

Vol. II No. 9

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY 11, March 1945

THE TOMAHAWK TALKS

## "THE TOMAHAWK STRIKES" FORWARD!

# XIX CORPS TANKS ROLL TO RHINE

Friday's deadline saw the troops of the XIX Corps poised at the Rhine River, awaiting a chance to strike across into the heart of the Ruhr.



A week of consolidation and mopping up of resistance pockets east of Munchen-Gladbach saw the 2nd Armored Division's tanks at the river after a lightning advance comparable to the breakthrough in France.

The string of towns in the wake of the Corps' latest push includes the key cities of Julich and Munchen-Gladbach-Rheydt.

Rear units moving into the newly captured areas have been intrigued by the countless signs painted on walls telling of the love for Der Fuehrer. One dough commented, "They might love the bum, but they sure have to be reminded a lot lately!"

The only difference between this present drive and the one in France is that this ground on which they were once built.

time supplies were ready long before the troops jumped off across the Roer. Months of preparation preceded the slash into the moderately held defense lines, where resistance was not as heavy as expected.

The XIX Corps units haven't 'taken' any German towns. They've captured the ground on which they were once built.

## 1104th Engr. C. Group Bridges Pave Way For Roer Crossing

WITH THE 1104th ENGR. C. GP., GERMANY — Under devastating German action from the Julich side of the Roer River, members of Company "B" of the 1104th Engr. HP. Co., constructed their first bridge under combat conditions when the XIX Corps

## Religious Services In Goebels' Former Home

# 1st QM Bn. Answers Needs As Front Moves Forward

WITH THE 26th INFANTRY DIVISION, GERMANY, Freed-

Trucking, Personal Needs

554th Engr. HP. Co., constructed their first bridge under combat conditions when the XIX Corps units jumped across the Roer.

The men claim no speed records for the construction of the bridge, as German artillery continued to knock out their construction work as soon as it was put in place.

After about 2½ hours the work was finished in spite of the work of the enemy, and a small arm barrage unleashed by enemy defenders from the opposing bank.

A German suicide march interrupted their work as five Germans marched boldly against the bridge waving a striped white flag, which was first thought a surrender move and later interpreted as a signal to artillery by members of "A" Company defending the offshore constructions.

Assisting in the bridge construction were the following officers and men:

Capt. Richard B. Wiggins, Jacksonville, Fla., company commander of "B" Co.; Capt. Nelson R. Simpson, Chadron, Neb., "A" commander; Sgt. Maxwell R. Fife, Carson City, Mich.; T/4 Raymond C. Pavka, Midland, Mich.; S/Sgt. Ray W. Mundy, Charleston, W. Va.; S/Sgt. Marion Murray, Binge, Ky.; S/Sgt. Paul G. Gent, Carrie, Va.; Sgt. Arnold C. Wingblad, Detroit, Mich.; 1st Lt. Carl W. Wiwick, Portland, Ore.; 2nd Lt. Louis D. Gregory, New York City, and 2nd Lt. Percy B. Rule, Jr., Greensburg, Penna.

## Loud Alarm Clock

WITH THE 8th FOB, GERMANY — Set up in an air-raid shelter under a railroad track in Germany, Cpl. Edward J. Feuel, Waterloo, Iowa, was knocked out of bed by the direct hit of an enemy bomb on the track above him. The concussion shook but failed to injure Cpl. Feuel and his companions, Pvt. Jerome Schroeder, Belleville, Ill., T/5 Alvin J. Kuske, Green Bay, Wisc., and T/5 Joseph Molnar, Homer City, Penna.

WITH THE 29th INFANTRY DIVISION, GERMANY — Freed-om of religion was returned to the very home where its obliteration began as chaplains of every faith conducted services for the 115th Infantry Regiment following the capture of Munchen-Gladbach-Rheydt.

In the former home of Nazi Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels, Chaplain William Crowley, Chaplain Robert Crane, and Chaplain Manuel Poliakoff conducted services for members of the Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish faiths respectively.

The Schloss Rheydt Castle was 'given' to Goebbels by the people of his boyhood town, Munchen-Gladbach, in compliance with orders from the Nazi Party Headquarters.

## Wreck Nazi Equipment

WITH THE 2nd T. D. GP., GERMANY — The 823rd TD Battalion has accounted for 91 tanks, 15 SP guns, 7 arm'd cars, 15 half-tracks, 23 pillboxes, 7 AT gurne and over 150 general purpose vehicles. In addition they have taken over 586 prisoners and expended 45 000 rounds of 3 inch ammunition.

