

THE STARS AND STRIPES
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 Vol. 5, No. 75, January 30, 1945

THE B BAG
BLOW IT OUT HERE

NOTE: B-Bag is receiving many unsigned letters. We require your signature as evidence of good faith only. Your identity will not be revealed if you inform us you want your name withheld.—Ed.

Supreme Heroism
 Jan. 20, 1945

To the B-Bag:
 Have just read the article, "Zeroed 'Em In—On Himself." The Congressional Medal of Honor would be inadequate recognition of the unflinching courage and devotion to duty displayed by 2/Lt. Dennis J. Regan. His supreme act of heroism should be given supreme honors.—1/J.L., AC.

Former P/W Asylum
 Jan. 20, 1945

To the B-Bag:
 May God help and protect you fellow GIs who are slugging it out with the enemy, so that you may never be confined in this former asylum for the enemy wounded. We had the misfortune to be the first American wounded to be hospitalized at this ex-prisoner of war hospital. At first we were very patient and took all the staff's gall, as we realized that we were the first white men that staff here had administered to for many months. Having contended with many oral abuses and physical neglects for over five weeks, we wish to hell that the damned Jerries had taken this whole garrison-happy outfit with them. It may be a necessary evil and an essential part of the Army to have inspectors and resulting gigs, but to have a hospital housing battle-casualty GIs, is the place for such apple polishing. If the responsible officers ever take time out from reading the manual to read The Stars and Stripes, what say for fewer inspections and more medical care? P.S.—A bit of human kindness wouldn't hurt either.—Pfc W. W. Hoop, Plant.

A Legitimate Question
 Jan. 20, 1945

To the B-Bag:
 I am an air corps medic and have had experience in combat areas, and when I came back from France I tried to be transferred into the infantry medic, but was told that it was impossible, and that I was not needed.

As for the "brass hats" in these kind of outfits, there is no way in the world that you can ever try to convince them to try to help you in any way, nor can you gather any information from them on how you can go about getting it. When you go in to them with a legitimate question, all they say is "Stop bitching, you never had it so good." I think that they should talk for themselves. There are lots of guys in the same position I am, and there is no one we can go to that will give us any help at all. We came into the Army for one purpose, to try to be good soldiers and see our country through a final and quick victory. But how in the hell do you expect guys to take this kind of stuff and just sit shut up? As soon as you open your mouth to one of them, you are insubordinate, and that is as far as it goes. I hope that this letter and many others I have read of the same type will wake up some guy someday. . . . Pfc M. J. Amodio, Medical Supply Platoon (Avn).

Foxhole Covers
 Jan. 27, 1945

To the B-Bag:
 My idea has something to do with cutting down the casualty list caused by shrapnel. Why couldn't the Army put out a cover for foxholes? The way I picture it, this cover would be made of strips of steel which could be rolled up, about three feet wide and five or six feet long. This could be brought up to the men just as bed rolls are. If such a thing could be done, I think it would cut down the casualty list considerably.—Pfc J. M., Hosp. Plant.

B-Bag for Ella Boole
 Jan. 25, 1945

To the B-Bag:
 In regard to this Dr. Ella Boole's statement about our boys having a glass beer, wine or stronger drinks, and the boys of Montgomery only having tea to win a war on, I'm not a drinking man, and very seldom drink beer, wine, or even lemonade, but does she realize that the boys of Montgomery are issued a certain portion of rum at the government's expense. Our boys aren't, and I think that if she'd come over here and fill her canteen with some of this water, she'd soon learn to drink beer or anything else in preference.—In Old Times, 1/Sgt. Stanley Mitchell, Sub Depot.
 P.S.—Send her a B-Bag, I think she needs one.

[Rum is apporportioned to Montgomery's men only in cases of exceptional hardship, chiefly due to weather and exposure, according to the British War Office.—Ed.]

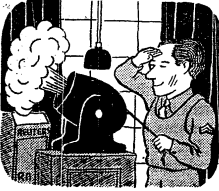
Hash Marks

Our spy on the home front quips that a lot of women's husbands are getting to be almost as hard to keep as secrets.

Ralph Newman says he resents the press referring to Germany as "Germany proper." What the hell is proper about Germany? he asks.

Fun on the Home Front. The young kid looked up at his father and asked, "Dad, how do you catch lunatics?" Papa puffed his pipe and sighed, "With face powder, beautiful dresses and pretty smiles, my son."

