

Frederick W. Thul
422/K
106th Infantry Division

Sgt. Frederick W. Thul Carries Flag In Parade of Crack Troops

Honor of carrying the Stars and Stripes in a parade of the 422nd Infantry, the "Smash and Drive" regiment of the 106th "Lion" Division in Germany, was that of Sgt. Frederick W. Thul of 145 Pemberton Ave. He said he recognized this as an honor in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Thul of the Pemberton Ave. address.

There were 490 men of the "Smash and Drive" regiment recently awarded a bronze battle star for participation in the Northern France campaign. All had previously won battle stars for the Rhineland campaign.

Held Nazis Back

In Northern France the 422nd was among the units which held a ring of steel around the German forces in Lorient and St. Nazaire. In the Rhineland, the 106th Division drove through and over the German 26th Division's positions in the Siegfried Line.

The full story of the 422nd Infantry Regiment's heroic stand in the Ardennes in December has only recently been released. On the flank of the Lion Division's sector of the Germany-Belgium border, the regiment's first taste of combat came with the massive panzer assault which heralded the breakthrough into the Bulge.

The full force of the Nazi panzer and SS attack smashed into the 422nd and 423rd regiments. For two days and two nights "Smash and Drive" men bore the brunt of the attack, charged with the mission of holding. They held against two German divisions long enough to save the Bulge from exploding into a decisive Nazi victory.

7,000 Missing

The defense of the Ardennes cost the 422nd and 423rd combat teams nearly 7,000 men missing in action. Most of the missing soldiers were liberated from German prisoner of war camps in later campaigns.

Sergeant Thul went overseas on May 6, 1944. He is a graduate of North Plainfield High School, where he was outstanding in track activities. He won the high jump championship for that school in 1938, and also took part in Newark Academy Invitation Track and Field Meets. He attended Newark College of Engineering and was on the track team while a student there.

SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES

The following article by Hanson W. Baldwin, taken from The New York Times Magazine of April 29th, 1945, is quoted for the information of all members of the 106th Division.

* * *

They call themselves "doughs", "doughfeet", "dogfaces", "G. I. 's", "tankers", "gunners". But their proudest name is "Soldiers" — Soldiers of the Army of the United States.

They were civilians three years, some of them one year, some of them six months ago. But they are soldiers now. They were boys then; they are men now. They were studying history then; they have made it now, and they have received the accolade that history gives to a victorious army.

It is an army that has been forged by battle and by blood. The way it came is clear; it has been a long road, a hard road, but a broad road, for war has cut wide swathes across the suffering lands of Europe. It is a road where every milestone is a grave, and nearly every town is rubble. It is a road marked by the shattered ruins of ancient cities -- Bizerte, Palermo, Naples, Florence, St. Lo, Marseille, Metz, Liege, Cologne, Hanover, Brunswick, Magdeburg -- and so across Germany.

There were few signposts at its beginnings; the way to victory was not clear. From Casablanca and Oran and Algiers, where the rugged Atlas ranges crowd the coastal shelf of Africa to a narrow strip of dusty, sun-burnt land, the road led eastward to the wadis and the rocks and sands and orchards of Tunisia. There where Roman legions kept peace by the sword, there where Carthage ruled in ancient glory, the American armies of Europe learned their first bitter lessons of war.

KASSERINE PASS, where roadside cemeteries still fix the high-water mark of German successes in Tunisia, was the first great setback for American arms on the road to Berlin. It was a defeat which staggered and which stung. But this was a growing, resilient army; it bled again and again -- at Gafsa and El Guettar, then at Djebel Abiod and Hill 609, to reach Bizerte and to help end, in a sudden burst of new-found strength, the short-lived German reign in Africa.

Those battles on the coastal rim of a continent seem small engagements now; already far away and long ago are the memories of the foxholes of Africa, the biting cold, the rain of winter, the dust and heat and sudden vertiginous green of the spring. But they were battles in which the present proud army had its inception; they developed the first "know-how", the first veterans, the great leaders, with Eisenhower and Bradley at the top of the list.

And then there was Sicily -- the campaign of dust and heat and rocks, a drive through olive groves and vineyards; Sicily, with the gallant defensive fight at Gela, and the hard battle of bloody Troina Ridge, Sicily, the thirty-eight-day blitz which opened the Mediterranean

We learned still more in Sicily -- about air-borne troops and the use of armor, and we left behind as we moved on toward Italy more military cemeteries, with crosses row on row.