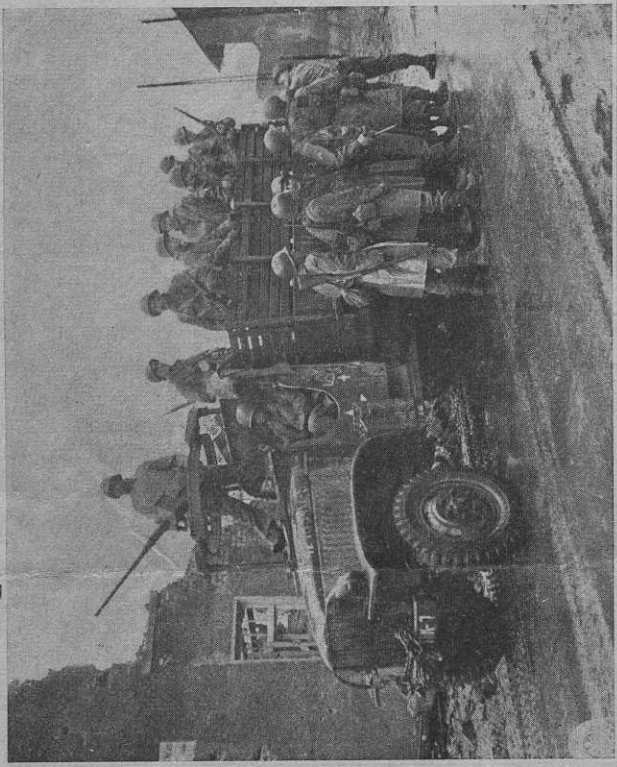
Companies "A" and "B" and the 2nd and 3rd Reconnaissance Platoons hold Presidential Citations for stopping a counterattack at Mortain. Additional awards include 32 Silver Stars, one Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star, 75 Bronze Stars and 375 Purple Hearts.

## One Size Too Small

WITH THE 1104th ENGR. C. GP., GERMANY — T/5 Lewis H. McMahan, Spur, Texas, was clearing away rubble on the road into Wurselin, Germany, with members of the 611th L. E. Co., when he spied a pair of stylish German boots by the roadside.

Calling to T/4 Robert Banks, Waterford, Calif., to stop the truck carrying the crane with which they were working, T/5 McMahan investigated the boots. He inserted his foot into one of them. Part of the original owner remained.

## Loading Reinforcements For Front



T/5 Dudley Johnson, Henderson, Ky., manning the machine gun and driver T/5 Earnest Dill, Plymouth, N. C., of the 4046th Truck Co. are shown above loading a group of reinforcements to be taken to a front line division.

## Foe Hits Third Room

WITH THE 110th F. A. Bn., GERMANY — Members of Battery "C", 110th F. A. Bn., 29th Division, decided to sleep in an unoccupied German house. Three rooms were available but when the enlisted men decided to sleep in one and the officers in another, the third was left vacant.

During the night heavy shelling awakened them but failed to bother them. In the morning they got up to find the shelling had blown away the room between the two groups which they had left vacant.

The fortunate members included Capt. Arthur L. Flimmer, Baltimore, Md. 1st Lt. Melvin F. Gross, Jersey City, N. J.; 1st Sgt. John C. Kropp, Williamsburg, Penna.; S/Sgt. Benson W. Unger, Thomas, W. Va.; and Pfc. Bernard Doyle, Altoona, Penna.

## Second Try No Dry Run

WITH THE 295th ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION, GERMANY — Company "C", commanded by Capt. Kenneth T. Sawyer, Menominee, Mich., completed the first bridge to cross traffic over the Roer River in the XIX Corps sector.

Nearly three months ago this company was preparing for an assault boat crossing of the same river. The Battle of the Bulge changed all that. Two weeks ago preparations were again under way, this time for bridge support of another division, on another part of the Roer.

As the operation was suspended time and time again, because of the racing flood water, the feeling that they were in for another dry run became prevalent. The good word was received on February 21st, and the long-delayed operation was under way.

## Trucking, Personal Needs Burials, Among Duties Handled Since June

If you can visualize the needs of a good sized American city changing location every day, you have some idea of the proportion of the demands which the 1st Quartermaster Battalion must answer as the troops of the XIX Corps advance across the continent.



The duties of the 1st Q.M. aren't glamorous. They don't liberate towns or take prisoners. You never read about them in the headlines because the enemy has never felt their sting directly. However, without them the progress at the front would be slower, because American supplies has played a great factor in the success of the campaigns which have forced the Germans back across the Rhine, and this unit, commanded by Lt. Col. Dan L. Miller, Palm Springs, Calif., has been instrumental in supplying the reinforcements and equipment which the front has needed.

Besides the battalion headquarters, the 1st QM includes a medical detachment, the 4045th and 4046th Trucking Cos., the 608th Graves Registration Co., the 970th QM Service Co., the 599th Laundry Co., the 852nd Fumigation and Bath Co., and the 3rd Platoon of the 506th Car Co. Each company has its unique duties, and each takes pride in turning out highly efficient work.

The entire battalion landed with the XIX Corps units in June, and (cont. next page, col. 4)

## \*\*\* THE WINDMILL \*\*\*

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### 5 Bridges - 3 Days In Roer Crossing

WITH THE 1104th ENGINEER COMBAT GROUP, GERMANY — Under deadly artillery, mortar and small arms fire, the engineers attached to this group built the bridges that carried the 29th Infantry Division to the capture of engineering-besieged Julich.

