

32ND FOUGHT WAY TO OUR HEIGHTS, THENCE TO VESLE

Relieved 3rd in Front of Cierges After Baptism in Quiet Sector

GREAT WORK AT JUVIGNY

Crazy Artillery Fire Dazed Germans in Attack on Crucial Point Near River Oise

The division which deployed on the ground vacated by the 3rd, directly under the guns of one of the strongest positions that the Germans possessed between the Marne and the Vesle, and was charged with the duty of immediately attacking and conquering that position, was more strictly a new division than any other of those from the United States which had thus far taken part in the counter-offensive.

The 32nd Division, of which Maj. Gen. William G. Haan was in command, consisted of the 63rd Infantry Brigade (from Michigan) under Brig. Gen. William D. Connor, containing the 125th and 126th Infantry and 120th Machine Gun Battalion; the 64th Infantry Brigade (Wisconsin) under Brig. Gen. Edwin B. Winans, containing the 127th and 128th Infantry and 121st Machine Gun Battalion; the 57th Field Artillery Brigade under Brig. Gen. G. L. Roy, containing the 119th, 120th and 121st Field Artillery Regiments (from Michigan and Wisconsin) and the 14th Field Artillery Regiment (South Dakota); the 107th Engineer Regiment, and divisional troops.

The division had arrived in France early in March and been designated as the Replacement Division of the First United States Army Corps. In this capacity it continued to act, sending about half of its personnel given the proper instruction to other organizations, until April 15, when the imperative need of more troops at the front caused the 32nd to be made a "temporary combat division" and sent to the front for a course of four weeks, to a quiet sector in Alsace near a line in June it held a front of 27 kilometers.

Sent to Relieve 3rd

But it had experienced no heavy fighting whatever when, on July 19, it was hastily withdrawn from the Alsace sector and sent by train to the west of Soissons and then, by truck, to relieve the 3rd Division in front of Cierges. That under such circumstances the work of its tactical and staff units should have been so well conceived, so smooth and so uniformly successful as to render its performance in the present operations almost models of their kind, was one of the best proofs possible, if proof were still needed, of the rapid adaptability of American troops to the requirements of modern warfare.

The advance regiment of the division, the 125th Infantry, was leading down the tangled woods of Cierges and Grimpeux on the morning of July 20. The command of the sector did not pass to General Haan until 11 a. m. The 32nd Division in front had its troops advancing three and one-half hours later, after a preparatory fire of 20 minutes by the divisional artillery, and the 64th Division in front of the Bois de Grimpeux which by flanking fire were holding up the progress of the line on the 20th.

Under the lash of German shells and bullets the men probably did not feel just as they had upon the drill ground, but "instructions for the day" were not needed. The "Small Units" had told them precisely how such woods should be taken and they took them in precisely that way, while ahead of them moved a nicely adjusted barrage laid down by batteries, many of which had learned how to do it while acting as instruction batteries at various artillery schools of the A. E. F.

Enemy Attacks Flank

Immediately after they had traversed the woods, the enemy attacked their right flank viciously from the Bois de Cierges. But there was also a method prescribed for dealing with such attacks. Two companies were echeloned back on the right and, promptly throwing the Germans out, pursued them into the Bois de Cierges while the 24th Division proceeded northeast to Cierges village and, finding it evacuated by the Germans but full of gas, took up a line on the high ground just outside of it. The enemy may have had the best of them as they were division of new troops, to whom night attacks are supposed to be especially disconcerting; at any rate they tried one about 10 o'clock, dashing out of the great Bois de Cierges to sweep the ranks of Americans from the Bois de Cierges. The Americans, however, met them with the bayonet, and after half an hour of wolfish hand-to-hand combat, the German trees it was the Germans who fled back northeastward, leaving a large proportion of their numbers dead on the ground. While this was going on through the

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85,750 SHINY ONES ON WAY TO AMERICA

Prussian Guards' Helmets Will Help Sale of Liberty Bonds

The doughboy guards at Coblenz who kept the keys to the German warehouses where 85,750 shiny Prussian Guards' helmets were stored are reported to be ready to hand over the keys to the American government. The helmets are out of their custody at last and on their way back to the States. The warehouses in which they were stored are now being used for other purposes. The helmets are to be handed out back home to buyers of bonds of the Fifth Liberty Loan.

