

# THE RED BULL ETIN

Vol. 1, No. 20

34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division

August 4, 1945

## RAIN AND 8000 GIs GREET THE ANDREWS TRIO

### Extra Thrills Add To Sister Act

The Andrews Sisters drew the largest crowd of the year, and British soldiers added their applause to the thundering approval of the appreciative GI jivefans.

There was one thrill that the audience didn't count on . . . the low flying antics of an unidentified plane, and of course the rain.

The girls were more than cooperative. Patty said she "loved to sing in the rain", and she had plenty of chance to prove it. If she had followed the doctor's orders in Rome more than a week ago, there would not have been any show. Patty was ordered to the hospital with an acute attack of nasopharyngitis, but she refused to cancel the schedule. Everybody owes a vote of thanks to the 4 GIs who lent their raincoats to the 3 girls and their excellent accompanist, Milt Raskin.

An unexpected treat was the surprise appearance of Arthur Treacher, that *gentleman's* gentleman from Hollywood. Patty Andrews and the famous cinema butler ran through a snappy skit that appealed to the wet but happy audience.

Milt Raskin, the girls' pianist didn't have anything to say during the show, but afterwards he was quite emphatic in his comments on Army pilots. "We made a 98 point landing at Pisa, and landed in Leghorn. Why must these guys make every landing and takeoff as though they were still chasing Krauts", Milt wanted to know.

The Andrews Sisters couldn't get over the fact that everybody remained, even though it rained in that good, old Italian fashion. Their future plans include the resumption of their radio show, and some more movies. "We don't look forward to the movies. Honestly, we all hate pictures," declared La Verne.

**Make a Hit with postwar Blonds, Sink your Dough in wartime Bonds.**

## Division Softball Champs Battle for Higher Honors in Milan . . .



Pictured above with the Commanding General are the members of the 34th Softball Championship Team!

Sgt. Joe Zarzycki continued to pitch flawless ball as the Division Softball champs from the 1st Bn., 133 Inf., blanked the 91st Division by a score of 2-0. In their second game of the double elimination tournament, the "Red Bulls" dropped a game to the 38th Division to the tune of 5-0.



### We Ran It First!

"Readjustment," that punchy five-stanza poem which appeared in the July 27 issue of Yank magazine, was penned by T-5 Lester Weinstein, a regimental switchboard operator. The frail long-haired plugger, a regular contributor to the "Red Bulletin", has had several other poems published in Stars and Stripes, and rightfully deserves recognition as the 133 Infantry's Poet Laureate.

### . . . As Hardball Eliminations Get Under Way

The baseball elimination tournament swung into action this week, and 16 scrappy teams vied for the privilege of representing the Division in the 5th Army finals.

It is a double elimination tournament, and the loss of 2 games eliminates a team. There were only 2 undefeated teams left after the schedule for the first 4 days was completed. Two other teams lost only one game, and that keeps them in the running.

The undefeated teams are 1st Bn., 135 Inf. and 1st Bn., 168 Inf.

The following teams still have a chance at the Division crown: Div. Arty., 151 FA, 2nd Bn., 135 Inf., Special Units, 133 Inf., 34th Recon. and 2nd Bn., 133 Inf.

The place for the 5th Army play-offs has not been announced as yet, but elaborate plans are under way for outfitting the Division's champion aggregation with new uniforms and full equipment.

## Yo, Ho, Ho . . . for a Life on the Bounding Main!

How would you like to be a member of a yacht club? Well, you can be!

Special Service has arranged for GIs of the 34th Division to join the Gazelle Yacht Club, in Monfalcone. The beauty of it is that membership fees are almost nothing, and once you are a member you can use all the facilities of the club, including boats, for no extra fee except a small monthly membership dues.

Operated jointly with the British, the Club is only a few minutes ride from Trieste, and bus service is available for day leave person-

nel and restees. If you are an enlisted man, it will cost you only a dollar to join, and 50 cents a month dues. Officers shell out a little more . . . \$4 initiation, and \$1 a month.

