

Civilians Gladhand Red Devils In States

NO GRAVY TRAIN READY FOR RETURNING VETS

Welcome mats are clean, bright and shiny, you'll do more hand-shaking than a politician at an Elk's clam bake and you'll be damn glad to be back—but don't waste your time looking for a seat on the gravy train.

This is the good word being passed out today by the first contingent of Red Devils to rejoin the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment after spending 30-days at home in the States.

"When we go home for keeps, we'll get the kind of a welcome that has made the State's famous, but that's about it," Corporal Robert Ellis of Headquarters and Headquarters Company predicted.

"Many of the civilians I talked to on the train, in New York and a few at home in Newton, Massachusetts got the idea that we are as well off as they and it's still every man for himself, war or no war," he explained.

Corporal Ellis' opinion, generally speaking, was about the same as that of the six others from the Regiment who accompanied him to the States and back again to the ETO, a trip which took about 15 weeks.

The seven Red Devils, all veterans of the Regiment's campaigns of Normandy, Holland and Belgium, were part of the first "dream" quota permitting troops 30-day furloughs at home.

All agreed that as far as their families and close personal friends were concerned things were just as good if not better than before. It was conversation with casual acquaintances or strangers that indicated that a war record was a swell thing to have in war time but at the same time wars don't last forever.

"What I like to remember is that I was treated like a king in Owensboro, Kentucky," Corporal King S. Burke of Headquarters Company added.

Sgt. Howard H. Gouge of A Company and Tampa, Florida offered:

"Our wives can't save much money the way prices are and we shouldn't expect them to meet us at the door with a bag full of dough. I bought some fresh eggs at the grocery and they cost me 23 cents. I never heard of anything like that before in Tampa, Florida."

Sgt. Phillip Klinefelter of Company B and Siloam Springs, Arkansas, passes on this tip:

"The cigarette deal is rough on the civilians but I found that as long as I kept my ribbons on I could usually get my favorite brand."

1st Sgt. Roy T. Bennett of A Company and Dayton, Ohio says fellows making the trip are pleasantly surprised with the minimum of G. I. red tape encountered and the accommodations available.

T/S James E. Greenwood of the Medics from Ramah, Colorado seemed to think the boys on rotation wanted to have educational refresher courses when the war is over. "It's surprising how much we have forgotten."

Corporal James J. Murphy
Continued on Page 7

CROIX DE GUERRE AWARDED SIX IN 508th REGIMENT

Croix de Guerre with Palms, Order of the Army, has been awarded four officers and Croix de Guerre with Bronze Star has been awarded two non-commissioned officers of the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, citation orders disclose today.

The officers receiving the highest order of Croix de Guerre in recognition of their roles played in the liberation of France are:

Colonel Roy E. Lindquist, commanding the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas J. B. Shanley, executive officer, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Louis G. Mendez Jr., commanding Third Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles Warren, commanding First Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Non-commissioned officers given the Croix de Guerre, order of the company, are:

Sergeant Robert J. Bennett, Company I.
Staff Sergeant Robert W. VanHornes.

Previous awards to the four officers and two non-coms were made by the U. S. government.

Colonel Lindquist wears the Silver Star, Bronze Star; Lt. Col. Shanley the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart; Lt. Col. Mendez the Distinguished Service Cross and Bronze Star; Lt. Col. Warren the Silver Star and Purple Heart; Sgt. Bennett the Purple Heart and S/Sgt. VanHornes the Silver Star.

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All stories and pictures appearing in DEVIL'S DIGEST

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Devil's Digest

MONDAY, 9 APRIL 1945

VOLUME II—NO. 1



MAJOR GENERAL JAMES M. GAVIN

Major General James M. Gavin, commanding the 82nd Airborne Division, tributes the fighting Red Devils who fought under the "All-American" colors during the victorious campaigns of Normandy, Holland and the Ardennes sector of Belgium.

An enlisted man in the regular army at 17 years of age, he later passed entrance examinations for the United States Military Academy and today is the most-jumped general officer in the Army. He commanded the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment before taking command of the division 15 August 1944. In all combat

things he has been the first out of his aerial.

Esteem with which General Gavin holds the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment is found in the inscription he wrote on the above photo he gave to Colonel Roy E. Lindquist, leader of the Red Devils.

General Gavin's tribute: "To members of the 508th Parachute Infantry with admiration for their fighting spirit, courage and superb fighting abilities."

James M. Gavin
Maj. Gen. U. S. A.