None who were there will ever forget Salerno. Per-

the Air Force, and the indomitable will of the little men of war -- the "top-kicks" and the "second looey's", the battalion commanders and the colonels, who rarely make the front pages but who are the backbone of every army.

There followed the long, and still-unended battles up the spine of the Apenines, one of the grimmest chapters of endurance this war has produced. The campaign of Italy, studded with disappointments, unimpressive in its strategy, nevertheless accomplished its primary purpose, and the cold and mud and rain of the battlefields of Italy were another school for the growing Army of the United States. Cassino and Anzio, Rome and Florence, Monte Belvedere and a thousand rocky ridges, undistinguished in history save for the fact that doughboys died to take them -- all these were milestones in the broad and ravaged road of war.

And then there was France, and the Army came of age. Veterans of the Mediterranean school of war charged up Omaha and Utah beaches on that D-day that men will never forget, to win a foothold in western Europe. There followed the slugging matches of the hedgerows -- some of the bitterest and most sanguinary small-unit fighting in American military history -- the brilliant capture of Cherbourg, the drive into the rubble of Saint Lo, and the breakout and sweep across France.

And always the army grew -- in size, in battle-wisdom, in the urge to fight. The role of distinguished divisions lengthened, but quick victory was not to be. We entered at the frontiers of Germany upon the long siege of winter war -- a type of war for which we were not well prepared, a war in which once again we learned in the hard school of experience.

The "Battle of the Bulge" faced the American Army with its supreme test -- which it met and passed with flying colors. From then on, the Army of the United States grew in size and dimension, in authority and knowledge, and above all in will to fight. From then on, the milestones passed more quickly: The Roer, the Remagen bridgehead, which some think saved us 100,000 casualties; the crossings of the Rhine, the Ruhr pocket and the broad, wrecked and littered highway toward the heart of Germany.

Now, at long last, the road's end is in sight, and moving toward it are the American veterans of three years of war -- the soldiers of the finest army the United States has yet sent overseas.

But the sunlight of approaching victory must not leave in the shadow the long, hard road they have come or the price they have paid. Stretching league on league behind them from the Elbe to Casablanca are the crosses row on row -- the graves of 115,000 Americans -- "doughs", "tankers", soldiers. And in the military hospitals are those many others who have paid with blood and suffering along that road -- the men who will hobble through life, and those who will never walk, nor see, nor think coherently, again.

And now moving forward on the last miles of the road to victory are the millions still on their feet and fighting -- confident, cocky, grimly humorous, tired and sweating men. They are men who have given some of the best years of their lives and their families' lives to a job they hate;

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE:

The task which we set ourselves is finished, and the time has come for me to relinquish Combined Command.

In the name of the United States and the British Commonwealth, from whom my authority is derived, I should like to convey to you the gratitude and admiration of our two nations for the manner in which you have responded to every demand that has been made upon you. At times, conditions have been hard and the tasks to be performed arduous. No praise is too high for the manner in which you have surmounted every obstacle.

I should like, also, to add my own personal word of thanks to each one of you for the part you have played, and the contribution you have made to our joint victory.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

VICTORY ORDER OF THE DAY.

9 May 1945

Men and Women of the Allied Expeditionary Force:

The crusade on which we embarked in the early summer of 1944 has reached its glorious conclusion. It is my especial privilege, in the name of all nations represented in this theater of war, to commend each of you for valiant performance of duty. Though these words are feeble, they come from the bottom of a heart overflowing with pride in your loyal service and admiration for you as warriors. Your accomplishments at sea, in the air, on the ground and in the field of supply have astonished the world. Even before the final week of the conflict, you had put 5,000,000 of the enemy permanently out of the war. You have taken in stride military tasks so difficult as to be classed by many doubters as impossible. You have confused, defeated and destroyed your savagely fighting foe. On the road to victory you have endured every discomfort and privation and have surmounted every obstacle ingenuity and desperation could throw in your path. You did not pause until our front was firmly joined up with the great Red Army coming from the east and other Allied forces coming from the south.