Meanwhile, traders on the A. E. F. Souvenir Bourse are eagerly watching the sale for the transatlantic quotations on Liberty Bonds. Word of the 85,750 helmets in one building leaped back through the A. E. F. almost before the advance guard of the Third Army settled in Coblenz. Mails from the rear areas of the A. E. F. to the Army of Occupation grew numerous and to large numbers. Every man in the A. E. F. had from six to 60 friends whose latest letters always said, after speaking pointedly of tigers and mufflers and the crossing of the Atlantic, "I am relying on you to get one of those 85,000 helmets for me."

The pressure of visitors to the warehouse grew so strong that the salvage office at Third Army Headquarters posted a big sign: "No More Helmets Given Out."

A. E. F. NEWSPAPER JUST A YEAR OLD; MEET VOLUME TWO

Fifty-Third Number, Half Million Strong, Goes Out Among Army

FIRST ISSUE UNDER 30,000

Loan from General Staff Set The Stars and Stripes Going—Yes, It's Paid Back

This issue opens the second volume of THE STARS AND STRIPES. It was a year ago tomorrow that the first number made its somewhat nervous appearance in the then not very populous regions of the A. E. F. Today's issue celebrates the anniversary—our first birthday.

THE STARS AND STRIPES has grown like a mushroom. In one short, crowded year it has become one of the best known and most widely circulated newspapers in the world. The difference between its lowly beginning and its present state can be measured and explained only by the difference between the A. E. F. of February, 1918, and the A. E. F. of February, 1919, an A. E. F. at the end of a year which saw the war won and its own strength expanded from less than 300,000 to the greatest expeditionary force that ever crossed the sea.

That first number came out on borrowed money and on borrowed paper and ran considerably short of the 30,000 it was brazenly supposed to be. Almost every line of it was written between errands by one buck private working in the office of field press headquarters at Neuchateau. Its cartoons were done at odd times on still older scraps of paper up in Damblaine, where the Marines were somewhat engrossed with the preparations for their first invasion of the trenches.

Over Half Million Mark

The last number of Volume One, printed in one of the most perfectly equipped plants in existence, ran over the half million mark, and the mark it did not run over the million mark because of the white paper for such a riot of circulation is simply not to be had. Nearly 100,000 copies were circulating on the Rhine front and in many more in the small staff in the pouches at the base ports for a chance at the home-going cargo space. Other batches of that issue are in every nook and cranny of the A. E. F. By this time, and copies, already on the way, will reach the Marne camp next week for the Yanks in Russia.

The present office, over the American Chamber of Commerce in Paris, seems like Madison Square Garden when compared with the first office of THE STARS AND STRIPES, where, in a hall behind the Hotel St. Anne, the original five got out the early numbers, with a cavalryman as the treasurer, counting over the first francs on one beer table and Wally drawing him down every afternoon. The original five staff wrote the pieces for the paper, wrapped and addressed the papers, and then carried them off to the train.

It is certainly true that THE STARS AND STRIPES—its purpose, its policy and its very name—was proposed and put through by Guy T. Visnikiski, formerly identified with the Wheeler Syndicate in New York and then a second lieutenant, detached from the 80th Division and serving as censor at American Field Press Headquarters, Neuchateau. THE STARS AND STRIPES was born of the needs of the A. E. F. and the energy of Captain Visnikiski. That energy broke down every objection and brushed aside the multitude of people (high and low, well meaning and otherwise) who said it couldn't and shouldn't be done.