Devil's Digest

ETO Edition

508th Parachute Infantry Regiment

Office of Public Relations

APO 469

Cable Address: AMCOG

Competitor

Maj. James B. Boyle

Company Correspondent

Pfc. Morris Butler
Cpl. Leon Israel
T-3 Stanley H. Tybicki
Sgt. John E. Brickley
Pfc. Robert Altier
Pvt. Nicholas T. D'Amico
Cpl. Robert J. Conroy
Cpl. Lloyd R. Isaacs
Sgt. L. E. Beasley
Sgt. Harold J. Wilson
Sgt. Vernon K. Lewis
Sgt. Private M. Lancaster
T-14 Cyril Weir
Sgt. William H. Chapman

Photographer

E-141 ATUM

Printed in France by Brunel

Regt. Hq. Co.

Service Co.

Regt. Hq. Co.

Regt. Co., 1st Bn.

Company A

Company B

Company C

Co., 2nd Bn.

Company D

Company E

Company F

Co., 3rd Bn.

Company G

Company H

Company I

Regt. Hq. Co.

Hq. Co., 2nd Bn.

Colonel Roy E. Lindquist, Pioneer Paratrooper, Leads 508th Regiment

It was another brisk, sunny November day at Fort Benning. The grass was still green and growing, particularly around Lawson Field.

Small groups scattered in front of hangers occasionally looked up toward a lazy transport. The plane banked and then leveled off for a pass over the field.

There were clouds in the sky but not many. These were on the horizon far away and few if any, paid much attention to them.

"I think they're going to jump now," a private remarked to his buddy standing beside him. Then he changed his mind with, "Well, maybe they won't. You can never tell what those fellows might try next."

"Sure, I know," the other replied. "I heard a sergeant say this morning that they were called paratroopers. There's a battalion of them here but I'll bet they'll never get that many guys to jump out of an airplane."

But most of them were not talking about the "new bunch of daredevils, the paratroopers."

For one thing, a few days ago President Roosevelt had shattered all tradition with his election to a third term.

Then the war in Europe wasn't phoney any more, but France had surrendered and England was on the ropes.

There was something wrong with Army's football team but maybe it was still good enough to take care of Navy.

The Garand rifle, known at the Infantry School as the M1, still wasn't as good as the old, proven Springfield as far as many of the line infantrymen were concerned.

It was 1940.

To the casual observer the 501st Parachute Infantry Battalion, the first T/O jump unit in the U. S. Army, was just like any other battalion two months out of the reception center. That is, it was almost like any other battalion except that this battalion was going to jump and did about five times as much running, tumbling and callisthenics as anyone had ever done before at Ft. Benning.

For the most part the plane over Lawson Field was filled with officers who were organizing the Battalion. All 13 of them had received about five minutes instruction before emplaning and today they were going to make the first jump of the 501st.

The third man out of the plane was Colonel Roy E. Lindquist, then Captain Lindquist. Like the others, he went through the door depending on a belly T-5 assembly and a reserve that covered his entire chest.

Leading the stick was Maj. Gen. William M. Milley, today commander of the 11th Airborne Division but then a major and battalion commander. He was making a full equipment jump and this first landing wasn't easy. In fact he broke his shoulder. No one else in the 501st



COLONEL ROY E. LINDQUIST

(See Regt. Photo)

jumped that day. Not because the commander broke his shoulder, nor because the instructions based largely on experiments of the Test Platoon were inadequate, but the plane, an obsolete C-39, was only available for 20 minutes, long enough to make the one short flight.

Between that first jump and the 29th he took a short time ago, Col. Lindquist has checked plenty of canopies and felt plenty of prop blast roar past the door. That day in 1940 he was the 501st Battalion adjutant, but the pioneer work in process then was to later serve as a guide in the organization of his own unit, the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Before getting into the Troops, Col. Lindquist had served as company and staff officer in various Infantry units and as an instructor and member of the board at The Infantry School.

In 1937, seven years after his graduation from West Point, two of his non-coms of Company B, 29th Infantry were showing the qualities of leadership and judgment required of parachute officers. Today both are still with him, Major Royal P. Taylor, executive officer, Second Battalion, and Captain Woodrow W. Mulka, commander, Company B.

While at The Infantry School, Col. Lindquist drafted Field Manual 22-5, better known as the ID-4 or Infantry Drill Regulation. He also wrote Field Manual 22-3, or the bible of the M1 rifle, as

well as regulations of formal guard mount.

Why did he join the paratroopers?

He was coach of the Fort Benning baseball team in 1940 and General Milley, then a major, was post athletic director. General Milley was ordered by the War Department to organize the 501st Battalion and one of the first officers he asked to join was Colonel Lindquist.

