

THE RED BULLETIN

Vol. 1, No. 15

34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division

June 30, 1945

CONGRESSMAN GREETES 34TH IOWANS



The Hon. Thomas E. Martin, Representative from Iowa City, Ia., takes time out from his tour of the Mediterranean Theater to greet fellow Iowans at the 34th "Red Bull" Div. Hq. Cong. Martin paused in his chat to have this picture taken with Maj. Gen. Charles L. Bolte, division commander, and seven Iowa soldiers. Shown here (standing, l to r) are: T-Sgt. Leroy E. Jacks, T-4 Dominic Prochaska, Sgt. Theodore W. Van Den Berg, Pfc. Raymond L. Bailey, Cong. Martin, Pvt. Wayne E. Brown, and Maj. Gen. Bolte; (kneeling) Pfc. Raymond Fincher and Pfc. Frank Paradiso.

Little 'El Morocco' Opened By Red Cross in Racconigi

Manhattan memories are pleasantly stirred by the overseas edition of El Morocco, new GI jive joint premiered by the Red Cross in Racconigi last week.

Officially opened by Congressman Thomas Martin of Iowa, Maj. Gen. Charles L. Bolte and Brig. Gen. Harry B. Sherman, the club got off to a flying start, with more than 500 soldiers from the 34th Division crowding the lounge and snack bar on opening night.

Located in a former city gymnasium, not far from division headquarters, the new night spot offers lounge and writing room facilities, a snack bar, ping pong tables, and outside volley ball and badminton courts. A full program of entertainment is being planned for the club, including dances three nights a week.

The new club is large and roomy. The main lounge is in the spacious gym. It is well equipped with tables, chairs and two ping pong tables. On one side is the writing room, which also serves as a center for I and E activities.

On the other side of the lounge (Continued on page 4)

SCHOOL BELLS RING FOR 135TH

Hundreds Flock to Classes in Educational Program

SAN REMO, Italy—This seaside resort town is beginning to take on the atmosphere of a college town. Any afternoon you can see GIs from the 135th Regiment hurrying down the streets, books under their arms, on their way to class. Groups of them lounge in front of class rooms, or sit under the trees honing for a coming exam.

NEW FACTS ALTER PREVIOUS STORY

(Editor's Note: May 19th, the Red Bulletin published an article on the 133rd's Taskforce "S" erroneously referred to as Taskforce "Jaybird". We regret to say that our correspondent who wrote this article was mis-informed on a number of facts concerning the action. Here-with follows the true story of the situation, as described by Lt. Col. Timothy F. Horan, commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion, 133rd Inf.)

At 2030, the night of April 26th, the 2nd Battalion pushed off toward the Po. Its objective was Montecelli, and the route ran through the towns of Cortemaggiore and San Pietro.

Minus Company E, which had been sent with the 34th Recon to clear some houses to the east, the battalion moved out. Cortemaggiore was reached at 2330, and the houses cleared. With Company F in the lead, the battalion moved out in the direction of San Pietro. For almost three hours they slogged through a driving rainstorm, and at 0300 entered the outskirts of the town.

After a brief firefight, in which F Company captured a German officer and 49 men, the battalion prepared to push off for its next objective. By that time, E Company had completed its mission, and joined the rest of the battalion. But the move was canceled by an urgent call from the battalion rear, located in Cortemaggiore.

A large force of Germans was passing through that town, headed for San Pietro along the same road the battalion had taken. This was the last message received over the phone. The Germans found the wires and cut them.

All four companies immediately (Continued on page 4)

More than 500 combat veterans of this 34th Division regiment are enrolled in the classes...and it's only a portent of bigger things to come. Hundreds more are on the waiting list, and a similar program is being inaugurated in the other regiments and units of the division.

Although the division is not eligible to participate in the full scale activities of the Army Education Program, Lt. Robert A. Leadley, the 135th Regiment's I and E officer, decided to go ahead with as much of the program as he could make available.