To Captain Visnikiski, who remained as editor in charge until the armistice

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KAISER'S BIRTHDAY OBSERVED ON RHINE

French Help by Decorating 234 Members of 2nd With War Cross

It took the 2nd Division to celebrate fittingly the ex-Kaiser's birthday, January 27. The French helped. The Kaiser himself was unable to be present, owing to a previous engagement. He is reported to have sent a wire saying, "Am in Dutch." The Kaiser's birthday was celebrated on the heights above Vallendar, overlooking the Rhine and Coblenz, 234 members of the 2nd were decorated with Croix de Guerre. The ceremony was held in a heavy program of honor.

TRENCH COATS GIVEN O.K.

Officers returning to the United States will be allowed to wear their trench coats there after all, according to Circular 89, of the War Department. The orders read: "While it is most desirable that all officers should be required to abide strictly by the uniform regulations, it is realized that unnecessary hardship may occur at this time if officers who do not contemplate remaining in the Army after the present emergency are compelled to purchase service overcoats. Such officers will therefore be permitted to wear their trench coat during the present emergency."



The Owner of The Stars and Stripes

TRANSPORTS SAIL PAST GIBRALTAR; NEW CAMP READY

Artillerymen Who Depart from Marseille Boost Passenger List

Several thousand homegoing American soldiers have escaped the cold winds and storms of the North Atlantic by sailing out from the shores of France over the sun-warmed Mediterranean, as many A. E. F. outfits have embarked at Marseille in the last two weeks. Some of the transports from Marseille halted for a time at the fortress rock of Gibraltar before swinging into the southern Atlantic steamship route for the States.

The 191 officers and 1,582 enlisted men on board the Duc d'Aosta, which sailed from Marseille on January 29 had an opportunity to see the rock mountain which guards the Straits of Hercules. The vessel sailed from Gibraltar January 22. The men on this boat included the entire roll of the 32nd Field Artillery, units from the 32nd and 33rd Field Artillery and a detachment of casuals. The Duc d'Abruzzi sailed from Marseille on January 28 carrying the 48th Regiment, C. A. C., a detachment of the 14th Field Artillery, and casual officers and enlisted men. Eight trainloads of troops were sent from the Bordeaux embarkation center to Marseille in the last two weeks. They traveled under new conditions. Instead of the "Hommes 8" chevaux 8" cars of the ordinary troop train, they made the trip on large American box cars—forty cars to the train—and the trains were drawn by large German locomotives, some of those delivered to the Allies under the armistice terms.

Another new feature of the homegoing

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LEAGUE PROGRAM NEARS FRUITION IN PEACE PARLEY

Conviction Felt That Foundation Will Soon Be Definitely Laid

Formal announcement during the week that the commission which is laying the foundation for the League of Nations is "in agreement in principle" falls far short of expressing the feeling of certainty evidenced in diplomatic circles that this foundation will soon be completed—that the League will be a concrete achievement when President Wilson leaves for America to report to the present Congress, which will close March 4.

Meanwhile the Peace Conference passed another milestone on the highway of democracy with the announcement of a plan for dealing with the captured German colonies. This plan will assure the peoples of these colonies an equal voice in their government with their new administrators, who will be appointed by the League of Nations. Besides drawing up the constitution of the League itself, the Conference has made further progress by setting separate commissions to work on tasks the settlement of which will be deferred until after the Treaty of Peace is actually signed. Boundary disputes and conflicting territorial claims are being listened to, the question of the responsibility for the war is being studied, and the problems touching upon international labor are under consideration, all by separate groups, which will report to the Conference or to the League itself when it is formed.

