

HOOK UP

850



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Vol. 1, No. 11

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PUBLISHED BY AND FOR THE MEN OF THE 1ST BN, 551ST PRCT INF (REINF)

RANGE FIRING RESULTS OF "A", "B" & HQS COMPANIES

Below are the tabulated scores by Companies with the M1. Possible score 210.

UNIT	AVERAGE SCORE	EXPERTS	SHARPSHOOTERS	MARKSMEN	BOLOS
"B"	167	14	42	27	2
"A"	165	19	30	37	5
Hqs	*	28	26	26	2
"C"	(Scores not tabulated at time of this issue of the paper)				

Scores with the Carbine: (using above categories)

Hqs	*	18	36	28	0
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The highest men with the M1 in the above Companies are Hendricks, Service Company with a marvelous score of 200 out of a possible 210; Nottingham, "A", 194; Stewart, "B", 193 and Dumas, Hqs, with 186. Dumas was also highest man with the Carbine, 187.

By the end of the week all Companies will have fired the M1, Carbine and Tommy-gun. Comes the next issue of the HOOK UP, we will have the complete data as to which Company and which men are the best shots in the Battalion.....

551ST TAKES ITS ABC KNOWLEDGE TESTS

Remember those tests we took a short time ago on our knowledge of tactics, weapons etc? Well... the results are in. The Battalion averaged 84% and the difference between the highest and lowest Companies was only 1.14%. In view of this hair-line margin, one unit cannot brag that it contains more brains than another. At the time this issue of the HOOK UP was being prepared, "C" Company, representing the Battalion, was undergoing the ABC muscle and endurance tests in burpees, forced marching, running etc. We don't know if they volunteered or not for this job, but the rest of the Battalion owes them their thanks.

Several surprising things came out of the ABC knowledge tests. Among them, a soft soap and not a G.I. soap should be used when washing web equipment (The FM doesn't state just which, but either Lux or Rinso would do the trick). And according to the book, there is no such thing as a right or left Plank movement without halting first and facing in the desired direction. And one man gave an outmoded answer for the 9th G.O.; "To allow no one to commit a nuisance." And the accurate guesswork that went on in the identification quiz of friendly and enemy aircraft was nothing short of miraculous. Our guessing was not so good in tank identification.

TRAINING NOTES

The rest of the week will be a busy one. By Saturday all the men will have fired the M1, Carbine and Tommy-gun. The following week, crew-served weapons will be fired for qualification. We will also go through the paces of transition firing, close combat, combat in cities and mine and booby traps.

Let our motto be WORK or NENSJK -they both amount to the same thing.

ABOUT SERVICEMEN VOTING

Comes November, 1944, general elections for President, Vice-president, Congressmen and Governors will be held. Many of the servicemen and women will want to cast their vote and Congress is now working on some method whereby we can cast our votes which will be by absentee ballot. Army and Navy officials want an efficient and speedy method of absentee voting without too much red tape. This can best be done by a central Federal agency.

(Cont'd on page 2)

(SERVICEMEN VOTING cont'd)

Although all States except Kentucky and New Mexico allow voting by absentee ballot, the machinery is so complicated that the ballot once received may wind up in a man's barracks bag where it does no good.

Congress realizes this and before long they will decide upon a satisfactory plan whereby every eligible serviceman and woman will be able to exercise his and hers inalienable right to cast an unhindered and unchallenged vote in the coming elections.

The HOOK UP will publish all the facts as soon as they are available.

ABOUT MUSTERING OUT PAY FOR
SERVICEMEN

Congress has drawn up a Bill to provide mustering out pay to servicemen and women. These are the facts of the Bill:

- \$100 to servicemen and women with less than 60 days service in the States.
- \$200 to those who serve more than 60 days in the States.
- \$300 for those who serve overseas. (Including Alaska)

The following are not eligible for mustering out pay:

- Those who are dishonorably discharged
- Those whose base pay exceeds \$200 per month.
- Those who are discharged at their own request which includes those who reach 38 years of age.
- Those who serve as students.

The mustering out pay Bill will take effect from the day on which it is signed by the President.

"A" COMPANY PALAVER

After a concentrated dose of PRL, the men of "A" Company have done something to be proud of. We pulled through handsomely with a sharpshooter's average of 185 out of a possible 210 on the firing range with the M1. Nottingham, one of our new men, rolled up a sweet score of 194 and Schultz was second high with 187. In a nutshell, "A" Company men know how to shoot (even the office and supply men fired sharpshooter.....)

(Cont'd on page 3)

Have you written your Mother lately?