Colonel Lindquist was the adjutant and according to the T/O at that time, a non-jumper. But even in those days jump units didn't always have what the T/O called for.

For example this first adjutant of the 501st became a qualified jumper as fast as planes were made available. But it was January before the plane returned and the first 13 as well as the rest of the Battalion could get in six jumps, the required number then.

Colonel Lindquist left the 501st in the spring of 1941 to become S-1 of the Provisional Parachute Group; then in the spring of 1942, G-1 of Airborne Command at Fort Bragg.

During 1941 other parachute battalions were formed; namely, the 502nd, 503rd and 509th. In the spring of 1942 the 502nd and 503rd Battalions were expanded to regiments and the 504th, 505th and 507th Regiments organized.

The 508th Regiment, which was to be commanded by

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Jerries Object to Sharing Shack With Pfc. Canard



PFC. CURTIS CANARD CHECKS UP

When the fellows of E Company, 508th Parachute Infantry, speak of bedfellows, Private First Class Curtis Canard of headquarters section smiles knowingly—for it was Canard's unhappy experience to have the strangest.

It was during the bitter "Battle of the Bulge" when E Company was in reserve, pulled back for a breathing spell after working out along the Salm River. Canard, together with four members of the company, moved out to set up and defend a road block some distance from our lines.

During the night the Jerries succeeded in getting through the position after bringing up three tanks and supporting Infantry and were on the browl somewhere between the block and E Company's MLB.

Canard and his buddies planned to infiltrate back but in the darkness Canard became separated from the small group. Alone, he decided to wait until morning to complete the trip back and looked around for a place to sleep.

After a brief search he found a house which apparently was still occupied. Outside was a small wagon with a team still in harness. There was smoke coming from the chimney.

As far as Canard was concerned, he wanted nothing more than to spend the next few hours enjoying the warmth of a Belgian farmhouse. Finding the door open, he walked in and saw the three people who were living there asleep. He decided to awaken them, but so early in the morning to

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First Battalion Chow Hounds Increase Under New Mess Plan

Hq. Co.—A new era is on hand . . . with the company mess system now in effect, the coffee is really drinkable and what is even more surprising is that the cooks are asking how we want our meals prepared. Keep up the good work! . . . Some of the stories that have come back along with the furloughers from the land of mild and bitters, are keeping the personnel amused: Sgt. Pater-



Sgt. Bennett

ack has one about a five-mile walk and a brick wall . . . S/Sgt. Wilkinson's trip was not only pleasant but also profitable . . . Pfc Campbell's trip was also pleasant but his explanations are more embarrassing . . . When Cpl. Ma Mahon and Pfc Andrews did a little scavenging for wire the other day, the chaplain's jeep was an accessory to the "crime."

A Co.—The "luckiest man" title goes to Sgt. Hunt, who's been wounded three times but still doesn't have a Purple Heart. Maybe he's independent or just trying to impress the medics. 1st Sgt. Bennett is back from the States and is

available for lectures. The talk about him hobnobbing with bigshots (generals, too) isn't hurting his status one bit . . . When Cpl. Honest John Shultz came back from his Paris pass, he echoed the sentiments of all who've been there: "68 hours ain't snafu!" . . . When Silver Star holder Sgt. Don Goings made the furlough journey to England recently, it was his first trip to the UK. He visited the 508th capital—Nottingham.

B Co.—Latest Bn. Sgt. Major is Sgt. Nick Russo, formerly of B Co. . . . Cpl. Bill Dean came back from his UK furlough with an abscessed tooth. "The steaks," he complained, "are getting tougher" . . . Company barber Houghlin gives out free rumors with each haircut. Both are in the true army tradition—bad! Did you know: Elek Hartman's mail has him addressed at various times as Sgt. T/4, Cpl., Pvt. and Pfc? The last is correct . . . Pfc Persyn laughs all the time? And what is there to laugh about? CW did it: dit-dit-dit-dit. Cpl. Barnett is sending out 808's for a print of the picture that was taken with him and "Legs" Dietrich . . . S/Sgt. Wm. Knapp is adept at wrist twisting and thus manages to get his name in print . . . S/Sgt. Klinefelter is

making his second appearance in the ETO. Just back from the States, he said of his furlough that if he had to do it all over again—he would!

C Co.—The preview of Spring resulted in baseball equipment and players getting out for some of the sunshine. According to Lt. Hamblin, rec. and athletic officer, there's good material for a topnotch team . . . The basketball team is already 1st. champ . . . The discussion of pass and furlough policy a couple of weeks ago was a masterpiece of tact and diplomacy. How else would it have gone off so smoothly and to the satisfaction of all concerned? . . . Between Pfc Beasley and Pfc Milliken, one of them will soon be sending their millionth letter . . . The GI wanderers are back—Sgt. Wahle, Traband, May, Lyson and Pfc Lowery from the UK and Sgt. Wright from the Riviera. The thrill is gone but the memory lingers on . . . The guy who makes these luscious cookies and delicate pas crus for your pleasure is Sgt. Crow.