Without officially recognizing any government or element in Russia, the Conference has given the various forces oppor-

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MORE GREASE ON SKIDS FOR AWOL'S; G. O. 10 WORKING

M.P. Motorcycle Corps to Comb Rural Districts for Absentees

PARIS "CRIME WAVE" BUNK

Army and French Secret Police, New D.C.I. and Q.M. Detectives All on Job

Going AWOL is on the way to becoming a lost art. Following the announcement two weeks ago of a plan whereby willful absentees are to be transferred to Labor Battalions which will be the last A. E. F. outfits to leave for home there comes the following further discouraging—for them—news:

An M.P. motorcycle corps will comb the country districts all over France for soldiers who have made themselves at home in small villages of the A. E. F. without letting their C.O.'s know about it. A new scheme of co-operation between all the American police agencies and the French secret police will help to make the AWOL's lot harder in the big cities, particularly at Paris.

A new Division of Criminal Investigation has been created in the office of the Provost Marshal General to which hundreds of former detectives and investigators now in the service are being sent. They will wear O.D. or civilian dress, as suits their purpose. Men of French and other nationalities will also be incorporated into the division.

Q.M.C. to Watch Supplies

On top of this, the Q.M.C. has gone in for detective protection of its own account by organizing the Protective Branch of the Inspection Division of the Chief Quartermaster's Office, which will safeguard Q.M.C. supplies from loss or pilferage, particularly at the hands of thieves. Principal sources of losses at present, it is stated, in addition to improper loading of supplies and improper protection of supplies from weather, are the use of unprotected cars which are somewhat to open both to the weather and to the chance pilferer, and looting of goods in Q.M.C. depots, rail road yards and sidings, and from cars in transit.

Meanwhile G.O. 10, which announced the establishment of the last-to-go Labor Battalions, is already having its effect. The ink had hardly had time to dry on the original draft of the order before droves of penitent AWOL's began to flock back to their outfits and put the roll call back on its feet. Divisions which had thought nothing of a few absent platoons are waking up to find themselves back at wartime strength.

TWELVE SERIOUS OFFENSES DECEMBER PARIS RECORD

Intonvertible figures show that criminal offenses committed in Paris are ascribed to members of the A. E. F. from January 1, 1918, to January 27, 1919, were, proportionately to the number of Americans in the city during that period, extraordinarily few.

An extensive report on the situation in Paris, as it affects the A. E. F., has been compiled by Brig. Gen. W. W. Harris, Commanding General, District of Paris, and submitted to Maj. Gen. James G. Harbord, Commanding General, S.O.S.

Seasonal accounts of crime attributed to American soldiers circulated in France and the United States are reported by Gen. Harris.

One of these reports, which crept into print, follows:

"The incapacity of this (the A. E. F.) police organization was shown lately. A statistical officer gives, in fact, for the

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S.O.S. INSIGNIA



G.H.Q. APPROVES SIX MARKINGS

Keystone Within Keystone for S.O.S. Toilers

SIX new shoulder insignia for different branches of the A. E. F. were approved at G.H.Q. this week among them one for the S.O.S. and one for G.H.Q. itself. Others authorized were for the Tank Corps, Regulating and Railroad Service, Ambulance Service and Chemical Warfare Service.

The S.O.S. marking will probably be worn by more members of the A. E. F. than any other shoulder insignia authorized. It will be optional for all officers, men, field clerks, Army nurses and civilian employees in all base sections and the intermediate section and will be worn to the exclusion of all other insignia for organizations within the organization of the S.O.S. It will not be worn, however, by troops of the District of Paris or the Advance Zone.

S.O.S., says the Tours order authorizing the insignia, is known the world over as "the call of assistance for those in distress. Whenever called upon by our combat troops," it declares, "we never failed to respond promptly and cheerfully. The S.O.S. was the keystone of the arch of the A. E. F., without which the structure could not have stood the enormous pressure placed upon it."

The colors in the design were chosen for their significance, the order explains: the red representing "the sincerity of our endeavor and tireless devotion" and the blue symbolizing "the trustworthiness of our faithful assistance."

"There being no independent unit in the S.O.S., teamwork being the prime of our success," says the order, "no other insignia will be authorized."