Orders of the Day by Stalin have been coming into the London office of The Stars and Stripes so fast that Roland



Bowers, who usually takes the phone call on important communiques has gotten into the spirit of things. He has installed a miniature mortar on his desk and each time he takes an Order of the Day he fires a 21-round salute!

The other day we heard a corporal moan, "My platoon leader, a second lieutenant, says he doesn't mind his pajamas coming back from the laundry with buttons missing—but when the pajamas pass through the clothes wringer it sure plays hell with his shoulder bars."

Cpl. Luke Doheny sez that intuition is the strange instinct that tells a woman she's right even when she's wrong. You've probably heard better versions of this story, but this is the only way can get it into print. Two GIs were on their first trip to London. One stepped into a phone booth and had his first wrestle with a pay-phone. He slipped in his pennies and the operator kept telling him to press that certain button that makes conversation possible. Just then a V2 hit nearby. The bewildered GI staggered out and whispered hoarsely to his buddy, "Honest, pal, all I did was push 'Button A.'"

We wonder if Scottish troops say, "Blow It Out Your Bagpipes."

We just met a sergeant who doesn't have room on his good-conduct ribbon for all his wild out-leaf clusters.

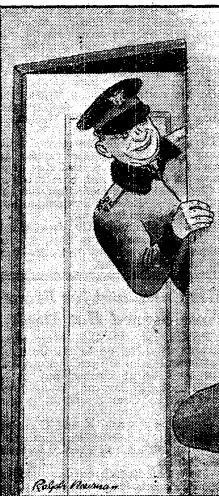
Sign in a Glasgow Pub. No Ladies Supplied After 7 PM.

Comment in a Pub. "No, I don't mind



walking you home in this heavy fog—but I hate walking upstairs."

When the little moron first saw the White Cliffs of Dover he thought they were icebergs. We shiver in agreement. J. C. W.



"For a moment you startled me, General Eisenhower! I've been expecting the sergeant to come looking for KP volunteers."

Just in case you didn't see it, we'd like to reprint this editorial, from the European edition of the New York Herald Tribune dated Jan. 26, 1945, entitled "Uncle Joe's Boys."

HAVE you heard the latest? "We are across the Oder," or "We are close on Breslau," or some such phrase—one encounters it everywhere. Battle action, particularly successful battle action, is a great leveler of nice political distinctions. Even here, thousands of miles from the fronts, our hopes rise with the Red Star as earnestly as with the white. In cold foxholes and under shell-fire, reaction is apparently only more immediate and heartfelt. There are no greater enthusiasts for "Uncle Joe's Boys" today than our troops on the Roer and in the Ardennes. . . .

Here is one aspect of international relations too often overlooked by theorists. "Uncle Joe's Boys" may inspire alarm in some sections of the armchair brigade, but to the man in the street they are "ours" and to the fighting

Musta Found It On The Hook

Scared GI Got New Courage After a Month in a Closet

By Jimmy Cannon

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
 3rd ARMY HQ, Jan. 29—Pvt. Lee Godfrey today told how civilians hid him for 28 days in a German CP. Only a few feet from a Nazi general's quarters, Godfrey, who's from St. Louis, lay in the cold darkness of a cupboard so small he could not stand erect. Partially paralyzed from the ordeal, the 9th Armored Div. mechanic told how he and five others, lost, hungry and hunted for four days, voted to surrender in the huge area during the first crazy days of the breakthrough. They approached a house with a white cap on a stick, thinking it was a German CP. They were 20 minutes too soon; civilians still lived there.

"I was scared and decided to hide," said the 30-year-old electrician. "One of the guys told the civilians I wanted a place to crawl into. They took me into a cupboard. It was dark and cold and I couldn't stand up so I lay there. As soon as I got in, the Germans

GI Show Nets \$2,000 For S & S Orphans

PARIS, Jan. 29—Two French children being cared for by The Stars and Stripes War Orphan Fund were guests of honor last Thursday at the GI-WAC musical revue Com Zee, Com Za. They are among five orphans sponsored by the cast, who raised the necessary \$2,000 through the sale of five-franc programs, for which some soldiers gave as much as 500 francs. Launched in France Nov. 29 after sponsoring 630 orphans in England, the War Orphan Fund has raised more than \$32,000.

If an outfit raises \$400 it can pick the type of child it wishes to sponsor. However, smaller individual or unit contributions are welcome.

