



With the *May 25, 1948* Colors

Sixth Army Group, Germany—Doughboys of the 143rd Infantry regiment marked their second anniversary overseas with a successful drive into German soil, through the Siegfried line and to the Rhine river. In a few days' time they captured 2,886 German soldiers.

Part of the Thirty-sixth "Texas" division—one of the veteran divisions in General Jacob L. Devers' Sixth army group — these Infantrymen slashed through the rugged terrain of Northern Alsace as right wing of a U. S. Seventh army squeeze maneuver on German troops caught in the Saar basin. They knifed through Maginot and Siegfried fortress, then cut eastward to the Rhine to be the first Seventh army groups to reach the historic river on German soil.

The 143rd, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Charles J. Donholm, Poughkeepsie, New York, has won a high reputation for combat efficiency in all types of battle. It stormed the beaches of Italy and Southern France and performed the slow and tedious task of taking rugged mountain heights. Troops of the 143rd gobbled up as much as seventy miles a day as part of the Butler Task Force, a flying column which later, with the rest of the Thirty-sixth division, bottled up the entire German Nineteenth army in the Rhone valley.

Since its baptism of fire on D-day at Salerno, Italy, where it was among the first American infantry units on European soil, its men have amassed approximately 365 combat days and captured over 23,000 Germans. It participated in the liberation of Naples and fought bloody battles below Cassino.

Breaking out of the Anzio beach-head in a Thirty-sixth division infiltration maneuver, described as one of the greatest strategic feats of the war, it sped through Rome to the hills overlooking Pisa. In France it was part of the "stopper" that trapped thousands of Nazis near Montelimar and later helped wipe out two German armies in the Saar.

Members of the regiment include Private First Class Robert E. Michl of Route Six, Newton.

Santa Ana, California, May 23.—Staff Sergeant Charles Wooden Jr., 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Wooden of 1613 West First street, Dixon, formerly of Bogota, is currently assigned to the AAF Redistribution station No. 4 at Santa Ana Army Air Base, California.

Sergeant Wooden, who has completed thirty-five missions as a gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber, entered the service August 12, 1943, and went overseas in July, 1944. He has been awarded the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf clusters and one battle star for participation in major operations of the Eighth Air Force over Germany.

At this redistribution station, an operation of the Personnel Distribution Command, combat returnees of the AAF received complete medical examinations, classification interviews and reassignment to domestic stations of the Army Air Forces.

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One War Now

Our full, complete attention we
Can now give to the Japs—
We've thoroughly whipped Germany,
And now the little chaps
With buckteeth and cast iron hearts,
Will feel our total might,
As our supreme commander charts
Plans for the final fight.
We're fighting just one war today—
We've done quite well while we
Were busy with two. Our array
Of war machinery,
Will now be concentrated on
The islands that comprise
The home of soldiers of Nippon
That all the Yanks despise.
If Hirohito and his goons
Have any sense at all,
They realize on their buffoons
Some heavy blows will fall,
As soon as we can move our men
Out toward the rising sun;
The time is fast approaching when
The vicinity will be won.

—Robert H. Dhoms 2/c
Company E., Platoon 1,
N. T. S., Gulfport, Miss.

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With the Fifth Army in Italy.—Corporal Donald J. Hutson of Hidalgo recently joined the 91st "Powder River" division in Italy.

↑ The 91st, an Infantry division, was alerted for overseas service January 20, 1944. Having been given amphibious training in North Africa, the outfit sailed to Italy, where one regiment was organized in a combat

team and committed to action June 3, south of Rome, for the drive to the Arno river. The entire division fought alongside other Fifth army units from the Arno to the Alps mountains.

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Private and Mrs. Herman Sparks and daughters Carolyn Sue and Donna Jean of Mount Vernon are spending the week with Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Sparks and family. Private Sparks was returned to the States after being released from a German prison camp. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Knicley, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Knicley and sons Bruce and Jimmy of Hunt City and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wolf and daughter Carolyn Ruth of Robinson were Sunday guests.

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Machinist Mate First Class and Mrs. Max McClane are here from Davisville, Rhode Island, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grover McClane of Newton, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Brown of Bogota vicinity. Max is in the Seabees.

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Private First Class Robert Crotty is home on furlough from Percy Jones hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan, with his wife and children. He was recently wounded in Germany.

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Corporal and Mrs. Rene C. Donnelly of Chicago are the proud parents of a son, Robert Lee, born May 18. The grand-parents are Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Huber of Sainte Marie and Michel Donnelly of Pontiac, Michigan.

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Mrs. John Bush of South Muddy township has received word that her husband, Private First Class Bush, has returned to duty. He was recently slightly wounded.

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Lewis J. Jenkins of Florida is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis H. Jenkins of West Liberty.