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FORCHHEIM (Germany), June 9, 1945

RESTRICTED

# Battalion School Program Begins

## Wanted: Your Name For Battalion Paper

The big question marks on the masthead of the first issue of our battalion newspaper represent a request and opportunity for you men to furnish the name for this publication.

The editors, the journalism class and our advisors have put a lot of serious thought and hard work into this project. We intend to keep it up and to extend our efforts toward making this a paper that you can be proud of. We want it to be your paper, through and through, with every story, every article, every bit of news pertinent to the men of the 567th.

To make it truly representative, it is our belief that you should be allowed to name it. Another story in this issue carries the aims and policy of the paper. Your opinions, advice and suggestions for improvements have been invited.

After you have read this issue and discussed it with your friends we want you to help us give it a name.

At the present time we have nothing to offer in the way of a prize to the person or persons submitting the winning name. We hope that a good paper will be your reward.

The rules are simple, get your suggestions into the contribution box in your battery area by Friday, June 21. Each person may submit as many names as he chooses. The winner will be selected by your representatives on the publication staff and will be used on the next issue.

It is your paper, so you name it.

## First Battalion Man Leaves On Point System

"Dear wife and six kids, here I come a-rooting and tooting to you," the phrase, repeated dreamily so many times by Pfc. Norman M. Sunley of the Medics, came true on June 2, when he became the first man from the Battalion to be mustered out according to the point system.

Sunley amassed the total of 112 points for his four years in the service with eighteen months being spent overseas earning campaign stars for Normandy, northern France, and the Rhine. Rounding out his grand total are thirty-six points for three children.

At the present time, he's probably on his way home to Springfield Illinois.

## Unit School Opens With Ten Classes

The Battalion Unit school offering refresher courses, vocational training and classes to gain high school and college credits began last week as a part of the Information and Education program.

Classes are now being held in school buildings in the five towns of Egloffstein, Ermreuth, Thuisbrunn, Weingarts and Affalthertal.

The list of courses now offered include photography, algebra, geometry, advanced French, typing, drafting, journalism, cartooning and sketching, music, and a class of "on the job" mechanics is soon to be started.

At this stage the school is still in its infancy and the policy of the Information and Education program calls for sufficient materials and facilities to complete a class before it can be scheduled as a part of the educational program of any unit.

Lt. Benjamin, the I and E officer, stated that every effort was being made to obtain material and as fast as this was done new and more practical courses would be offered.

He continued by saying "it must be remembered that, although we are not in a tactical setup, we still have a military mission to perform. It will be necessary to coordinate our educational program and our military mission to such a degree that the needs of both will be satisfactorily met. This can be done only by correct scheduling and the command assuming the responsibility of seeing that men are given a chance to participate to the greatest possible degree."

## Hell! What Are We Doing Here

When are we going home? Are we going to the CBI? Where are the books for the I and E program? And where, oh, where are the furloughs we have heard so much about?

We don't know. We wish we did! But here is what we do know. We are in the process of waiting on what SHAEF calls "Redeployment". That is, our assignment to a new mission: whether we will be Cat I (Occupation), Cat II (CBI bound via USA), Cat III (Reorganization) or Cat IV (Home for Keeps). Pending this assignment, no questions can be answered, no books released, no quota of furloughs given to the Battalion. If we occupy we will have beaucoup books and furlough, If we are to spend a few months here we will have fewer books and shorter furloughs.

# Editorial

In our battalion a great deal of effort has been expended by some to carry out the War Department's order of a full scale Information and Education program to fill the enlisted man's day outside of military duties.

The complete program as publicized by SHAEF would give the GI unlimited opportunities to continue his education and the men of this battalion undoubtedly showed their desire for the program in the initial enrollment.

We realized upon arriving here, with the battalion covering so large an area, the program would be impeded in a degree. Since the program is sponsored by higher headquarters the primary skepticism of the men was a minimum. But frankly speaking the attitude taken by the key men of the battalion towards the program is apathetic and in some cases one of downright opposition.

Troughout the battalion the following discrepancies have been noted.