LT. GEN. MCNAIR DISCUSSES AIRBORNE
TROOPS

"Can transports and gliders set down a sufficient number of troops in an area so confined that they can assemble again as an effective fighting unit and attack their objective?" This is the principal question regarding the use of airborne troops. It was held that the recent maneuvers at Camp Mackall proved this theoretically possible, even though weather conditions and available terrain were practically ideal...General McNair indicated that the troop-carrier command is going in for gliders larger than the present ones..He stated that the Germans favor day operations for their airborne troops while the Americans preferred night operations...General McNair pointed out that airborne tactics could be carried out against certain types of Pacific Islands, like New Guinea where Paratroops have been dropped with great success. However, airborne troops would have been useless on the heavily-defended, comparatively open spaces of Tarawa. General McNair also said that whenever D day comes in Western Europe, airborne troops should be counted on to get in some good blows.....

---from the NEW YORK TIMES

"B" COMPANY BULL

If anyone wants some men who know how to fire rifles, let him knock on the Orderly Room door of "B" Company. The fact is we averaged 167 for the whole Company, two points over sharpshooter out of a possible 210. We all honestly feel that we deserve 3-day passes.(Well..there's no harm in askin', is there?)...Stewart rolled up the highest score with the M1 - a juicy 193...Another nice thing about our average score is that we beat "A" Company by 2 points.....

Moran fired about 14 rounds for a troy and a deuce before he realized his rifle had no front sight --it was in his pocket all the time...BYGONE NEWS: Prof. Morgan has left us for the Air Corps.."B" Co. offers mucho congrats to the Dance Committee and the mess Section for a very swell Dance. When's the next.....

(Cont'd on page 3)

I wonder who's kissing her now?



HOOK UP

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Camp Mackall, N.C.

EDITOR

Pvt G. Goodridge

CENSOR

Lt A. J. Siler, S.S.C.

CARTOONISTS

Pfc C. Roby Pvt R.H. Leveille

ART ASSISTANT

Pvt Robert Steele

REPORTERS

Cpl Willis T/S D. Downes

Sgt R. E. Anderson

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EDITORIAL

Soldiers who think about the War's progress have reached an important milestone in their relation to the War. Recently, General Eisenhower made a tremendous statement which every American newspaper, big and small - and every American soldier* gobbled up like so much manna from heaven. He said "European victory will be ours in 1944." Coming from such an authority, this forecast has not only weight but also a certainty of achievement. Already many plants have started re-conversion of their production lines to peacetime industry. Billions of dollars worth of war contracts have been cancelled. The production of small arms has come to a standstill. All these factors certainly add up to a scumf basis for solid optimism.

As far as the soldier is concerned there are two setbacks:

Number 1: Gen. Eisenhower said nothing about victory over Japan; so that after Germany is beaten, our military machine will continue the war against Tokyo.

Number 2: It's certain the assault against German Europe will be tremendous in scope. This invasion army, according to reports, will consist mainly of American soldiers. We have a right to be optimistic about the outcome, but let's not forget to take into account the question of casualties. In the initial stages of the invasion, it's probable the going will be murderous for the attackers.

Although we're sure of beating Germany this year, there is still tough Japan to lick. The Allied Armies, which may easily include the 561st, will probably do more hard fighting and see more casualties in two months of the European Invasion than they have experienced since the first day of the War. And as far as the 561st is concerned, the time has come to get down to business.....

("A" COMPANY PALAVER cont'd)

HERE and THERE: "Big" Andy lost \$4.25 to Banks & Montgomery betting on scores while working in the target pits. Scott received a telegram from a close relative asking him to wire back the sum of \$1000 (no cents to this figure). He went to quarters soon afterwards - there's no quick cure for such a shock. One of our 1st Plt buddies received an interesting letter - here's part of it:

To My Darling,

Honey, you know I don't usually get silly over some boy, but I've gone haywire over you. What did you do to me? Darling, please tell me if you want me to come down there and behave like a lady. In case you don't, there is nothing I can do except continue on as 'Nobody's Darling'.....

Lamar explains adequately the moonstruck gleam in his eye "The love bug done nibbled a big hunk out of me." Last Saturday, the love bug dug darn deep & he got married. Capt Pay gave him a 3-day pass as a wedding present. "How come there are no bags under your eyes?.. STALNAKER-"Been restricted to the barracks too long." CALLING "B" "C" & HQS COMPANIES! Starting yesterday, we again quit our morning runs. Jealous?.. "Big" Andy will carry on as "A" reporter beginning with the next issue...

("B" COMPANY BULL Cont'd)

one gonna be?.. Starkey made quite a name for himself that night. He & the Lt got along swell. Later he danced with a WAC Sgt & was heard to say "Well.. the Lt didn't mind, so why should you?".. O'Donnell caused a miniature riot when he tried boarding tactics on the gals' bus convey

(CMS)-Marines stick old razor blades in trees for Japs to cut their hands & feet when they shin up to snipe.....