Pfc Persyn

First Sergeant Funk, C Co., Crack Trooper

Meet 1st Sergeant Leonard Funk, the paratrooper's paratrooper.

Hotter than a two-dollar pistol, C Company's top non-com has come as close as any individual to convincing Jerry he should have stood in bed or something to that effect.

Deceptive in action and appearance, Funk is just about as successful and colorful an operator as they come in the ETO. He has led dozens of night patrols, harassed and killed the enemy far behind the lines, set up aid stations and even acted as company commander when all available officers became casualties.

Small, five feet four inches in height; compact, 140-pounds; his appearance is anything but that of the swaggering trooper so often detailed in fact and fiction.

Among the men of his company he is more frequently referred to as "Napoleon."

In Normandy he landed nearly 40 miles inland with other members of the stick but successfully waged a 10-day campaign of terror and destruction before breaking through to rejoin the Regiment. Funk's leadership was such that not one member of the small unit was lost.

In Holland he and three other men wiped out three 20 mm. AA guns and their crews just as the gliders came in for a landing. More than 20 Jerries were killed in this action.

In Belgium, while acting as company executive officer, he organized company headquarters personnel into a fighting team, cleared several houses of enemy, foiled an attempted break by 80 prisoners and set up an aid station to take care of the wounded.

These are just a few of the typical Funk activities. He has not had too much time to go front and center

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First Sergeant Len Funk of C Company starts out door with Shorty, 8-months-old pup belonging to Lt. Joseph Farrell, during

recent jump. Needless to say Sgt. Funk's standing landing met with Shorty's approval. (508th Reg. Photo).

'A' Troops Eye 1st Battalion Sports Title

Company A is off to a flying start toward the athletic crown of the 1st Battalion, according to results of the first week's competition.

After winning two volleyball games, a softball game and football game from Hq. Co. Able Co. is making elaborate plans for a beer party the prize offered by Lt. Col. Shields Warren, to the unit chalking up the best record in sports competition within the Battalion.

With the aid of the most famous talent scout in the business—Uncle Sam—A Company has been able to take its stars from some of the best schools in the States. Among these are Sgt. Ed Adelman, formerly of Mars Hill College, North Carolina; Cpl. Jim Fust, ex-Louisville, Ky. Hammond High ace; Pfc Maurice Myers of Public School No. 2, Kingston, Ky., and Pfc Shifty Sloan, the self-made ball player.

WOLFHOOUNDS DEFY

Wolfhounds, B Company's answer to the need for better basketball teams in the ETO, today issued an unconditional challenge to others in the Red Devil Regiment to meet in the Harness gymnasium for a basketball game or what have you. So far the wolfhounds have measured Service Company, 27 to 10 and A Company, 30 to 6.

SMITH GREET'S TRANSFER

When Sgt. Willie Smith of A Co. looked over the new arrivals into the company from the 509th, he made no attempt to hide his delight. They were fine looking men and their fighting ability was beyond question. However, it was neither of these things that made the Sgt. so happy. One of the men was an old friend—who owed Smith 40 bucks! The Sgt. will undoubtedly take good care of his investment.



Members of the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment observe their second Easter overseas attending religious services conducted by their chaplains. At the left Protestant Chaplain James L. Elder delivers sermon. At right communion is being distributed by Catholic Chaplain Joseph C. Kennedy during solemn high mass. (148 Regt. Photos)

Thirteen Troopers Comprise Old Guard In D Company

D COMPANY—Thirteen men comprise the old guard of D Company. . . These alone remain of the original personnel which made up the unit upon activation at Camp Blanding 20 October 1942. . . Ready to make the last round even tougher than the carnal rouser at Normandy are Lieutenant Layle O. McReynolds, Lieutenant Harry C. Bailey, Sergeant Thomas McBlane, Tech 5 Frederick Carden, Private Will Johnson, Staff Sergeant Carroll Calvert, Staff Sergeant Charles Bray, Corporal Lloyd Isaacs, Private First Class Henry Robinson, Private First Class Dick Santos, Tech 4 Chas. Boyd, Sergeant Ed Roseberry, and Private First Class Gene Evans. . . Turn out the band for our latest collectors