When you apply for membership, they give you an exam. If you know nothing about boats, or very little, you will probably be given a "B" card. That entitles you to take the small rowboats out on the lagoon, and receive instruction on the sailboats.

If you know something about sailboats, you are entitled to an "A" card. With this pass you can take the club's sailboats skimming

out over the lagoon. For regular "old salts" there is an "A-Star" card. This is tops in membership. With one of these you can take the bigger sailboats right into the Adriatic . . . but don't be getting ideas, it's a long trip in a sailboat to New York!

In addition to boats, the members are entitled to the privileges of the Club House. It is a swank little place, and light refreshments are available to the members. Every Sunday afternoon the Club sponsors a Regatta, and GI members are entitled to compete in the events.

# THE RED BULLETIN

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#### No Peace for the Weary!

We're sleeping in a pyramidal tent these days, and we love it! There's nothing like a nice "peaceful" night's sleep, in the wide open spaces. Just about the time we're really nodding the hoot owls begin. When the hooting stops, the sun comes sneaking into the tent, and lands smack in our eyes.

\* \* \*

#### Oh, Those Bumps!

We laughed when they issued mosquito bars. After the first night without one, we looked like a washboard in the morning. Those mosquitoes don't bite much, but our bumps had bumps!

\* \* \*

#### A Perfect Flop!

Finally, we put up a mosquito bar. It was an artistic job! The net hung evenly on all 4 sides . . . and when we got into bed, it fell down just as evenly!

\* \* \*

#### It's Rough All Over!

It's a lot of fun reading at night in a pyramidal tent. Just about the time you reach an interesting part in a book, the candle flickers, but doesn't go out. So you decide to blow out the candle, you sit in bed and blow your head off . . . no good! Just as you tumble out of bed, and walk up to the candle . . . a gust of wind, out goes the candle, and you almost break your neck getting back to the sack!

#### Something New Has Been Added!

Finally, you get to sleep, and 5 minutes later it's time to get up! Army cots are comfortable! So it usually takes only 10 minutes to iron out the kinks. They don't bother us! There's one thing we can't understand! The past few mornings, we have been crawling to breakfast, and eating chow on our knees!

\* \* \*

#### Ashes to Ashes!

It isn't safe anymore to walk along these dusty Italian roads. After a few jeeps pass by, you look like something out of the "Hobo News!"

\* \* \*

#### Dust to Dust!

Of course, you don't mind that too much! But when the stuff gets into your eyes and mouth, it brings back fond memories of desert maneuvers and those first months in Africa.

\* \* \*

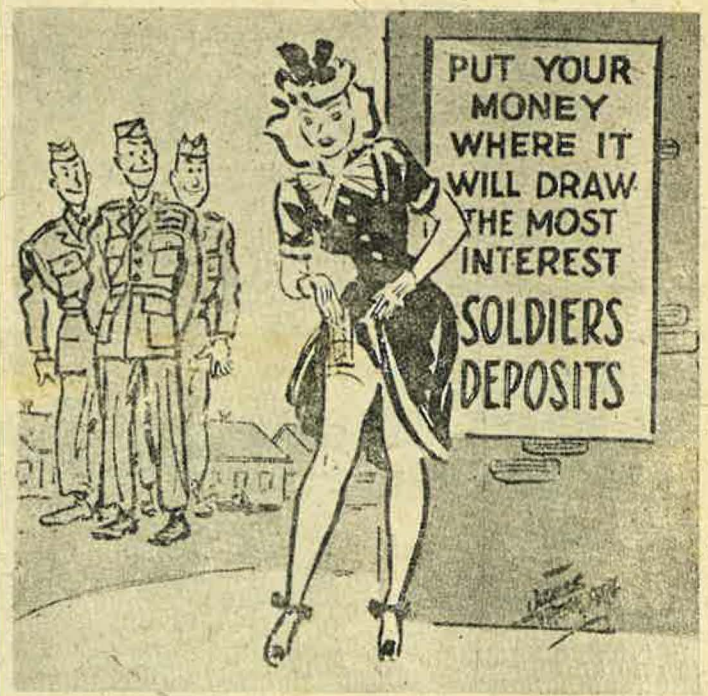
#### May Our Jeeps!

