

### 30th Division Welcome Is Greatest Yet

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Aug. 22—The gallant fighting men of the 30th (Old Hickory) division, heroes of the battle of the bulge, who trained at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, were back on American soil today after ten months of bitter warfare.

The combat-hardened veterans lined the rails and crowded the portholes of the great gray liner Queen Mary as she nosed into New York harbor late Tuesday night beneath a full moon.

It was the greatest, noisiest welcome since V-E day for returning troops.

Bands and boat whistles serenaded them and hundreds of harbor craft outlined the giant vessel with searchlights. Thousands lined the shore to cheer and wave.

Aboard a "welcome home" boat, 200 girls began to sing:

"Hail, Hail the Gang's All Here . . ."

But the song died quickly as the cutter's captain quieted them.

"Not that song, please," he said.

"They don't like. All of that gang is not here."

Rockets and flares shot into the sky as the Queen slipped past Ft. Hamilton, and huge "welcome home" signs beamed from nearby military installations. The ship was ablaze with lights.

The 14,876 passengers aboard—most of them members of the Old Hickory division—yelled until they were hoarse. Proudly they waved huge banners bearing the Old Hickory insignia, a blue and white O. H.

The liner docked at Pier 90, off mid-Manhattan, and some 5,000 persons in holiday mood waited in the vain hope of seeing the men before they were sent on to Camp Kilmer and Camp Shanks. From the camps, most of the men will go to their homes on furlough.

The 30th division, which had a top role in stopping Marshal von Rundstedt's onslaught last December, is made up largely of men from Tennessee, Georgia and North and South Carolina.

Governor James McCord, of Tennessee, was on hand to welcome the men from his state, having flown to New York to meet the ship. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commanding general of the Army ground forces, led a home-coming party of more than 1,000 on four ships that met the liner.

1945-08-22 30th's welcome is greatest yet

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Sun, Dec 3, 2017