1. No interested or qualified person in charge of the program in the batteries.
2. In case such a person is in charge, his efforts are minimized by seniors which result in lack of interest throughout the entire battery.
3. Neatly typed schedules appear on bulletin boards evidently for inspections only with designated hours for the I and E and the A and R but are never followed.
4. Instances of remarks being made that cause the men to lose enthusiasm for continuing their education.

These trends run in most of the batteries with the exception of "A" battery where reports have it that the persons in charge are interested and have the fullest cooperation of all for the good of the men concerned.

This is one incident which should be the rule rather than the exception. Now that hostilities have ceased in this theater and the men await the future — give them a break — a chance to better themselves — co-operate! Do not retard for selfish reasons.

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## The Chaplain Says --

There once was a janitor of a large city church who was asked how he managed to get along with so many people who constantly gave him orders. His reply was: "Well, I just throw my mind into neutral and go where I'm pushed."

A man can easily do just that in the Army. It is something new under the sun when an I & E program comes along, offering the GI a chance to develop his mind. This battalion newspaper likewise is an adventure in ideas, where possibilities are limited only by our vision.

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" might well be its motto. A free press and a free church are the mightiest bulwarks of a free people. We see in Germany what calamity awaits when they perish.

To speak the truth humbly yet with courage, to use yet not abuse our freedom is both our right and our duty under God. To that end may this newspaper be dedicated.

## Policy Of Battalion Paper

Men of the 567th, this is your paper, run entirely by you through your representatives. The news and articles appearing in this publication will be of your written choice, edited and censored by a policy board composed of five enlisted men, one from each battery, working in conjunction with the editor, the Chaplain, and the Information and Education officer.

We hope to include in the paper mostly through your contribution and with your consent, the following articles.

1. News — straight truthful news about the happenings of the 567th.
2. Gripes — the best description of this column is the Stars and Stripes' Mail Call. We want to keep this "bitch" column in printable language and justifiable gripes where a number of men are concerned — nothing petty — but a place to let off steam.
3. The "Underground" our gossip column — your contributions of shady events in our midst — here again is a touchy but highly interesting feature.
4. Features — Stories of currently interesting happenings other than straight news.
5. Sports — one whole page of athletic activities.
6. Editorials — once a week the policy and advisory board meets for discussion of topics pertinent to this Battalion which will appear in editorial form.
7. Cartoons — in conjunction with the Art and Sketching class in the I & E program, we hope to find facilities for printing cartoons.
8. Home News — here again is something that must be contributed by you. Drop anything of interest, no matter how small about your folks at home which you would like to see in print, in the "contribution box" in your battery area.
9. Previews and Reviews — this is a column of literary scraps.
10. Public Forum — pertinent questions asked in each battery, with their answers printed.
11. Religion — a column contributed by the Chaplain. Limitations will be put on the news space by the size of our paper but we hope to give you a complete and sincere coverage of the events in our battalion.

We need your fullest cooperation.

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## Home News

Our sympathies to Cpl. Bob Schlosser, "B" battery, whose brother "Red" was killed on the Third Army front on Dec. 16. Bob just recently learned of the death of his brother, who was at the POE camp in the States at the same time as the 567th, through the Chaplain corresponding with his parents.

An eight-pound 7-oz. boy, named Pete, was born to Lt. and Mrs. J. P. Benjamin, 1130, 22 May 1945, in Torrance, California. A near miss for 12 points.

Pfc. Roland Walters of Headquarters hadn't heard from his one and only for quite some time, so had very little in the way of news from home. "No news is good news", Roland, or is it?

## GRIPES

Several of us in "Dog" Battery and I presume in other batteries are asking if the war is over? Should it be necessary to wear cartridge belts and bayonets, rifles, etc., to church on Sunday? The Air Corps and several other outfits are blossoming out in overseas caps and civilian shoes minus field equipment. Aren't we as much out of danger as other outfits or are snipers still laying in wait for Ack-Ack men?— Just Wondering.

Why don't we have a loud-speaking system in the batteries? It would enable the men to hear good programs and would save the clerk time and steps. We had such a setup back in England. Why not here?