Whether these shoulder insignia can be

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CHATEAU-THIERRY ALREADY MECCA FOR SIGHTSEERS

Souvenir Shops Flourish Amid Roofless Ruins of Marne City

There is a great clattering of hammers in Chateau-Thierry today, where in the yesterday of last summer machine guns hammered ceaseless echoes between the burning buildings and against the hill above the Marne.

The Germans are in Chateau-Thierry again, but they are making leaves on the sides of wrecked shop fronts and stringing telephone and electric light wires, under the direction of French guards. The bridgehead of the Marne looks across a new bridge, but it is a temporary wooden bridge mounted on rafts. The stone buildings at both ends of the bridge still are fresh with the scars of the bridgedestroying battle—great jagged places in the walls where shells struck, severely a square yard that is not bored and chipped from rifle and machine gun bullets.

Chateau-Thierry is busy with her reconstruction. New glass is taking the place of hastily nailed boards on the shop fronts, the shell holes in the roofs are being spanned with new tile and weakened walls are being stiffened with concrete and stone. Most of the inhabitants are back, although rows of roofless houses in some streets tell plainly that many have not returned.

Ready for New Invasion

But even in her work of rehabilitation, Chateau-Thierry is conscious of her place in American history. She knows she will be a center for pilgrims from across the ocean, and the past few weeks she has seen the beginning of that great tide of traveling Americans which will soon be pouring in upon her.

A hotel in the open—you can even find it at night among the wrecked houses, because it stands out whole-walled and roofed. The shops which have scarcely begun to rebuild are wooden barricades and replacing the panes are already full of battle souvenirs intended to appeal to Americans. The name "Chateau-Thierry" is stamped upon them, and makes them sell, even though they are new and brassy and obviously the product of some machine. The same souvenirs are probably already being hawked by the five and ten cent stores of New York.

Every train from Paris leaves its band of pilgrim Americans. They arrive by day and night, and the American uniform is always in sight. Scores of soldiers on permission from ports make their first stop here on their way to the battlefields.

Old-Timers Return

Officers and soldiers on short permission hurry through the streets toward Chateau-Thierry and the sacred corner toward Fismes and Soissons. Many of them had been over all that territory when the 2nd Army Division was being organized in that great German drive on Paris. Army nurses, with plenty of spare time while they are waiting for boats to take them back to the States, were busy checking Chateau-Thierry, buying souvenirs and hauling innumerable postcards.

Meanwhile, the old residents of the town come out and smile upon all this changing procession. They look forward to the coming of summer and sunshine, and calculate the attraction of each bullet-marked wall. Hotels for tourists will rise upon foundations that once held towers of stone that kept in aristocratic seclusion behind iron fences and stone walls.

There are plenty of battlemarks on Chateau-Thierry's walls, and Chateau-Thierry will keep many of them to show what she has suffered—the clock in the railroad station, for instance, pierced by a German bullet. The only hotel now open has as attractions beds with bullet-pierced wooden panels, doorknobs washed with machine gun bullets, rows of holes in door and window casings, made when the fighting was from house to house.

50,000 SOLDIERS RESPOND TO A. E. F.'S OWN SCHOOL CALL

Twelve thousand to Be Admitted to University of Bordeaux Courses

20,000 3rd ARMY STUDENTS

Almost as Many for First, While 11,000 Attend Classes in Vicinity of St. Mihiel

Twenty thousand men of the Third Army and 19,000 of the First Army have enrolled as students in Army Post Schools to be conducted under the auspices of the Army Educational Commission, it was announced this week at G.H.Q.

The school bell is ringing in many parts of the A. E. F. In the Ninth Army Corps, now stationed in the vicinity of St. Mihiel, it was stated, 11,000 men are already attending classes. In regions further south, including Bordeaux, where the famous University of Bordeaux is preparing to receive 1,200 American students, post schools and colleges are being got ready. The exploitation of the Dijon area is a possibility of the near future.