An Editorial
Amen



soldiers they are heroes. The foxholes have been made passionately aware of the fact that this is one war in one world, that each fights for all and all for each, and that getting the big job done is far more important than any question of who does it. Afterward, no doubt, politicians

and publicists will get to work to destroy such foolish notions; but it may be that fighting men and ordinary people will remember "Uncle Joe's Boys" and will still believe that the great nations which were so desperately dependent on each other in war can hang together even in peace.

Some Bottlefield!

GIs Got their Bellyful Of War—And Liked It

WITH THE 9TH ARMORED DIV., Jan. 29—The corporal and the sergeant "never had it so good," they said. They had 18 barrels of wine, a quart of cognac, beaucoup champagne—candies, matches, canned food—and cigarettes. But after spending 13 days sealed off behind a trap door in the wine cellar of a hotel filled with Germans, Cpl. Edwin T. Brady, of Providence, and S/Sgt. Durwood S. Stratton, of Oakland, Calif., 60th Armored Infantrymen, were happy to be rescued by relieving 5th Infantry troops.

Brady told how five of them had been trapped in a small provision room by a



German attack on the hotel. Next day three made a break for it and were shot. "During the confusion," Brady said, "Stratton and I returned to the cellar and closed the trap door."

Brady said they were almost discovered a few times in the following days but were saved when the Jerries found wine and food on the upper floors.

Thirteen days later they heard an American voice in the hotel asking if there were "Any GIs in there?"

Coming out of their shelter they were informed that the 5th Div. had taken the towns and their own outfit had been pulled out and sent down around Bastogne.

ARMY POETS

AFN Radio Program

- American Forces Network—With the AEF on the Road to Berlin
 On Your Dial
 1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc. 218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.
 Tuesday, Jan. 30
- 1200—News.
 - 1205—Duffie Bag.
 - 1300—Headlines—NBC Symphony.
 - 1400—Headlines—American Sports News.
 - 1406—Visiting Hour.
 - 1500—Headlines—Strike up the Band.
 - 1530—On the Record.
 - 1625—Music from the Hits.
 - 1700—Headlines—Lynn Murray Chorus.
 - 1715—Canada Guest Show.
 - 1800—World News.
 - 1805—Mark up the Map.
 - 1810—American Sports Roundup.
 - 1815—GI Super Club.
 - 1900—Headlines—Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street.
 - 1910—Here's a Romance.
 - 2000—Headlines—Combat Diary.
 - 2015—Johnny Mercer's Music Show.
 - 2030—American Band of the AEF.
 - 2100—World News.
 - 2105—Charlie Merry.
 - 2120—Dinah Shore Show.
 - 2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
 - 2205—Merely Music.
 - 2300—Words and Music.
 - 2325—Sign-off until 0755 hours, Wed., Jan. 31.
- Wednesday, Jan. 31
- 0755—Sign-off—Program Room.
 - 0800—Headlines—Combat Diary.
 - 0810—Personal Album—Janet Blair.
 - 0820—Music by Eddie Howard.
 - 0900—World News.
 - 0905—Songs by the Four Belles.
 - 0925—Music from Canada.
 - 0930—Headlines—Morning After (American Band of the AEF).
 - 1010—Strike up the Band.
 - 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
 - 1105—Duffie Bag.
- On the Continent listen to your favorite AFN programs over the Allied Expeditionary Forces Program: 883 kc. 5:44m. Also shortwave: 6.195mg. (49m. band) between 0820 and 1940 hours.

To Recent Arrivals

Is our land still the same
 As we dimly recall
 With plenty of room
 For the great and the small?
 Has there been any change
 From the old, well-loved scenes
 In the Bronx, or in Brooklyn,
 Long Island or Queens?

Does the water still sing
 'Mid the rocks and the rills
 Of the tiny trout streams
 In the clean Berkshire hills?
 Does the draftsman's step drag
 With a touch of the blues
 As each juke box in Mathez
 Blares forth "Born to Lose"?

Do the geese flying south
 Rend the dawn with their call?
 Did they cross a new "Ice King"
 Up there at St. Paul?
 Do the trains whistle yet,
 Clear and sweet as a flute
 As they speed thru the darkness
 Toward Billings and Butte?

Do the stockmen still stroll
 In a tight little clan
 With their boots striking sparks
 In the streets of Cheyenne?
 Do the gay lights of Frisco
 Make sport of the dark
 As you gaze over town
 From the "top of the Mark"?

Is our land just the same
 As it was long ago?
 Please tell us, comrades,
 We're wanting to know.