**FURLOUGHS**—It appeared in "Stars and Stripes" as of V-E Day, seven per cent of the men in the ETO would be eligible for furloughs to France or Belgium. Later this figure was increased to 15 per cent—now my "gripe" is just when the hell does this furlough start in our battalion? Why do officers promise the men a furlough at a certain time and then renege on their word? As an illustration, the promise was made on the California desert. This only tends to get the men all "hopped up" and when the deal falls through the "let down" is terrific and so is the morale. So how about it 567th, let's get on the ball for once.

—Disgusted.

PWs on KP—Why don't we have some of the PWs do our KP, or perhaps displaced persons? Other outfits are doing it. Or if this plan is not practicable, why don't we have permanent KPs recruited from the men who do not participate in either the I and E or the A and R program? In this way no man would miss any of his classes.

Furloughs Again—This deal of giving the "ball players a furlough sure beats me. What about those who don't play ball? What are they supposed to do to get a furlough?

## « « Public Forum » »

Question of the week: What do you think of the I and E program?

Cpl. Charles Merzel, Hdq. Btry., "It might work for the line batteries, but not for headquarters. We never know when we can go to class, as we have a full time job."

Pfc. Roger Young, "A" Btry., "I feel its time wasted unless we can really concentrate on the I and E. As it stands details come first, so the program must struggle along on one cylinder, accomplishing little or nothing."

Pfc. J. L. Overbey, "B" Btry., "I think it is a very good thing. Of course it will take some time to get into full swing, but when it does get going good I think it will be profitable to everyone."

Pvt. Adolph Orlick, "C" Btry., "I believe that the program is very good, for the men will learn things that are useful to them and it will tend to help pass the time during their stay in the ETO."

Cpl. Leo Sizemore, "D" Btry., "I think it's a good thing. A lot of these guys lacked these things when they came into the Army. Here's a chance for them to get their schooling. Of course, I think there should be more courses offered, but I still think it's a good thing."

## Underground

"After many unsuccessful tries with wrong women, the right woman finally blessed me with an offspring."—an inspector's remark "that man sleeps in a very neat position."—Olwine is always wanting to swap jobs with somebody—some day someone is going to take him up on it—after countless years in the Army. "C" battery's "indispensable one" has devised his own system of rules and discipline for the second platoon. The word "superior" has been added to the Medical officers' vocabulary by "B" battery. No exceptions are made by our sleuthing MPs on the 65 dollar question.

## Purple Hearts Given Two "C" Battery Men

The Purple Heart, the Army's oldest citation medal, was given to two men in "C" battery by the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Robert Foster in an informal presentation held on May 29.

The two men, Douglas H. Morse and Kenneth S. Trumbo, were both slightly wounded near Saverne, France, when the German big gun "Alsace Alice" was shelling the area.

## Grace Moore Sings At Nürnberg

Countless words have been written by the German propagandists about the "acres of followers" that have filed into the Nurnberg stadium to hear Hitler and his Nazi speakers harangue the people into a frenzy but last Saturday and Sunday thousands filed into the stadium on their own accord and the low, long whistles heard were not typical of a Nazi greeting but the American wolf call of GIs given as a salute to any pretty nurse or Wac who came into view.

The occasion for the "acres" of GIs was the concert given by Grace Moore and Nino Martini at Zepfen field, one of the three big stadiums used by the Nazi party in Nurnberg.

The applause greeting Miss Moore's appearance on the stage was sufficient evidence of her popularity and fame. After being flooded with requests, Miss Moore opened her part of the program with the ever popular "Indian Love Call", followed by "One Fine Day" and "The Lord's Prayer." Mr. Martini sang hits from the "Gay Desperado" and several request numbers. Completing the all-star company were Warner Bass, pianist, and Joseph Haber, violinist. This was the quartet's first appearance in the ETO, leaving the States only ten days ago.

The line of GI trucks that poured through Nurnberg Saturday afternoon looked like the stream of cars that would be going to some of the big football and baseball games back home. The estimated ten thousand GIs present only occupied a portion of the huge stadium.