He sent out questionnaires to find out what the men wanted to study...or if they were even interested in studying at all. The response from the GIs in the regiment and attached units was tremendous. He began to lay plans for his education program. First, there was the question of instructors. From the information in the questionnaires, and from the service records, he found men qualified to teach all the subjects that had been requested by enough students to warrant a class. It is interesting to note that all but four of these instructors came from the ranks of the enlisted men.

Then there was the problem of (Continued on page 4)

Red Cross Replacement

Robert Smith, of Decatur, Ill., has been appointed to replace Richard H. Percy as 34th Division Red Cross Field Director.

Percy left the division June 25th to return to his home in Rochester, N. Y., where he will resume his old job as an English teacher in the public schools.

The new Red Cross Director came to the 34th from the 1st Armored Division. Previous to that, he was attached to the Red Cross Club in Montecatini.

The Red Bulletin

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June 30, 1945

SPECIAL SERVICE PRESENTS

What a racket he's got! Sure he's got a racket; but it's a tennis racket. That's right fellers, you too can have a racket; again I mean a tennis racket. Yes, it was the 34th Division's Tennis Tournament, started on Sunday, June 24, 1945, right through to Friday, June 29. Each morning, at 0900 hours, men reported to the Racconigi tennis courts, and there found the Special Service Athletic officer, Capt. R. G. Thornton, who briefed them after the details of the tournament. All necessary equipment was furnished by Special Service.

However, Special Service was a bit disappointed at only approximately 50 entries. Fellows, it's your division's diversion; so let's make it your racket with a game of tennis. Equipment will be on hand at Special Service at all times.

Note: Be on the lookout for the arrows posted on the road leading to Torino . . . they point to the tennis courts. Let's see you out there. I know you'll enjoy a few good games of tennis—it's a great sport.

Swimming Meet

A bit of advance information . . . A swimming meet is now in the making. Applicants are to see their unit Special Service officer for exact details. At present, the only definite info is as follows:

Place—Mussolini Stadium in Torino

Date—10 July 1945

Time—0900 hours

If you like to swim, this is a swell time to take advantage of the sport. There'll also be a few thrills out of the competitive spirit.

* * *

Wanted: Harmonica players, with at least three years experience and a bit of practical playing with an all-harmonica band. Special Service is on the lookout to

form a specialty act of either an harmonica trio or quartet. So, if you're the man we want, get in touch with the Div. Special Service officer. Come on guys, let's make music!

—T-5 Bob Rosen
Special Service

G I University

Here's a brief note to you who are planning to talk your I and E officer out of a bit of education by having him send you to the Army University Study Center, in Florence.

This school is set up by army personnel and is open to you who want to get some education—either to continue where you might have left off back home or to get your fingers into some new field. This school is offered on a college level, which means you must be a college student or a high school graduate or have an AGCT score of 105 to take a course.

In our division, the first group of 54 to attend school leave here to report to Florence by July 1. Those of you selected to attend school will be placed on TD to the University. All you need to take with you to school are your personal things (mess gear, bedding and equipment are furnished). The University is open to both officers and enlisted men. This first course is four weeks long; those courses to follow may be longer.

As soon as we receive our quota for the month of August, it will be broken down to the separate units. If you are interested in taking some college courses in a school which is run very much like any school back home, contact your I and E officer and put in your bid—he's the man who can help you.

And the beauty of it all, should your name come up for a trip home, you won't be forgotten or made to stay in school; all you have to do is pack up and hit the gang plank.

These are the courses offered for the first term:

AGRICULTURE: Beef Production, Dairy Cattle, Disease and

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed



"Relax, Ma, I'm not married—I sprained my ankle and he offered to help me in."

Parasites of Poultry, Forestry, Marketing Farm Products and Pork Production.

ART: Art Today, History of Art, Treasury of Art Masterpieces.

BIOLOGY: Botany, Zoology, Physiology.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION: Principles of Accounting, Business Law, General Insurance, Merchandising, Office Management, Personnel Management, Salesmanship.

CHEMISTRY: General Chemistry.

ECONOMICS: Labor Problems.

EDUCATION: Foundation of Modern Education, Introduction to Study of Education.