One of the boys watched his driver wipe the dust from his vehicle after every stop, and was rather surprised at this apparent waste of time. When he inquired about it, the driver was equally vague. "If the jeep stays dusty, it might get rusty," he finally concluded! Could be.

\* \* \*

#### Never Rust!

Because of the poor visibility on these roads, military courtesy seems to be on the downgrade. The heavy dust covers all distinguishing insignia, and makes it almost impossible to recognize a high ranking officer. You could use the old Army adage: "When in doubt, salute!" but, perhaps phosphorescent (or dustphorescent) "bars and leafs" would solve the problem more easily.



## Here's One for Ripley . . . These 34th Doughfeet Climb Mountains for Fun!

Are you bored with the flatlands? Do you yearn to scale mountains? Enjoy hanging on the side of a vertical cliff by your fingernails? Some GIs do . . . believe it or not!

Tired of life in the valley, a few hardy mountaineers from the 168 "Rainbow" Regt. have turned to the peaks for recreation. Not content with climbing almost every peak in the Apennines, they have turned to the Alps for exercise. In their enthusiasm, many of them have even invested in hooks, and other equipment designed to make life easier for the Alpinist.

First to take advantage of the barren rockpiles near their bivouac area in Cave del Predil, was a trio of strong-muscled lads from the 2nd Bn., Hq. Co.: 1st-Sgt. John Hughes, Cpl. Paul Heltke and Cpl. Harley Phillips.

3500-foot-high Mt. Guarda was their objective. For two hours

they struggled up the steep sides, before they finally pulled themselves over the last obstacle to stand on the peak. "We did it just for some excitement," said Heltke, "but we got some wonderful snapshots of the surrounding country, too!"

A more ambitious attempt was engineered near Plezzo. Led by Lt. Col. Samuel G. Kelly, 3rd Bn. CO, a group of volunteers tackled sinister-looking Mt. Ronbon, rearing some 6600 feet into the clouds.

Only a half-dozen of the starters made it to the top after a six-hour climb. When they finally reached the cloud-shrouded summit, they found the inevitable . . . abandoned pill boxes! They also discovered still unmelted snow in some of the caves.

The hardy mountaineers who conquered Ronbon peak were: Pvts. John R. Buchanan, William M. Smith, Pfc. Bernard J. Necherman and John Hickman from L Co., and Pvt. Wayne Broswell and Pfc. Wm. Harold from K Co.

#### IT'S NICE, BUT . . .

Oh how we love the summertime The air so clear, the weather fine; The bees are buzzin' - round and round

And the ants are busy on the ground.

The birds are singing in the trees As blossoms fill the summer breeze; The brooks that sparkle in the light

Make life cheerful, happy, bright; But there's one thing that I do despise

It's those doggone pesky flies.

Pfc. Dave Metcalf, Co. F, 168 Inf.

#### The Battlefield!

And then we enjoy the daily shave! Cold water is SO stimulating! Who cares if you look like a living advertisement for War Bonds! We're patriotic, and we don't mind donating blood, but there must be an easier way than cut by cut!

\* \* \*

#### No Capito!

"Buon giorno" and "buona sera" don't bring about the usual results in this area. Perhaps the natives don't understand us. On the other hand, however, we may be speaking the wrong language. Does anybody "parlez" Yugoslavian?



Well, the Andrews Sisters have come and gone. We'd like to have had them with us longer, but the one show they put on for the division was terrific. Thousands of Red Bull GIs came, saw . . . and were conquered by the Queens of Jive, in spite of the pouring rain!