# Softball League Opens Tuesday

## League Opens After Delay; Dog Takes Game 3-2

By JOE DETYNIAK

DOG FIELD, June 5 — Dog and Headquarters opened the softball season today with the decision going to Dog, 3-2. Col. Foster started the game by throwing the first ball.

Headquarters displayed plenty of hitting power when all of their runs were scored on homers. Roniger's handling of the hot corner for Dog prevented Headquarters from taking full advantage of these extra base knocks.

Dog drew first blood in the second when Roniger singled and went to third on Streich's double to left and scored when the ball got past Byrd on the throw to third.

Headquarters came through in the fifth when Agee rammed a homer into left center to even the score 1-1. Dog put two more across in the sixth with two out when Adkins singled and came home on Roniger's triple to right field. Roniger stole home and it was 3-1 with "D" leading.

Headquarters fought all the way and scored again with another run in the last inning when Steele drove one over the left-fielder's head for a second home run. That ended the scoring.

Both Turner and Ellert turned in a fine pitching performance and it was anybody's ball game until the last man was out.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Headquarters	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	1
Dog Btry. ...	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	9	2

## Charlie Takes Able 4 to 0

Able Field, June 6 — Scoring from three walks in the first inning Charlie battery took a lead and in the third added another run to shut out Able battery 4-0 in the second game of the Battalion softball league.

In the opening round with three men on base Draper of "C" singled, driving in two runs. A long fly by White accounted for the third run in the first.

The final score came in the third when Mendez and Wilson singled. White drove Mendez in on the only "A" battery error of the game.

Batteries for Able were Cauley, pitching, and Denison and Morgan catching. For Charlie battery Klein pitching and Mendez catching.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Able ....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1
Charlie ..	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	6	0

"Radio City", Headquarters communication section's home on the hilltop, will soon have a fine horizontal bar for use of the section. The recently mowed hay field makes a fine place to practice baseball and football.

## Council Releases League Plans

The council of the soft ball league met Monday night and the newly elected president S/Sgt. Olwinc released revised plans which call for only one team from the five batteries and one from the Officers with each playing a ten-game schedule.

The original league plans called for an "A" and "B" league but had to be canceled because of the numerous details assigned to each of the batteries.

Bylaws to govern the program were set up by the council which is made up of the managers from the six teams. Cpl. Roger Kaufman was named as vice-president and secretary.

Games will be played between 1800 and 1900 on week days, at 1400 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. The teams can use any ball player available in the battery at the time the game is to be played. The playing roster will be given to the chief umpire at the beginning of each contest.

Games called off because of bad weather will be played on open dates which come on Tuesdays and Fridays, or will be played as part of a double header.

Manager of the teams are: Headquarters, Cpl. Ellert; "A" Battery, T/4 Ward; "B" battery, Cpl. Russell; "C" battery, 1st. Sgt. White; "D" battery, Cpl. Adkins; Officers, Lt. Schecter.

## Swimming Pool Now Open

An announcement from the Battalion Special Service office Monday revealed that the swimming pool at Egloffstein is now open for the men of the 567th. Plans have been made for sharing a pool at Graffenburg with the Air Corp unit stationed there.

Another feature soon to be open to the men through the Special Service is a boxing program. A ring is being constructed and a call has gone out for any man interested in joining the program to contact Lt. Stoddard, the Special Service Officer.

A new staff of librarians has been appointed in the battalion and shortly it is expected that a larger selection of pocket-size books will be available to the men.

A schedule of three shows a day is expected to get under way with a change in the feature every third day. Tentative plans call for the shows to begin daily at 1430, 1830 and 2030.

## Sports School Opens For A & R Program

In compliance with the Third Army orders for a model athletic program, five officers and ten enlisted men from the battalion attended a two-day athletic school last Wednesday and Thursday at the 16th AAA Group.

The school, held on the Group athletic field at Forchheim, consisted of coaching and officiating classes, practical demonstration and group participation.

The men attending the school will carry out the ideas in the Athletic and Recreation program throughout the batteries.