ENGLISH: College Composition, Survey of American Literature, Journalism, Public Speaking, Shakespeare, Modern American and British Poetry.

GOVERNMENT: American Government, International Relations.

GEOLOGY: Historical Geology.

MODERN LANGUAGES: Elementary French, Italian, Spanish and German.

MATHEMATICS: Review of Mathematics, College Algebra, Solid Geometry, Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, Slide Rule.

MUSIC: Harmony, History of Music.

PHILOSOPHY: Introduction to Modern Philosophy, Preface to Philosophy.

PHYSICS: Survey of Physical Sciences.

PSYCHOLOGY: Applied Psychology.

SOCIOLOGY: Criminology, Principles of Sociology.

I and E

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, teach us the true dignity of our manhood. Grant us the realization that profanity, gratification of our passions, over-indulgence of our appetites do not constitute the measure of a man. In physical combat we were strong; may we not be weak in the face of temptation. Thus may we prove our manhood. Amen.

—Francis J. Fish
Asst. Div. Chaplain (1st Lt.)

Do You Dig Me?

I woke up in a cold sweat,
Yanked the covers from my head.

Quietly, the Squaw still slept;
I got out of the bed.

Slowly, going down the stairs
And to the closet door,
I opened it, began my search,
Both on the wall and floor.

I must have searched five minutes
For the thing I knew was there.
My God, would I never find it?
Where the hell was it? Where?

I had given up all hope,
When I touched the thing I sought.
And knew that I could do it now,
The way that I'd been taught.

But then there was a shout,
As I turned to steal into the night.
"Lester! Put that shovel back.
It's the first door on the right!"

Pfc. Lester Weinstein
Hq. Co., 133rd Inf. Regt.

BULL, STRICTLY!

Welcome!

To all new members of the 34th Infantry Division. We know we will like you, and we are sure that you will be proud to wear the famous "Red Bull" Division insignia.

* * *

Quite an Idea!

Recently we were walking down the street, and encountered two GIs who were accompanying two WACs. Suddenly the GIs broke into Italian, and this is what they had to say. "Whenever we want to signal to one another, let's speak Italian. The girls can't understand a word." The perfect answer for a troublesome mother-in-law. I'm sending home a dictionary tomorrow.

* * *

Reminder!

Buy in July!
Slap the Jap!
Let's all get on the BOND wagon.

* * *

Wuxtra! Wuxtra!

News headline! All GIs get steak and ice cream, when they reach the STATES. Good old "Bossy", always ready to give her "uddermost."

* * *

Overheard!

"Are you doing any good?"
"I'd be doing fine, but I can't get rid of the family."

* * *

Cherechez La Femme!

We know a Tech Sergeant, who wants to get points for all the broken hearts he has left behind. Campaign stars?

—T-5 Bill Bornstein
135th Inf. Regt.

ON THE LEVEL

It always was a question,
In the days before the war;
Where to go on our vacation,
To the mountains or the shore.

But that was quite a while ago,
Since then, I've worn O.D.,
And dragged my frame from peak
to peak,
All over Italy.

So listen, Mom, dear wife and pals,
I'm stubborn as the devil.
I've come to this conclusion,
And I'm really "on the level".

It will never be a question,
In the days after the war,
Where to go on our vacation—
Not the mountains, but the
shore.

Pfc. Lester Weinstein
Hq. Co., 133rd Inf. Regt.

Air OP Pilots Flew 7,000 Hours

Artillery observation pilots flying a fleet of 10 Piper Cubs and L-5s, spent over seven thousand hours in the air (7,088 hours and 50 minutes), vitally assisting both the howitzer outfits and the infantry throughout the long Italian campaign.

Following a trial use of a Piper Cub at the Casablanca landing in November, 1942, the small observation planes were put into regular use by the 34th Division during the first of the Tunisian offensive. Maj. Stanley Williamson, Aiken, S. C., flying for the 175th F. A. Bn., was the first pilot to adjust his outfit's 105s on German positions in Tunisia.