Full victory in Europe has been attained. Working and fighting together in a single and indestructible partnership, you have achieved a perfection in unification of air, ground and naval power that will stand as a model in our time. The route you have travelled through hundreds of miles is marked by the graves of former comrades. From them has been exacted the supreme sacrifice; blood of many nations — American, British, Canadian, French, Polish and others — has helped to gain the victory. Each of the fallen died as a member of the team to which you belong, bound together by a common love of liberty and a refusal to submit to enslavement. No monument of stone, no memorial of whatever magnitude could so well express our respect and veneration for their sacrifice as would perpetuation of the spirit of comradeship in which they died. As we celebrate

continued—over—

- 1 -

Victory Order Of The Day (contd)

victory in Europe, let us remind ourselves that our common problems of the immediate and distant future can be best solved in the same concentrations of cooperation and devotion to the cause of human freedom as have made this Expeditionary Force such a mighty engine of righteous destruction. Let us have no part in the profitless quarrels in which other men will inevitably engage as to what country, what service, won the European war.

Every man, every woman of every nation here represented has served according to his or her ability, and the efforts of each have contributed to the outcome. This we shall remember -- and in doing so we shall be revering each honored grave and be sending comfort to the loved ones of comrades who could not live to see this day.

/s/ DWIGHT D EISENHOWER

Reproduced - Hq 66 Inf Div APO 454
9 May 45 - HCS *ACI*

MEMORIAL SERVICE

*Adjacent to JONES BOWL
at 1930 hours
31 MAY 1945*



422^d INFANTRY REGIMENT

Col. W. B. Tuttle, Commanding

PROGRAM

Prelude - Marches by the 106th Division Band

The National Anthem

Invocation

Chaplain Day

Introduction of Speaker;

Chaplain Erskine

Memorial Message

Chaplain Veazie

Hymn

Led by Chaplain Barker

"Onward Christian Soldiers"

Onward Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before;
Christ the royal Master Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle, See His banners go.
Onward Christian Soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

Like a mighty army moves the Church of God;
Brothers we are treading where the saints have trod
We are not divided, All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, One in Charity.
Onward Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus Going on before.

Taps

Benediction

Chaplain Eakins

HEADQUARTERS 66TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 454

United States Army

ORDER OF THE DAY

10 May 1945.

Soldiers of the 66th Infantry Division and Attached Units.

With the ~~formal~~ surrender of German forces in the Lorient and St Nazaire pockets, 10-11 May 1945, soldiers of this command are privileged to witness a historic event--the obliteration of remnants of a Nazi super state which a few years ago threatened to enchain Europe.

Each one of you can proudly claim the praise and admiration won throughout the world by the dramatic deliverance of the Continent. The role assigned to you in this deliverance has been important in the battle strategy. The war of attrition waged by you against a numerically superior enemy during 133 days of sustained operations attests to your soldierly skill, tenacity and courage.

For those who have made the supreme sacrifice, both in direct action against the enemy and while enroute to the Continent, we pay our humble and sincere respects and pray that the peace for which they gave their lives will be just and lasting.



H. F. KRAMER
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

Name Thul, Frederick W

Grade Sgt

is authorized to be absent

From

Hour and Date

To

Hour and Date

To visit

No. A.

G.

S.

Circle one

No. A. G. S

PASS

(Circle one)

Good for not over 72 consecutive hours

Thul, Frederick W. Sgt 42006844

Name in Full

Grade

ASN

Company "K" 122nd Inf APO #113

Organization

APO No.

is authorized to visit:

NAMUR BELGIUM

From 1800-6-28-45 To 1800-7-1-45

Hour and Date

Hour and Date

Location of Lodging

ASCZ REST CAMP

Lucia & David 12th Inf
Name Grade Orgn
Commanding C 12 422

LT. L. CHIPINSKI

CANCELLATION

The soldier bearing this pass has been ordered to report directly to his unit. If found loitering he will be taken into custody and turned over to the military police.

Reason

Place

Date and Hour

Name

Grade

Orgn

APO No.

Show your pass only to officers, military and civil police requesting it and to Red Cross Clubs when registering.
Proxylactic stations are to be found at ARC clubs and at



SAFE CONDUCT

The German soldier who carries this safe-conduct is using it as a sign of his genuine wish to give himself up. He is, to be disarmed, to be well looked after, to receive food and medical attention as required, and is to be removed from the danger zone as soon as possible.