A new USO offering is on the way . . . scheduled to breeze in Tuesday. It's called "Music Call" and is a two man and a girl combination. Joan Brooks is the singer (and the girl), Jimmie Jamerson is the comedian and Nick Verlaney hugs the squeeze box. The show runs 35 minutes, and during the 6 days it will be with the division the show should hit every unit.

With softball out of the way, the great American Sport is ready to steal the spotlight. The baseball tournament to crown the division champion got underway early in the week. The same "double elimination" system that worked so successfully with the softball series will be used for the baseball play-offs. The Division champion

will emerge from the unit winners Aug. 7th. They will leave almost immediately for the Army finals which are scheduled for Aug. 10 to 20. The finals probably will be held in Milan.

A pick-up basketball team from the 3rd Bn. of the 133 Inf. played an invitational game in Trieste last Sunday. The local boys walloped the Italian outfit from Udine by a score of 34 to 28. High scorers for the *Basketbullers* were Hooley, who chalked up 14 points and Moore who tossed the leather through the hoop to earn 11 tallies.

There's a real treat in store for you long-hairs. The world-famous "La Scala" Opera Company, of Milan, is going to present a month of open-air musicals near the 34th's area. The month-long Opera season starts today, and will continue thru Aug. The operas will be presented under the auspices of the 56th (London) Division in Gradisca . . . about 5 miles from Gorizia. Prices are \$1 and \$2. If you are interested in attending, see your Special Service officer.

Among the operas to be presented are "Cavalleria Rusticana", "Pagliacci", "Traviata", Rigoletto" and "Tosca". In addition to the operas, several symphony programs will be included in the schedule.

### Think You've Been Over Here a Long Time . . . Meet a Man With 7 Stripes



"POP" THURTLE  
Sports seven service stripes

Cividale, Italy—Credited with as much time overseas as any other officer or enlisted man in the MTO, Capt. Philip W. "Pop" Thurtle, the 34th Division's assistant G-1, celebrated his 42nd consecutive month in overseas service recently by adding a seventh service stripe to the left sleeves of his uniforms.

Personnel officer of the 133 Inf. until his transfer on July 8 to division headquarters, Capt. Thurtle is one of the "Red Bull" originals, having departed from the American scene on Jan. 15, 1942, with the first AEF of World War II. Possessing an amazing total of 140 points, the 33-year-old officer elected to remain with the division, despite the fact that he has not yet enjoyed a furlough with his wife and two children.

A resident of Mason City, Iowa, Capt. Thurtle joined the Iowa National Guard in Aug., 1938. Having been a member of the R.O.T.C. at the University of Iowa (also a corking good blocking back), he was immediately commissioned a 2nd Lt. He was a 1st Lt. and executive officer of 133's Hq. Co. when it sailed for overseas service 42 months ago. In July of the same year, the popular Iowan commanded Co. E of the 133, but returned to Hq. Co. a month later as a Captain and Company Commander. He became the regiment's personnel officer in March, 1943, and held that position until his recent move to division.

"Charlie" Co. used "C" ration cans to equal advantage in his shower unit. He purchased three faucets to draw the water from the cans without the use of a hose. A "Dog" Company's set-up is a little more on the swank side, with three chromium-plated shower fixtures.

1st Sgt. Elmon Hayes of "Dog" Company summed it up this way: "It took us a little while to get organized to fight this Italian weather, but now we're ready for anything. Let the sun shine and the temperature rise! Our boys will keep cool and clean!"

### INGENIOUS GIs BEAT THE HEAT

They say that "necessity is the mother of invention," and if that's true, the good woman had several sons, all members of the 1st Bn., 135 Inf. Regt.