The small Piper Cub planes neatly house a pilot and an observer, equipped with two-way radio communication. Transmitting and receiving on the same channels as the ground observation posts and the infantry battalion command post; they are able to correlate action on the part of the infantry, the artillery and the hill top observers, taking over observation of the enemy positions when the posts on the mountain tops no longer afford a view.

Since the African campaign, observers in the Piper Cubs have registered their battalions on base points at each new location, a task which had always been performed previously by hill observers. This, and flying over enemy territory, searching out targets of opportunity, have been the primary objectives in their use. However, the highly practical Cubs have proven indispensable under varied circumstances.

During the breaks through at Anzio and Bologna, the Piper Cubs regularly flew ahead of tank and armored units to ascertain enemy positions and would then return to drop notes to the ground forces informing them of what lay ahead. Intelligence sections at artillery and 34th Div. headquarters were also kept informed by this same means.

Lt. Billie Bishop, of Megargel, Tex., one of the veteran pilots, recalled seeing two columns, only a few hundred yards apart, traveling north during the break through in the Alban Hills, south of Rome. The column in the rear was definitely American but the forward column on the winding mountain road was unrecognizable. He dropped a note to the Americans asking for a negative sign if they had no troops forward of themselves. The ground forces replied with a negative, not being able to see the Germans only a short distance from them on the highway. Bishop proceeded to direct artillery fire on the enemy group.

The relatively low speed of the

BULLETIN BEAUTY . . .



You asked for her again, so here she is! In case you don't remember, she is lovely Chili Williams from RKO's "Having a Wonderful Crime."

Cubs, only 80 miles an hour, combined with extreme maneuverability, often proved an advantage when fast German fighters were in the air. Lt. Joseph Enos, of Oklahoma City, Okla., related that on one occasion two German planes shot by him, doing around 360 miles an hour while he was cruising at 60. "They came along so fast they didn't have time to shoot at us," he said.

The Cubs were of the utmost value during the Anzio beachhead action, due to the absence of hills in the flat terrain. However, the formidable presence of German fighters almost annihilated the little squadron. S-Sgt. Robert H. Menapace, of Syracuse, N. Y., who is the airplane mechanic for Div.

Arty., related that at one time at Anzio, the German fighters had eight of the ten planes out of commission. A total of eight planes have been lost in Africa and Italy and there have been numerous repairable crackups.

Doughboys have been grateful for the cooperation given them by the midget planes. Time and again the artillery air observers have given them invaluable information on the condition of roads, the results of demolitions and the movement of the enemy.

Capt. Marshall Haines, of Auburn, Calif., in charge of the 34th's air observation planes, stated that only two men had been killed and seven wounded in Italy and Africa.

SWIMMING MEET

(Sponsored by Special Service)

Get in the swim by diving into your Special Service office today, and registering for this division event.

0900 a.m. TORINO July 10

SCHOOL BELLS

(Continued from page 1)

where to hold the school. Lt. Leadley scouted the town and obtained the use of three former school buildings in which to hold his classes.

It has always been the policy of the United States Armed Forces Institute to supply texts and work books free to study groups of more than five GIs. Invoking this long-standing prerogative, Lt. Leadley set off for the Leghorn warehouse of USAFI, and came back with the necessary textbooks.

A few days later, the program was in operation. Its present curriculum consists of 20 subjects and one supervised study period for men taking USAFI correspondence courses. The soldier students can study anything from the "Three R's" to dancing in the school.

Greatest stress is laid on studies which will help to train the men for a job in civilian life. Although some purely scholastic classes are offered, such as Italian, Basic Math and English, most of the courses are designed to teach the men a trade. Most popular of these trade classes is Auto Mechanics. 81 students are enrolled for this course. It is a part of what the 135th calls "on the job training". The men are put on TD with the motor pool, and actually work on automobiles under the supervision of regular mechanics. In addition, they go to daily classes, study texts and attend showings of training films on auto mechanics.

Four other classes are taught on this same principle: Driving, Supply, Cooking and Typing. The Cooks', Bakers' and Butchers' School has an even more unique set-up than the others. A renowned chef, from one of San Remo's largest hotels, volunteered to teach the finer points of the culinary art to interested GIs. One cook from each company in the regiment is put on TD with the school. Seven days a week they attend classes and prepare foods under the careful supervision of the chef.