Pvt. Rose

of hero hardware: Lieutenant Robert Sickler, Lieutenant Joseph Hall, Privates Percy Kirk and Frank Haddy, all with the Silver Star and Sgt. Roseberry with the Bronze Star. . . Our idea of a success story is that of Lieutenant Darrell K. Bowman, who joined the outfit as an enlisted man, knocked off a battlefield commission and is now headed back to the States. . . Nomination for move of the year to company mess. . . Reason for that is the kind of chow being turned out by Tech 4 Meserreau, Tech 4 Melton, Tech 5 Duke, Pfc Adrin, Pfc Hudson, Pvt. Cox and Pvt. Kaczmarek. . . Sgt. Tom MacBlane tells us D Company is ready for all comers, especially on the softball diamond. . . S/Sgt. Calvert and Sgt. Lockwood, his star hurlers, had too much on the ball for Second Bn. Hq. Co. and F Co. in the first two games we won. . . Nottingham still has what it takes to make seven days a dream furlough, according to Privates Guzzetti, McGrap, Trujillo, Kandrak and Rodriguez. . . Everyone there wishes the Red Devils "happy hunting and all that". . . And then there's the one about Pfc Herring who was inspired to give his good conduct medal to one of the village belles after dating her last week. . . Private Lowell Heid used to be a little man before he got into the army. . . Now he tips the beams at an even 100 pounds. . . That is of course, with T-O and T-E equipment. . . Following his return from Brussels, Pfc Harward Neeley is prepared to discuss at some length the difference between colored water and what he should have gotten for those prices. He is the more familiar with colored water.

E COMPANY—Easy Company today was prepared to give Nottingham a vote of confidence after sending a three-man patrol to that section of the UK for a seven-day reconnaissance. . . Pfc "Tex" Wampler says the Scotch is there and waiting while Tech 4 Oscar Montano adds you can have all the girls—except one.



These are the boys who carry Red Devil hopes of victory into the ring in future boxing tournaments. Kneeling, left to right: Pfc Frank Laquinto, E Company; Pvt. Frank Bottoroff, Hq. Co., 1st Bn.; Coach Lt. David Tracey, Hq. Co., 2nd Bn.; Pvt. Ralph Albano, Regt. Hq. Co. Standing, left to right: Pfc Jacob

West, E Company; Tech 5 Kenneth Darling, Regt. Hq. Co.; Pfc Lee Romero, E Company; Pfc Fred Nitschke, Regt. Hq. Co.; Pfc John Dunn, E Company; Cpl. Anthony Warring, Hq. Co., 2nd Bn.; Pfc Vernon Tharaldson, Hq. Co., 1st Bn.; Pvt. Antonio Pacheco, E Company and Cpl. Carl Steerup, Service Co. (148 Regt. Photos)

PFC. CURTIS CANARD FINDS HOTEL SITUATION EQUALLY ROUGH IN JERRYLAND

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introduce himself.
He lay down by the fire, his rifle at his side, and within a minute was sound asleep.
Some time later in the night, he awoke suddenly and found someone leaning over him. He was blinded by

a flashlight shining in his face. In an instant he recognized one of his three "bouts". He was a Jerry.
Canard started a well-aimed shoulder block but before he could reach pay dirt, the Jerry smashed him across the nose with the flashlight. The blow dropped

him to the floor but in an instant Canard was on his feet, this time with a bayonet in his hand.
The Jerry let out a yell for help to his two companions in the next room and then headed for the nearest exit. Conrad stopped to pick up his rifle and then followed

him outside.
He cut loose with the three rounds remaining in the clip and then decided this was the best time to rejoin the company. He did.
It was a few days before Canard admitted where he got the beat up nose despite intensive questioning by his

buddies. He declined to apply for the Purple Heart.
"That's my first and last attempt at shacking up with the Jerries," Canard explained, "and as far as this non-fraternization program is concerned, that's for me from here out."

Vets Back In States

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of H Company, who hails from Floral Park, Long Island, says the servicemen will have to compete with one another as well as civilians when it comes to getting jobs immediately after returning home. "And I'm damn sure that a Congressional Medal of Honor still needs a nickel along with it to buy a hamburger."

The Red Devils and the hundreds of ETO returnees talked it over many a night on the boat back and have reached the conclusion that the GI Bill of Rights has the best answers to the problem.

One of them pointed out: "After the war is over, that is the thing that gives us the right to be a civilian, too."

Colonel Lindquist Former Sports Star

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Colonel Lindquist, was scheduled for activation October 20, 1942.

Like the 501st Regiment, the 508th was formed with personnel volunteering directly from reception centers. Some 3500 to 4000 were screened to obtain 2200. This hand-picked group was then given basic training at Camp Blanding, Florida, and then went through jump school at Fort Benning as a unit in battalion classes.