"WHEN WE JUMP AT NIGHT, SINCE I WOULD LIKE TO SEE IF MY PARACHUTE OPENS!"



551ST ITEMS

"A" Company's morning runs stopped again as of yesterday (Tuesday). For the second time this unit has completed two weeks of good behavior - a performance which no other Company in the Battalion has been able to do for the first time.

Personnel has moved over bag and baggage to the building behind Bn Hqs. They can now goldbrick in comparative security and secrecy.

Before the week is over, many men will wake up in a sitting or kneeling position and start waving their hands in the empty air trying to fix a hasty sling. They may even hear funny noises like "Look and load eight rounds ball ammunition...the flag is waving..Tah-gets up!"

"C" COMPANY GOSSIP

We don't have the complete rifle scores of our Company to give out in this column right now, but just wait till the next issue of the HOOK UP comes out. Just a word anyway to let you know that our men can make their MLs say "Uncle"..**NEWS OF NOT SO LONG AGO:** Perhaps the most glorious beer party in Army annals was thrown by our Company. What with all the beer we could drink (and not only that evening either), food aplenty, entertainment (woodoo), a great time was had by all. Everyone including the cooks (party held in mess-hall) commented on how well we behaved. Next time we're going to get an old barn, bust out all the windows and when we're through drinking, we'll burn the dump down.**WHEEL**

R.R. Richardson, Norton and another guy went USO on us -one beer apiece all the time..Peterson's love letters are terrific..Kraft pulled a boner.The CO asked for a carbide lamp (to blacken the lights).Kraft answered:"we don't have any ir, but we have two electric flashlights".almowski, the Great,does alright giving loose order drill in Polish. He didn't do o good dropping eggs in a guy's pocket.

(Cont'd on page 5)

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY STUFF

When it comes to shooting true and straight, just call on us folks. Look at the figures on page one. Only two bolos with the M1 and Carbine. All we can say is that the 551st is lucky it has Hqs in it..Dumas rang the bell twice with the highest scores in both the M1 and Carbine -188 and 187. Even our Topkick is a good shot!..**HAPPENINGS A WHILE BACK....** "Pap" Vicars is off to Ft. Benning to inspect weapons for A.B.G.."Braintrust" Bro is still debating the pros and cons of Communism and Democracy..Den't Dom-broski look scholarly with the horn-rims? ...Pagliugh "wowed" the women at the Bn Dance per usual..Deal finally got something G.I. to fit --a carbine.... "Gismo" Dixon was happy for a while with visions of combat; but the vision faded and he finds himself still wagging a baseplate..Wallace continues to pull at his pretty blonde locks and make out the duty roster (between Cervesas)...Bishop and Bonner returned to the Company from the "Camp Mackall Hotel"...

--Cpl Willis

WOLF

Why is it that married men
Can't control that secret yen
To naked strip, with sinful eye,
Female figures passing by.

--from the **THUNDERS IRD**
(Popular monthly of the original
501st in Cervesa-land)

(CNS) In a radio broadcast, Lt. Gen. Eaker, Commander of the Eight Air Force (based in Britain), cited these accomplishments for the year 1943:

- 64,000 offensive sorties
- 35,000 tons of bombs dropped
- 4,100 Nazi planes destroyed
- 40% drop in Nazi plane production.

"Once I was happy but now I'm airborne"
(Contributed by Pfc Van Dorn)

("C" COMPANY GOSSIP cont'd)

at the beer party..Creek used his nose for a plow during the 75 yard piggy-back affair..You should have seen "C" Company do that 4 mile walk on the double..Was one face red when only the C.O. could run 300 yards in 45 sec..But we're all pretty rugged...Praise the Lawd, for combat is our mission.....

LAMENT ON A PASSED ERA
--T/S Denis H. Downes

In times heretofore, I've fervently swore,
And you have heard me think,
I never could adere a cookie who wore
Slacks --they I think stink.

How many a time and oft more I
Recalled our once fair lands
Abounding with teatsies so winsome & shy-
Sans overdeveloped glands.
The epitoms they were I'd say
Of life and love in the U.S.A.,
Where girdles & similar accouterments
Harnessed abnormal development.

New it's wrenches, oilcans, riveting machines
Dinner pails, union cards, all masculine
things,
Are permanent waves and feminine moods
In the Navy via induction?
Are smuggles & wedges & tres chic snoeds,
All victims of mass production?

So a bunch of lasses and a mess of slacks,
And fie on the spooks in drooping slacks
And one last long nostalgic sigh
For days that have gone, have passed us by
When girls were messes in dresses & tresses
Farewell! sweet days, goodbye.