Their fight to establish crossings began 30 minutes after H Hour when the big offensive was launched across the Roer. As the artillery barrage lifted, the engineers began running assault boats carrying infantry to secure a bridge site across the river. Then the work on the bridges began.

The engineers strung cables across the stream and in a few minutes were poking the ends of three footbridges out from the west bank. After an hour and a half of work under heavy fire, the first footbridge touched the river shore. One of the assault boats still running across the river was caught by the tricky current, went out of control, and crashed into the frail footbridge, capsizing the bay. The engineers immediately went out and repaired the damage and a few members of the crew went over to the far side to make sure that the far end was secure. Two Krauts came out of hiding and surrendered to them half hour later the other two bridges were completed.

The next day the fourth bridge was finished and the fifth — a double-double Bailey, got under way where the principal Julich bridge had been. As the attack drove forward over the four float bridges, the Bailey crew worked under fire to build the first fixed bridge to Julich.

Three days after the bridge had been started it was finished. The crossing of the Roer was now secure.

### Squad Hits Pay Dirt

WITH THE 30th INFANTRY DIVISION, GERMANY — The distinction of being the first across the surging Roer of their Division belongs to the second squad, second platoon of A company, 119th Infantry regiment under the command of Lt. Francis Cordell, Ridgeway, Montana. Lt. Cordell took command after his captain had been lost in the stream in the crossing, and organized the company for the attack when they hit the East bank of the river.

With only a Browning Automatic rifle, two M-1s and a pistol, the squad held the beach until the remainder of "A" Company could cross on the footbridge.

Members of the squad were Pfc. George N. Kareha, Deadville, Pa.; Pvt. Paul Bock, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pfc. Vergyl Clark, Pocatello, Idaho; Sgt. Edwin Andres, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Cpl. Marion L. Boles, LaMan, Mo.; Pfc. Theodore Meredith, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pfc. Calvin F. Ball, Louisville, Ky.; Pfc. Charles Baize, Hartford, Ky. and Pvt. John L. Cofer, Norfolk, Va.

### Dream Realistic

WITH THE 110th F. A. BN., GERMANY — When T/Sgt. Paul Bradford, Philadelphia, Penna., entered the room where his buddy, T/4 Marden Ambrose, Springfield, Mass., was sleeping, he was suddenly attacked.

It seems the sleepy Ambrose had been dreaming of German paratroopers storming his area, and when Sgt. Bradford awakened him, he mistook him for a Nazi.

### Names Not On Shells

WITH THE 8th FOB, GERMANY — As T/5 John J. Zabrowski, Jackson, Mich., and Cpl. John F. Dolan, Benson, Minn., entered their survey station near the front, 88 mm. shells whining through the air forced them to take cover. They were astounded when other members of the party took no notice of the shells.

Later they were told that S/Sgt. Norton L. Quarvè, Spring Grove, Minn., had made a reconnaissance

## Chaplain Conducts Services In Pillbox Close To Front

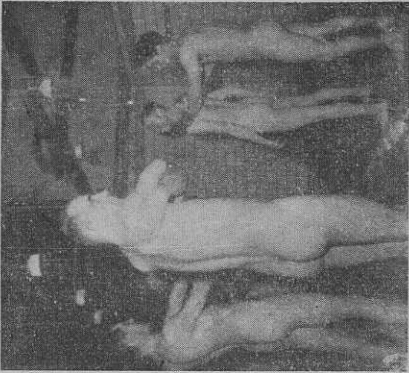
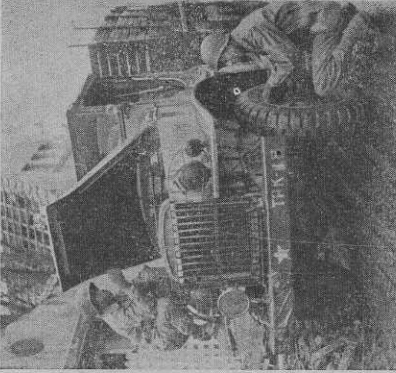
WITH THE 113th CAVALRY GROUP, MEZ, GERMANY — As Chaplain Rose moved up with the relieving platoon under cover of darkness, they were subjected to severe mortar, artillery and sniper fire, while flares illuminated their positions.

### 1st Q. M. Bn.

(cont. from front page col. 5) has been operating within reach of the front ever since. The task of supply has never been an easy one, and in the fluid type of warfare which the XIX Corps has seen, the 1st QM has maintained a high standard which has won individual and unit awards totaling 3 Meritorious Service Unit Plaques, 1 Silver Star, and 24 Bronze Stars.

### Unit Plaque.

The 599th Laundry Co., commanded by Capt. Arthur Liebschutz, Norwood, Ohio, has done to date about 2,000,000 pounds of laundry work for troops. The need for clean clothes in combatting disease has kept this mobile unit in constant operation, and the service rendered has been a boon to combat men returning from the front in need of clean equipment.



Upper Left: Cpl. Robert Brown, Greenville, S.C. and Cpl. Edward Wright, Newport News, Va., performing maintenance duties on their 4045 Truck Co. vehicle.