From then on the story of Colonel Lindquist's career, and that of the 508th are parallels. He led the Red Devil regiment from the maneuver areas of Carolina and Tennessee overseas into Normandy, Holland and Belgium under colors of the veteran 82nd Airborne Division.

Perhaps the day isn't too far distant when he'll lead the Red Devils back. For there's a Pittsfield, Maine home and family waiting for him too: his wife, Mrs. Alice Lindquist, and two sons, Roy, Jr. age 12, and Robert, age 9.

His hobbies are sports, all sports. At West Point he was captain of the Ice Hockey team and, while a yearling, he qualified as one of the school's legendary diamond heroes by belting a home run as the Army whipped Navy, 9-7.

Today Colonel Lindquist has not forgotten how to win ball games—or how to make home runs.

Mail Devil's Digest To Family at Home

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has been passed by censor but the signature of a mail censor must appear on the mailing blank before the APO will accept it.

Many of the features contained in DEVIL'S DIGEST, such as the Regimental History on pages four and five, as well as the biographical sketches of your officers and the hundreds of personal items about yourself and your buddies, will prove still more interesting reading after the ETO is history and you are back home playing in the pipe and slipper league.



Here's what the Jerries see if they are unlucky enough to be on D+ when elements of Lt. Col. Louis Mendez Third Battalion fill the sky with silk on way down. Veterans of combat jumps in Normandy and Holland, high standards of

jump proficiency illustrated above are typical of those found throughout 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment. Compact pattern formed in air as Red Devils clear aircraft will be retained on drop zone.

(See Page 1, Photo)



Third Battalion Alumni Are Leading Red Devil Cheering Within The States

HQ, CO.—Remember Charles Gallinger who was with the 81mm mortars in Normandy? After recovering from his wounds, he is now back in the States and happily discharged as a civilian. He's more he's married and is about to become a father... who said the Third Battalion troopers aren't fast.

...And speaking of civilian alumni or fellows well on the road to recovery back in the States, a check up shows we have nine other fellows in our cheering section... Sgt. Wilfred Mack, Pfc John Waldeiser, Pfc Alex Solle, Pfc Patrick French, Pfc Charles Gallinger and Bob Daniels, John Knoll, Ann Reese and Udel Kendrick... They were with us in Normandy on D day and according to their latest letters are in good shape again now... Anyone interested in learning why the hard way might challenge this company... 1st Sergeant Orvel Shaver promises that he and the rest of the team will take it easy most of the time... Corporal King Burke, back after a 30-day furlough in the States, says the folks over there knew more about the war than he did... So when the subject came up he just sat around and got zoned in... Hq Co. has a better than average record for supplying officers from the ranks... Lt. Joseph Anderson, formerly a sergeant with the 81mm platoon and Lt. John Little, Bn. S-2, both were with the 508th in Normandy. Addie is on...



Sgt. Wilfred Mack

He is S/Sgt. Bill Lord II, and we wish him all the success in the world... There are an unidentified few members of the company who would like to know where Lt. Joseph Palladino acquired all the experience in locating beer... During the height of a recent social engagement, a barrel was removed to an alternate position, dug in, concealed, camouflaged and thus filed for future reference... Lt. Palladino's ability to locate the suds after a brief search indicated that he is no recruit at this sort of thing... And if we may quote a citation or two, he was "in the best traditions of the Airborne forces."



Lt. Joseph Palladino

I CO.—Staff Sergeant Skipper apparently has done a little gazing into the crystal ball for he has acquired a set of Tech Sgt. chevrons so as to be ready for Promotion! Day... Ex-Pvt. Richard Lechynski recently made Pfc and it was without the help of Congress... Corp. John Canary has a good reason to do that smiling these days—It's that few set of teeth... Bill Chico writes back from a California hospital that the doctors are trying to sell him on civilian status... And that he doesn't want to buy any part of it... The company's latest Bronze Star may be found on the blouse of Pfc Johnny (Stern) Stern... Nice going, Johnny!