FAMOUS 551ST LAST WORDS

- Sgt Burrows -"Wal..bah, jiminy Gee-orge... you're restricted.."
- Capt Quinn -"What's the big picture".....
- Sgt Dickson-"You will do it G.I."
- Capt Pay -"Yours not to reason why, Yours but to do and die."
- Sgt D'Agostino -"Where's your slip for early chow?"
- Sgt Probst -"All you guys get out-side and stay there un-til chow's ready."
- Sgt Zillies -"While I'm boss around you'll do what I tell you."
- Lt. Feabody -"Forward..MARCH!"
- Pvt Falmowski -"So I sez to her for the tird time..and she sez to me".....
- Cpl Thornton -"No, dammit! The mail hasn't come in yet."

SIDEGLANCES

T/S Joe Glass who had spent 3 days in Washington, was found squatting on his bunk reading an article entitled, "Soldier's Advice To Lovelorn Women"...

- DUMAS -How do you like my pups, Shorty?
- BALSAR-mighty cute, Sarge; what're their names?
- DUMAS -Pat, Mike and Tsaikowski.
- BALSAR-Why Tsaikowski?
- DUMAS -Oh, he's the pec-anist of the lot.

Fabianitch, shaking a pair of dice, announced "I got a dollar here..who wants to shoot some dice?..Answers Gatta, "C.K., I'll roll some." Gatta rolled high point to start the duet game and won the dollar in three straight rolls.....

LETTER BLUES

The blues pile up, the Gods all frown,
I swear I should know better
Than to drink a toast and sit me down
And write my dame a letter.

When in the mood, my spirits soar
To heights that are forbidden,
My heart is loosed, and in its glee
It tells of secrets hidden.

The worstest part, I cannot stop
My busy hand in closing;
For in snowing her, I blow my top,
And end up by proposing.

--from the THUNDERBIRD

Chicago (NCS)-Burglars broke into the home of Wilbur Anderson, stole \$600 worth of china, jewelry and silverware --and Anderson's \$1 alarm clock....

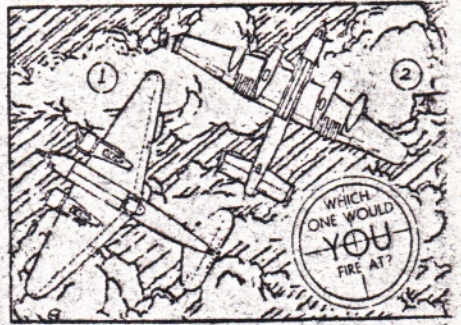
I'm sure that I shall never see,
A girl so lovely as Joanie.



"HE WON'T STICK HIS TONGUE OUT AT ME BECAUSE I'M AN OFFICER!"

THE WOLF

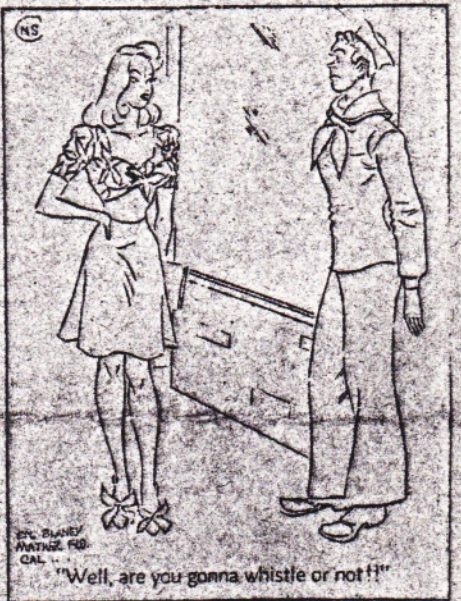
by Sansone



Remember that bleeding will stop in a short while if the patient is quiet and that the pressure of the pads and bandage will keep it controlled.



Review your first aid instructions occasionally. It is equally important to know what not to do as well as what to do when taking care of yourself or a wounded companion before the medics arrive.



LITANY OF THE TRENCHES

(A great favorite of World War I soldiers)

When you're in the Army two things are certain.
 Either you're mobilized or you're not mobilized.
 If you're not mobilized, then there is no use to worry.
 If you are mobilized, two things are certain.
 Either you're at the front, or you're behind the front.
 If you're behind the front, then there is no use to worry.
 If you're at the front, then two things are certain.
 Either you're in a battle, or you're not in a battle.
 If you're not in a battle, then there is no use to worry.
 If you're in a battle, then two things are certain.
 Either you're wounded or you're not wounded.
 If you're not wounded then there is no use to worry.
 If you're wounded, then two things are certain.
 Either you're wounded slightly or you're wounded severely.
 If you're wounded slightly, then there is no use to worry.
 If you're wounded severely, then two things are certain.
 Either you will recover, or you will die.
 If you recover, then there is no use to worry.
 If you die, you can't worry, any, so what's the use!

Author Unknown