Under the terms of G.O. 9, G.H.Q., divisional schools, where men may take work corresponding to high school courses and also vocational work, are to be opened in all divisions, hundreds of former college and academy professors are being withdrawn from various branches of the A. E. F. and sent to direct and teach these schools, and thousands of text books are being shipped to them. The plan is to make these divisional schools continuous in operation, having them move with the divisions when they are ordered to move forward, breaking up only when the outfits are mustered out of home.

Work in Higher Branches

For the higher branches of education, courses are being organized in several of the larger English and Scottish universities will be offered as previously announced, to duly qualified applicants—those who have completed the high school and academy courses and who wish to continue interrupted undergraduate studies or take up post-graduate work. But, in addition, the A. E. F. will be offering a college of its own, entirely complete in equipment, bureaus, classrooms, teaching staff and text books, at Nevers.

Taking a course in one of the foreign languages in the A. E. F. is not, however, mean that a man will be stuck here if his unit is ordered back. The privilege will be extended, so it is planned, that officers and men may attend them, choose whether they want to go home with their units or stay and finish their course. In addition, all officers and men, while taking such courses, will be encouraged to get detached service and will draw their full pay.

The subjects being taught in such post-graduate schools are: First and Third Army Corps areas include education and advanced French; French history; governmental institutions of the Allied countries; sociology; drawing; architecture; civics; English and French literature; the literature; causes of the present war; use of gas engines; arithmetic, algebra and trigonometry; shorthand; and for elementary students, reading, writing and spelling.

To Make Field Trips

The effort is to make all the courses as practical as possible. In the course in architecture, for example, which is under the direction of a former professor at the University of California, the class visits and inspects various types of buildings throughout the corps area, including old forts and castles.

For the divisional schools a divisional school officer has been appointed in each of those units now in France. Under him are to be appointed divisional school officers, reporting to him and extending the program laid down. In each division, also, there will be appointed from the Army personnel a man with library experience to act as director of the divisional school, co-operation with the divisional school officer to secure the needed text and reference books.

The American Library Association will appoint from its own personnel for each Army or Army Librarian to have general supervision of the divisional book distribution and to coordinate the representatives at the more important centers in the S.O.S. A central library and distribution center will be established for the Third Army.

The educational books to be provided by the A. E. F. comprise about 1,600 titles. It is expected that, as soon as the basic library has been established, the S.O.S. centers have been established, the necessary books that may be called for will be delivered either by a weekly courier service or by mail. The rock-bottom text books, such as the French-English dictionary, will not be supplied by the A. E. F., but from G-5, the training section of the General Staff at G.H.Q., under whose direction the Army educational scheme is being shaped.

To Overcome Language Difficulty

The language difficulty in connection with work in the French universities is one of the most serious. It will be overcome by intensive courses in French to prospective students for several weeks before the beginning of the regular university courses. Much of the instruction, though, will be in English, either through the medium of French professors who know the language or Americans assigned to lecture and translate.

At the University of Bordeaux, however, all the courses will be given in French. As a sample of the accommodations to be provided by the French universities, the Bordeaux faculty has agreed to admit about 500 Americans to its law school and about 200 to its medical school. To the latter only those men will be admitted who have had at least two years' study in American medical schools.

The scientific school will accommodate about 200 Americans, and of this number ten specially qualified men will be allowed to take the course in astronomy at a nearby observatory. The remainder of the university's quota will be eligible for the regular general course in French literature, history and arts.

As to the agricultural program embodied in the Army's educational scheme, the farmers' institute courses which closed last year were a success. They were given at 24 different camps in Base Section No. 2 and the attendance ranged from 300 to 500 or more. So many of the courses were successful that it is now proposed to have permanent agricultural training staffs at each of the larger camps in the section, under the general charge of Maj. Gen. F. Dowling. At the embarkation camp of the Bordeaux region, where the men stay only a few days before being shipped home, lectures on agriculture, accompanied by motion pictures are to be arranged.