McCraw Track Ace

HQ and HQ, CO.—New 1st Sgt. Roy McCraw turns out to be a former track star who insists on taking us all for a trot every morning (puff, puff!)... M/Sgt. Brodsky is off to OCS to get his commission the hard way. Good, luck, Brod... Two of our "Bobs"—Saville and Lane—will be shedding their corporal's stripes for some well deserved sergeant's variety... M/Sgt. Senyile keeps rolling along. He is one of the few men who haven't missed a day of combat time (OK, so there are 30 others in the company)... Sgt. Teddy Belliveau and Lt. Don Hardwick had a grand time in our "home town" during their recent return engagement in the UK... And Elsie (Cpl. Bob Ellis) rates congrats on his marriage while rotating in the States... The flunkies in their den of iniquity, lavished with pinups of delicious and luscious damsels, have a nifty sewing machine and for a nominal fee (an arm or leg) you can get your patches sewed on correctly... Lt. Charles Yate's Yate Balls missed on a party they almost had... S-2's battle cry is: "I will wear my helmet."

SERVICE CO.—One of the most talented right arms in the company belongs to Pfc "Jack" Spagna who does an article job with a drawing brush, a barber clippers or the ivory cubes... And speaking of artistic work, the bulletin board in front of the Private's Den is kept pretty by one of the Special Service workhorses—Pfc Frank Fleury... He also changes the reels during the ackack barrages in the Red Devil Cinema... Acting 1st Sgt. Leopold Franczkowski's blonde mustache is blooming in this Spring weather, but Cpl. Ben Schwartzman's is more apt to get caught in his suspension lines... The kid with the Pepsodent smile, Pfc Jimmy Musca likes his new job as assistant mail orderly while his boss, Tech 5 Julius Vargo keeps the personnel happy with prompt mail deliveries.

1st Sgt. Funk Is Nemesis To Jerry

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for hero's hardware. So far a Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award, and a Purple Heart with two clusters top off his collection.

But these two ribbons may have some important company. He has been recommended for the Bronze and Silver Stars and considered for the Congressional Medal of Honor.

McILANE TO OCS

S-Sgt. Thomas D. McIlane, veteran communication sergeant of Company D, has been selected to attend Officers Candidate School near Paris. He has been the company's radio and wire chief for the airborne invasions of Normandy and Holland, as well as the Ardennes campaign in Belgium.

Holland Jump Surprises Jerries---Turn Back Belgium Attack

Continued from Page Five
were received for the first time and new equipment issued.

In August, the First Allied Airborne Army under Lt. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton was created and assigned the mission of setting the key Dutch communications cities of Eindhoven, Nijmegen and Arnhem. Control of these towns would place the mouth of the Rhine in Allied hands, cut off main German forces in Western Holland and place Allied armies in a position to advance into Holland quickly.

Besides the 82nd Airborne Division, other components of the First Allied Airborne Army were the 101st Division, the British 1st and 6th Divisions and the 1st Polish Parachute Brigade.

Drop time for the Red Devils in Holland came at 1328, 17 September 1944. Weather conditions were perfect and unlike the Normandy jump made at night this one was executed in broad daylight. Flak and anti-aircraft fire was light.

All elements of the Regiment were able to assemble quickly and proceed to the objectives. The First and Second Battalions landed on the DZ while the Third came in 700 yards southeast. Generally all were bunched.

After seizing assigned objectives, the Regiment took up a defensive position and required maintenance of a MLR over 12 thousand yards in length with enemy on three sides.

Bridge No. 10 across the Maas-Waal Canal, assigned objective of the Second Battalion, was seized by a platoon under the command of Lt. Polette and its destruction prevented.

During the operation the Red Devils became the first Allied Airborne unit to operate effectively in Germany and captured the first prisoners of war in Germany secured by Allied Airborne troops.

Two plane loads from Company A were erroneously dropped about two miles east of the drop zone in German territory. Lt. Combs, the senior officer present, fought his way back to his battalion, killing an estimated 20 Jerries and bringing back 45 prisoners. He carried out this action with a group of 22 men after having been wounded by flak prior to jumping.

Captain Adams, also of A Company, led a platoon into Nijmegen where they destroyed the control room for the demolition of Nijmegen bridge. Following this, Captain Adams and the platoon were cut off, surrounded and remained in Nijmegen until September 23 when they were able to rejoin the battalion.

Companies C and D, on 20 minutes notice, cleared the landing zone for glider elements which followed the troops into the operation. Action was fast and furious and was topped off with a bloody-wood finish. Last of the Jerry opposition was disposed of just as the first glider hit the ground.

At one time during the operation the Regiment was attached to the British 53 (Welsh) Division and was finally relieved by a British brigade in the Bommel area on November 10, 1944.

After a little over a month's rest in France, the Regiment, on 13 hours notice, was sent back into action again. This time the Red Devils went into the line in trucks and were hurled into the breach caused by Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's drive to break through the Allied lines in the Ardennes sector in Belgium.

The Regiment raced north, passing through Bastogne, to take up positions behind hard-pressed elements of the 106th and 7th Armored divisions who then withdrew to the rear.

