



In stocking feet before a small fire, an American fighter warms his goggles while his companion throws out stiff fingers, in the Belgian town of Foy. The soldiers are Technician Melvin Hunter (left), of Tyrone, Pennsylvania, and Staff Sergeant William Connor, North Cambridge, Massachusetts, on their way to rejoin the Third Army.

SIDELIGHTS ON THE FRONT



Meal time in the fighting zone. Kneeling in the snow, with heels for a seat, a blanket around his shoulders for added warmth, Thomas O'Brien of the Twenty-sixth Division, eats cold rations from a battered mess kit.



A German captured in the area of Geronst, Belgium, south of Malmedy while wearing United States Army shoes and pants is forced to remove them under the stern eyes of his captors. Information accompanying picture did not explain whether Nazi doctored appeared to pose as American soldier, or merely for added warmth.

(Associated Press Photo from Signal Corps)

TO AN American soldier at the front, war is not only fighting, tactics and strategy, but also a matter of personal everyday living involving food, clothing, alertness against the enemy, and whatever else is necessary to make his life as bearable—and lasting—as possible. Duty on the Western Front has been especially rigorous this winter, with snow and frigid weather adding to the hardships of difficult terrain and a desperate German defense. Pictures on this page give intimate glimpses of Americans in that theater at moments which emphasize that they are individuals as well as parts of a war machine.

(International News Photo except as noted)



A touch of America on the First Army front. Mess Sergeant of the Thirtieth Division polishes up the sign over entrance of his improvised kitchen in Belgium. Soldier carrying supplies needs a warning sign above his head.

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1945-02-04 Photos of the front

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