PASSIERSCHEIN

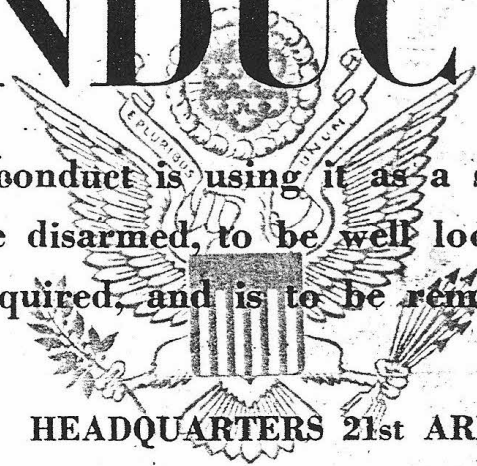
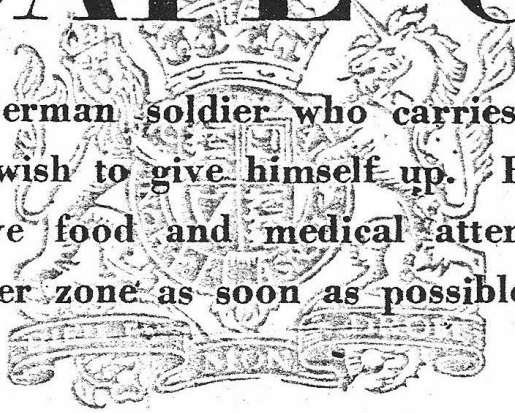
Auf Grund von Kapitel 2, Artikel 11, Vertragsnummer 846 der Genfer Konvention vom 27. Juli 1929 erhalten Kriegsgefangene Soldaten* in amerikanischen oder britischen Händen die gleiche Verpflegung wie Soldaten des amerikanischen oder britischen Heeres. Ihr Essen wird von Köchen aus ihren eigenen Reihen auf die Art ihres Landes zubereitet.

In Amerika oder Kanada erhalten Kriegsgefangene für ihre Arbeit innerhalb oder außerhalb des Lagers pro Tag 80 cents. Die Hälfte davon wird für die Zeit nach dem Krieg auf einer Bank hinterlegt, die andere Hälfte in Gutscheinen ausgezahlt, mit denen sich der Gefangene Marketerwaren wie Zigaretten, Süßigkeiten, alkoholfreie Getränke und dergleichen kaufen kann.

Den Kriegsgefangenen wird Gelegenheit geboten zur Abhaltung von Bildungs- und Lehrcursen, zur Ausübung von Sport und Spielen und zur Veranstaltung von Konzerten, Theateraufführungen und Vorträgen. Sie dürfen Zeitungen lesen und Rundfunk hören.

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HEADQUARTERS 21st ARMY GROUP.

PASSIERSCHEIN. An die britischen und amerikanischen Vorposten: Der deutsche Soldat, der diesen Passierschein vorzeigt, benutzt ihn als Zeichen für seinen ehrlichen Willen, sich zu ergeben. Er ist zu entwaffnen. Er muss gut behandelt werden. Er hat Anspruch auf Verpflegung und, wenn nötig, ärztliche Behandlung. Er muss so rasch wie möglich aus der Gefahrenzone entfernt werden.

AUF Grund von Kapitel 2, Artikel II, Vertragsnummer 864 der Genfer Konvention vom 27. Juli 1929 erhalten Kriegsgefangene in amerikanischen oder britischen Händen die gleichen Rationen wie Soldaten des amerikanischen oder britischen Heeres. Ihr Essen wird von Köchen aus ihren eigenen Reihen auf die Art ihres Landes zubereitet.

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HEADQUARTERS
ASCZ REST CENTER- NAMUR
ONE DAY PASS TO BRUSSELS

This pass entitles B Thul, Fred
name

Sgt 42006844
rank Serial No

To: 17.00 6/29/45
hours Date

WT Swanson

WILLIAM T. SWANSON
Lt Col. TC
C.O. ASCZ REST CENTER

72

HOURS of.....

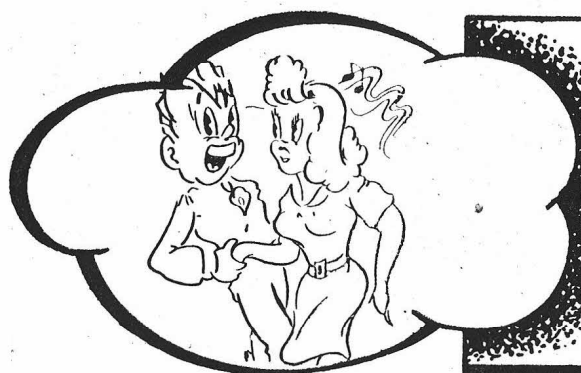
PARADISE



BELGIUM LEAVE SECTION ★ CHANNEL BASE SECTION

VOL : 1 N° 8 - JULY 1 - 1945.