After establishing a defensive line along the west bank of the Salm River

S/Sgt. Klinefelter Volunteers Again, Jolts B Company



S/Sgt. Klinefelter back at work. (508 Reg. Photo)

To be or not to be home is the question at Company B today.

It's all the fault of Staff Sergeant Philip Klinefelter, Normandy and Holland vet, twice wounded and once decorated. He has just returned from a 30-day furlough in the States.

To be frank about it, S/Sgt. Klinefelter's appearance and actions around the company area seem as somewhat of a shock to his comrades who once singled him out as one of the sharper operators in the ETO.

The new S/Sgt. Klinefelter has lost weight. This is okay since no one is expected to waste time sleeping or eating while spending 30 days in the States but the thing that has everyone thinking "he was a good guy when he had it" is his attitude towards work.

On the very first day, S/Sgt. Klinefelter berated himself into his work. It was clear to everyone that he was conscientious and ambitious. In fact he even volunteered to do this job and that job.

There are many opinions advanced as to just what has befallen him. There are a few who say that it was his get-

ting married during the furlough that is causing this strange phenomenon. There are others who claim that in the 15 weeks Sgt. Klinefelter was away making the trip he forgot everything he learned about B. Army. Then there are three or four others who absolutely refused to believe what they have seen and are reporting to the dispensary to have their eyes checked.

To begin with, S/Sgt. Klinefelter got out on a furlough, rushed up to Captain Millspaugh, company commander, reported and said: "Sir, I'm very glad to be back."

Captain Millspaugh held his ground for a few moments, mumbled something about being one of his best men and then turned slowly and walked back into his tent. He was shaking his head as he sat down.

Today it would be difficult to give anyone else in B Company a furlough to the States. Too many are convinced that such a venture will lead only to a sad ending such as getting married, making you ambitious and conscientious and in plain sight of everyone, volunteer for work.

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St. R. D. Stephens

with the Regimental CP at Geronne, orders were received from higher headquarters to withdraw five miles and set up a new defensive line. The division was in danger of being flanked.

The withdrawal, only retrograde movement executed by the Red Devils since entering combat in Normandy, began in the bitter cold of Christmas Eve.

Major Benjamin Delameter, then captain and executive officer of the First Battalion, was given command of the covering force which consisted of one platoon from the three rifle companies. Enemy identified opposing the regimental line were a 88 Panzer Division and a Volksgrenadier.

The Regiment pulled out, leaving the small covering force to face the Jerries massing across the river for an attack that night. Orders were to hold until 0315 the next morning at all costs.

Shortly before midnight the German attack came. A reinforced battalion came at the three platoons in successive waves only to be dropped in their tracks by machine gun and BAR fire at point blank range.

Some of the positions were finally overrun when ammunition became exhausted but those who remained in the platoon kept fighting in place until the order was received to infiltrate through the town of Renchoux and form up for a march back to the Regiment.

On the night of the 28th of December the Jerries made one more all-out effort to break through. One platoon of G Company was overrun but E Company less one platoon together with a platoon of F Company launched a counter-attack and by 0430 the MLR had been restored. From then on the Jerries never regained the initiative in this sector.

During this particular phase of the Ardennes operation, the Red Devils captured 705 prisoners, counted 445 German dead, assisted in the successful extraction of elements of three divisions from the St. Vith area and captured Thier Du Mont Ridge, the final objective in the 82nd Division's attack from Bassee Nodeux-Erria.

During the month of January and in snow hip deep, making supply lines hazardous and uncertain, the Regiment was committed in various sectors as the Ardennes salient was liquidated. In this period the Regiment advanced from Bassee Nodeux, Belgium, to Losheimergraben, Germany.

In addition 660 more prisoners were taken on patrol from the Second Battalion that is believed to be the first regiment to Germany by 82nd Division since the opening of the German drive toward Liege. The Third Battalion captured a 350 mm gun, believed to be one of the largest artillery pieces taken by First Army troops in the campaign.

During the month of February, orders were received from division to clear the area to the Roer valley of all enemy and to seize the high ground overlooking the narrow valley.

The First Battalion jumped off in the attack at 0200 through dense anti-personnel mine fields. Despite this the First Battalion was on its objective by 0850. At 0450 the Second Battalion pushed on to the river line in its sector and by nightfall all enemy opposition west of the Roer had been wiped out.

Today as the once mighty German army stands on the brink of defeat the Red Devils of the 508th Parachute Infantry continue to play their assigned role in the defense of America's liberties. For courage, valor and achievement, they have been awarded a Unit Citation by the President of the United States and a permanent place in history of great fighting units.