion page was particularly impressive.

TWOSOMES OF THE WEEK

Motor Sgt. Teddy Redwynne and talented WAC Phyllis Branch. Pvt. Wisdom Nicholson and WAC Millie Taylor.

FURLOUGHS ARE JUMPING

With Roland Jones, Charlie Fairure, Wade Carter and Roy Wiseman returning for duty; Dan Boswell, Renzy Steele, Elton Rowley and Henry Kinde are preparing to leave.

LONESOME

Wonder what Felix is doing now that William Lee is on furlough and Bobby Pryor is in the hospital?

EXPLAIN YOURSELF—TOP KICK?

Joe P. C. Oliver, the little girl wants you to know that she does not have to oil her eyes to keep them from brightening.

BRIGHT SAYING OF THE WEEK

"A slip of the lip proves that you are not hep."

—SGT. HERBERT EVANS.

RECON COMPANY

The loss of four very pleasing personalities from our company is beginning to be noticed by all the men in the company. S/Sgt. Jesse Powell, former mess sergeant of Recon company and Headquarters company, is our No. 1 loss. T/5th Orange Slater, at one time armorer of the company, Pvt. Alfred Ramos, one of our Jeep driver, and Pvt. James M. Yeager. They are all headed for somewhere "Deep in the Heart of Texas." Best of luck, fellows, and happy landings.

Pvt. Edward Rooths was our only furlough goer this past week, Pvt. Rooths will visit relatives in Turpin, Va.

The Company in general took part in the I.P.T. problems Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, working together in unit to accomplish their missions and assigned tasks, many of the fellows helped the 758th Tank Battalion in their problems, too.

T/5 Gilbert P. McMickens, referred to in last week's issue as the "Flying Tiger" and who also won the high point credits in the field meet, was referred to as a private. After seeing a man leap 19 feet, 5 inches his rank should not be mistaken—He is a technician 5th grade and a very energetic one, too.

—ALFRED CANNON.

C COMPANY

Inspections! Inspections! Inspections! With so many inspections and tests given by various officers throughout the battalion, yours truly is having a hectic time in getting out the news.

Congratulations, "C" Company, on your taking first place in the recent inspection, this shows that my bragging is not in vain. So many people are inclined to believe that I brag too much. Can I help it if you give me cause to? Keep up the good work and do justice to your outfit!

T/4 Robert J. Giles is really quite a fellow, hailing from Ardmore and Philadelphia, Pa. Sgt. Giles has acquired quite a name for himself as a radio mechanic; he is a master at his work. This, however, is not his prime interest in life. His main interest is planes, he would like nothing better than to have a sleek pursuit plane to pilot. A recent ride in a Maytag Messerschmitt (Piper Cub) has only fired his ambition to become a pilot. He has a brother at Tuskegee Army Air Field about to become a pilot. Sgt. Giles has also done some tumbling and barbell work. He is also a swell skater, besides being a radio genius and all of the other things I have mentioned. Sgt. Giles is a swell guy and the fellows like him a great deal. I think, however, that as a pilot he makes a great radioman. Please stick to radio, Sergeant.

1st Sgt. McKinney is pleased as punch because his wife has arrived for a visit with him. He now has some

HQ Company

Headquarters Company this week begins a series of personal interest stories of a different enlisted man in the company each week.

As a lead off, I decided to look up S/Sgt. William O. Jones, the very capable sergeant, who hails from Chicago, Ill.

Sgt. Jones was inducted into the army April 7, 1941. Before entering the army he attended Lane Technical high, Chicago. While attending this school he participated in many extra activities. He was an eight-letter man, secretary of the student council, and reporter for the school magazine and school paper, a member of the National Honor Society of high schools, having to obtain an average of 90 or better for a period of four years. He was picked and given honorable mention as all-city halfback in 1936. Being only five foot three inches in height it is hard to believe that he has pole-vaulted 11 1/2 feet in the air.

He also was recipient of four scholarships to college. The schools being LeMoine college, Memphis, Tenn., Kentucky State, Wilberforce, Tuskegee Institute, but due to a temporary appointment in the post office, was forced to set aside these offers.

Upon his induction he was sent immediately to the Cavalry Replacement Center at Republican Flats, Camp Funston, Kans., and, after finishing his basic training there, was transferred to the weapons troop of the 4th Cavalry Brigade, which was attached to the 10th Cavalry. After being in this outfit for a month he was promoted to the rank of corporal because of his knowledge of weapons.

"W. O." Jones, as his friends call him, was then sent on cadre to help organize his present unit. If you see a little fellow walking fast around this Battalion area with a pencil on his ear, nine times out of ten, you can bet it is he. He is always trying to help keep up the morale and suggesting improvements which will be of service to everyone. He is married and has one son.

—FREDERICK BRAITHWAITE.

thing to do with his spare time. After being away from her for 8 months I can imagine how glad he is to have her here. Glad to see you happy, Sarge.

Pvt. L. V. Moss has just returned from a furlough and he claimed there is nothing like the free world. I am not the man to dispute him. This is the first word of truth ever to come from my pal Moss. Remember that Sunday and every day is Mother's Day.

—SHERWOOD Q. GOGGINS.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

The Detachment is still moving along in such a manner that it is creating the atmosphere of being on the ball. We have been busily engaged in special classes for the improvement of the efficiency of the detachment. Without the assistance of Lt. Jerome E. Matthews, Dental Surgeon, now with the 92nd Div., our CO now has all of the duties with the able assistance of his enlisted men.

Because the CO is interested in each man knowing the other man's job, S/Sgt. Leonard Garrett and T/3 Francis O. McCellan have organized the training program to enlighten each man with various duties. T/5 William F. Luster, T/5 Maron Sibley and Pfc. Willie Arrington are having classes on the procedures in dealing with the sick blotter, and records. T/5 William H. Simmons and Pfc. James I. Williams are having classes in pharmacy. T/4 Robert F. Wright give a few pointers to keep the men on the ball about their equipment, and the men seem to think that the sergeant is not on the ball unless he has them on statements of charges. T/5 William E. Washington and T/5 John W. Yancy threw out a few remarks in order to prevent toothache, and the care of the teeth. Cpl. Alfred A. Blye gave some pointers on how to prevent V.D., which is very important especially for the Medical Detachment. The Medicos miss Cpl. Blye who now is transferred to Camp Swift, Texas.

A group of the medicos went to the skating rink, and had a fine time, one particular skating fan of the group from Palestine, Tex., was seen skating on the floor more frequently with his feet up, than down on the floor.

—WILLIAM E. WASHINGTON.

Company B

GOLDEN RULE DAYS This week the Spot Light shines on the men who are furthering their education by taking advantage of the educational program furnished here in the battalion and the Army International Correspondence Schools. These men know that when they are again civilians these courses which they are taking will help solve social and financial problems which we all will have to face when peace comes.

The following men are attending the battalion school: T/5 Coleman Patten, T/5 Willie G. Griffin, Pvt. Mitchell Jackson, Pfc. Levi Green, and Cpl. Nathan Hill. Men going to typing school are T/5 Abner H. Hutchinson and T/4 Charles E. Simpson. Just think, with only three lessons these men are able to get normal speed. Studying from the Army Correspondence School is none other than Sgt. James Kendall, whom the boys call Father Time. Sgt. Kendall is taking a course in plumbing and mathematics. There are others taking various