When the Hq. Co. men found themselves too far from the showers for a daily rinse, they decided to set up a unit of their own. Sgt. Walter Klaric, in charge of the detail, invented a shower fixture that enabled the men to enjoy the benefit of a spray. Cutting off the cone-shaped top of a beer can, he soldered it on to a flat piece of tin. Several holes were punched in this apparatus, a hose attached, and the fixture was complete.

With three 50-gallon drums of water on hand at all times, the Headquarters' men are keeping cool in spite of the heat and humidity.

S-Sgt. Nelson M. Zirkler of

### Random Sports Slants from the 133 . . .

Boxing is rapidly becoming a major item on the 3rd Bn's sports program since 2nd Lt. Raymond Kopech of Co. I took charge of a dozen ring addicts last week. Assisted by Pfc. Walter Pietryga of Co. I and Lorenzo Scalone of Co. M, Lt. Kopech's class is in serious training for a gala ring carnival which will be held in the near future. The 133 officer, incidentally, is a former professional, and should mold a winning combination from the ranks of the crack "Liberator" battalion.

Though the "Liberator" battalion's representatives were eliminated from the division softball tournament over the weekend, three of its stars slugged their way past the .400 mark against brilliant mound opposition. The heavy wallopers are Sgt. "Champ" Cianfaglione, team captain, and Pfc. Lou Yrkowski and Dick Richardson, outfielders. Coach Charlie "Sarge" Thakara is well satisfied with his team's performance at the plate.

### MOVIE FARE

**WONDERMAN**

Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo

**BREWSTER'S MILLIONS**

Dennis O'Keefe, Helen Walker

**NATIONAL VELVET**

Mickey Rooney, Jackie Jenkins

**IT'S A PLEASURE**

Sonja Henie, Michael O'Shea

**TOGETHER AGAIN**

Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer

**ESCAPE IN THE DESERT**

Jean Sullivan, Zachary Scott

**PATRICK THE GREAT**

Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan

**THE VALLEY OF DECISION**

Greer Garson, Gregory Peck

**DIAMOND HORSESHOE**

Betty Grable, Dick Haymes

**BLONDE FEVER**

Phil Dorn, Mary Astor

**Division CP (1930)**

- Wonderman—Sat., Aug. 4
- Brewster's Millions—Mon., Aug. 6
- National Velvet—Wed., Aug 8
- It's a Pleasure—Fri., Aug. 10

**Reg. Trp. and 34 QM (2200)**

- Wonderman—Sun., Aug. 5
- Brewster's Millions—Tues., Aug. 7
- National Velvet—Thurs., Aug. 9
- Theater (Cividale) 34MP, 109 Eng., Ord., 109 Med., etc. (2100)

- Brewster's Millions—Sat., Sun., Aug. 4, 5
- Wonderman—Mon., Tues., Aug. 6, 7
- It's a Pleasure—Wed., Thurs., Aug. 8, 9
- National Velvet—Fri., Aug. 10

**Div. Arty. (1900) 125, 151, 185 FA (2200)**

- Diamond Horseshoe—Sat, Aug. 4
- Valley of Decision—Mon., Aug. 6
- Escape in the Desert—Wed., Aug. 8
- Together Again—Fri., Aug. 10

**175 FA Bn. (2200)**

- Diamond Horseshoe—Sun., Aug. 5
- Valley of Decision—Tues., Aug. 7
- Escape in the Desert—Thurs., Aug. 9
- 133 Inf.
- Valley of Decision—Sat., Sun., Aug. 4, 5
- Diamond Horseshoe—Mon., Tues., Aug. 6, 7
- Together Again—Wed., Thurs., Aug. 8, 9
- Escape in the Desert—Fri., Aug. 10

- 135 Inf.
- Together Again and Escape in the Desert—Sat., Aug. 4 thru Tues., Aug. 7
- Wonderman and Brewster's Millions—Wed., Aug. 8 thru Sat., Aug. 11

**168 Inf.**

- National Velvet and Blonde Fever—Sat., Aug. 4 thru Tues., Aug. 7
- Patrick the Great and Valley of Decision—Wed., Aug. 8 thru Sat., Aug. 11

**BULLETIN BEAUTY . . .**



It runs in the family. Her father was part of the famous comedy team of a generation ago . . . remember Jones and Hare? Ernie Hare's daughter, Marilyn, is carrying on the family tradition. She's traveling with the "Duffy's Tavern" show which recently entertained 5000 34th GIs.