BRUSSELS



DANCING

Dance to the music of Belgium's leading orchestra at G. I. Joes, (Place Fontainas) every night except Saturday at 1500 to 1800 and 1900 to 2300 hours. A floor show is an added attraction. Your pass is your ticket to entertainment.

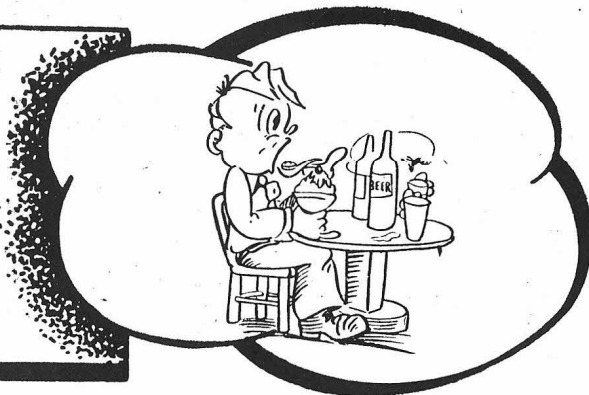
Every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings there is dancing at the Ardennes Club, ARC. Lovely girls present and the hours are from 7 until 11 P.M. Admission is free.

From 7,30 to 10 P.M. every night you can dance at the Metropole Hotel, A.E.F. Club. A wholesome supper is served for 10 Frs.

REFRESHMENTS

Refresh yourself with a beer, coke or dish of ice cream at G. I. Joes, Metropole Hotel or the Ardennes Club, ARC. Coffee and doughnuts are always served at the Red Cross.

A wide variety of gifts and souvenirs are sold at a discount to you in the new, modern Gift Shop in G. I. Joes. A P. X. department is also open at G. I. Joes.





SPORTS

SWIMMING. - There is nothing like a cool, refreshing swim at the St. Gilles Swimming Pool, rue de la Perche, on these hot summer days. The Pool is open everyday except Saturday from 0930 to 2030 Hours. Trunks are available at the Pool. Bring your own towel. A snack bar is also open for your use.

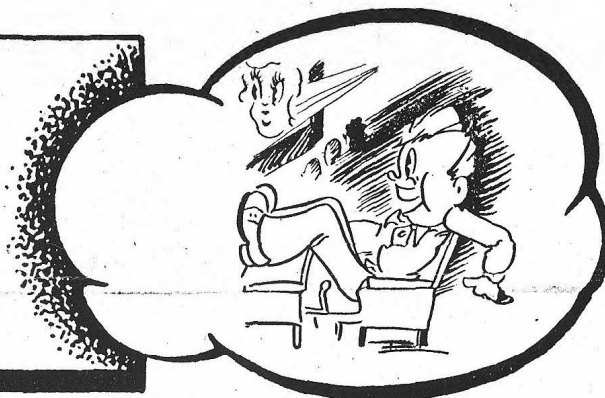
GOLF. - You can enjoy a pleasant round of Golf on the beautiful greens of the Royal Belgium Golf Club, (Tervueren Trolley 40 and 45). The Belgium Leave Section has placed Golf Clubs at the course. Golf balls are at the Leave Hotels.

TENNIS. - An afternoon of tennis at the La Rasante Tennis Club; (Rue Sombre), will provide you with a good workout and a beautiful tan. Tennis rackets are at the Club and balls at the Leave Hotels.

MOVIES & THEATRE

That famous combination of Claudette Colbert and Fred Mac Murray are together again in a new comedy riot, « Practically Yours » at the U.S. Army Metropole Theatre, (rue Neuve). Performances Sunday through Friday at 3.30, 5.30 and 7.30 P.M. Saturdays at 5.30 and 7.30 P.M. Free.

Belgium's leading stage performers in a gala Vaudeville show every night except Saturday at the ABC Theatre, (place Sainctelette). Cpl. Milt Moss, « G. I. Bob Hope » is Master of ceremonies and provides you with an evening of laughs. Doors open at 7 P. M. Show starts 7.30 P. M. You may bring one lady guest. Admission free.



**There is no need to « Sweat it out »
Just take a pro ! — And worry is out.**

PRO STATIONS : Hotel Metropole, Boulevard Adolphe Max
Georges Henri Club, Avenue Georges Henri
11th November Club, Avenue 11th November
Dispensary, 246, Rue Royale
48-50, Boulevard Adolphe Max
84, Rue de la Grande Ile - (Near G. I. Joes.)
Hotel Siru, (North Station).

**INDIANA
MILITARY**

Page last revised
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Organization