Three courses are offered to men interested in going back to the farm (and almost a hundred are!). They can study Agriculture, Live-stock Production or Crop Manage-



Betty Nyce, Corlin Cullen, Barbara Jones, Mary Anne Walsh, Janet Kyle and Harriet Savage make army life a pleasure for T-5 Richard Cummins, 109 Eng. and T-5 Harold Barber, Div. Hq., at the opening of the American Red Cross Club, Racconigi.

ment and Soil Conservation. Through a special arrangement with the Agricultural college located in the town, an Italian professor of Agriculture conducts the classes through the college's experimental farms twice a week. There, they may put to laboratory use the things they have learned from their textbooks.

Another popular course is printing. At present the class is limited to 20 men a session... and there's a long waiting list. Lt. Leadley made arrangements with a well-equipped local printer to allow the men the use of his shop afternoons and evenings. Here they set type, run the presses, and learn all the ins and outs of printing.

Other courses taught in the GI school are: Photography, Journalism, Advertising, Blueprint Reading, Carpentry, Fundamentals of Selling, Dancing and Harmony.

The school is now operating entirely as an off-duty program. Should the 34th be allowed to include time on the training schedule for educational activities, Lt. Leadley looks for an enrollment of almost 100 percent of the men in the regiment.

Opens 'El Morocco'

(Continued from page 1)

is the Snack Bar. Its chairs and tables, zebra-striped by a blow torch, make it reminiscent of New York's famous El Morocco Club... but the drinks are weaker, and you can pay the cover charge on the night before payday, and still have lires left. A well-executed series of contemporary murals, by T-5 Richard Cummins, of 109th Engineers, adds a splash of color.

The necessary feminine touch is supplied by bouquets of flowers scattered on tables and window ledges throughout the lounge and Snack Bar... and by the ever-present Red Cross girls, Mary Anne Walsh and Betty Nyce.

Organizer, and "father" of the new Racconigi Club is Mr. Richard H. Percy, Division Red Cross Field Director. Mary Anne and Betty did most of the planning and decorating. The brawn and sweat were supplied by a crew of GIs working under the direction of Cpl. Paul Allen and Pvt. Jacinto Romo.

The club is open daily from 1600 to 2300. For those who enjoy coffee and cookies, the Snack bar serves from 2000 to 2300.

Altered Account

(Continued from page 1)

moved into battle positions extending along the road for a distance of one half mile south of the town. The three 57mm guns, and the heavy machine guns, were set up in the center of town to cover the road. The ambush was prepared, and the 2nd Battalion waited for the Krauts to walk into the trap.

They didn't have long to wait. At 0530 the Jerries came marching down the road in a column of twos. The Americans let them get to within 30 yards of the center of town. Then all hell broke loose.

The first hail of fire littered the road with dead and wounded Krauts. Above the din of the battle could be heard shouts of "Kamerad", mingled with the moans and screams of the wounded. Many gave up, but others quickly reorganized in the ditches and began to fight back. German 75's at the rear of the long column began lobbing shells into the town.

The battle raged for several hours. At one time a force of 300 Germans counter-attacked Company E, but intense mortar fire from H Company routed them. Gradually the resistance weakened and died out.

As the battle drew to a close, the taskforce sent by the Regimental Commander arrived. By then, the few remaining Krauts were waving white flags; and the taskforce found it unnecessary to fire a single shot as they helped round up the isolated and beaten survivors of the German column.

When the prisoners were counted, it was found that the 2nd Battalion had taken 459 Jerries in this bitter action. 75 others lay dead along the road, and huge quantities of equipment, mules, horses and weapons had fallen into our hands.

The prisoners were then taken over by task forces so as to allow the 2nd Bn. to continue its mission to Montecelli.

CLUB OPENS

A new Red Cross Club has been opened in Torino, 23 Corso Trieste. Hours are 1000 to 2200. See next week's RED BULLETIN for further details.

Male Call

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



And He Used To Welcome Cover

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MILTON CANIFF