**TWO MORE PURPLE HEARTS... COMIN' UP!**

The 34th Division has more than its share of heroes, but there are two men in our ranks who rate a little more than the usual recognition.

Pfcs. L. Scalone and W. Pietryga of 133 Inf. have volunteered to spar a few rounds with Primo Carnera, Italy's man mountain heavyweight boxer, in an exhibition bout to be held on the 19th of August in Sequals, the hometown of the former world's champion.

The exhibition bout is one of 7 scraps scheduled in a day long program that will begin at 4:00 PM. The other 6 contests feature local boys. The ringfest will be followed by dancing, and "molta signorinas" will be on hand as dancing partners.

The gargantuan boxer is in fine shape, although he is a little flabby around the middle. He wants to come to the States as soon as he can, and settle down to a normal existence.

"I want to take the wife and my 2 kids to America," Carnera said. "I realize that I am through as a fighter, just as Joe Louis should know that he is washed up as the champion. I am 36, and Joe is over 30. Your best fighting age is 20-30, after that you are just too old!" the ex-champ mauled declared.

"Take it from me, Billy Conn is the next champion of the world. He is under 30, and those extra few years pay off in the ring," Carnera added.

**460 "Red Bull" Medics Are Awarded Combat Badges for Duty Under Fire**

460 members of the Medical Department received the Medical Badge this week. There are 750 Officers and Enlisted Men eligible for the award and the rest of the badges will be issued shortly.

The issue of the badge is the result of a long campaign to give recognition to medics serving with the Infantry.

The WD Circular authorizing the badge states, "This badge is established as a means of recognizing the important role being

performed by medical personnel on duty with the Infantry units, especially Infantry Battalions. It is intended that this badge shall be awarded only those who are sharing with the Infantry the hazards and hardships of combat."

The Medical Badge may be awarded retroactively to those personnel who have qualified on or since December 7, 1941.

The badge, similar to the Combat Infantryman Badge, is worn on the left breast above the line of medals or service ribbons.

**A Dream Comes True: This GI Tells Off Brass... And Gets Away With It!**

Even after 22 months of Army life, "Strike Tuh" sounds a lot more familiar to Pfc. Charles Gerace of Service Co., 135th Inf., than "Forward March".

After you talk to "Charlie" for a few minutes, this enigma readily explains itself. His whole life is concerned with baseball, and he swears that unlike most children his first word was "ball" rather than "Mama".

When he was a foxhole soldier in C Company, Pfc. Gerace had visions of Inter-Regimental baseball. Shortly after the end of hostilities, "Charlie" swung into action. He explored the countryside for 3 days before he found a suitable field, and he was largely instrumental in the transformation of the area into a feasible playing diamond. Due to his ingenuity, rollers were improvised, and after plenty of hard work, a regulation diamond was completed.

"Charlie" umpires all the games expertly, and he has plenty of professional background to insure a good job. He attended George Barr Umpire School in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and for a number of years Pfc. Gerace umpired semi-pro games in Connecticut, as well as high school and college contests in the "Nutmeg" State.

"Charlie's" buddies are unanimous in their approval of his arbitrating, but there's one story they can never retell enough. "Charlie"



**"CHARLIE" GERACE**  
...his word goes!

is the boss of every game, and one time an officer gave the umpire too much back talk.

"Charlie" took it for a while, and then he barked, "One more crack out of you, and out you go . . . . SIR!"

**Male Call**

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



**Just Keep The Suit, Bub**