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# The 65th Halbert

## Division Daily News Letter

X 97 MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1945 V-E +42


# AUSSIES ADVANCE 6 MILES: AIM AT RICH OIL FIELDS

### 9th Div Drives North Of Brunei Toward Seria

Australian 9th Division troops, yesterday, pushed more than six miles directly north of recently captured Brunei town in the Brunei Bay region of northwest Borneo in a drive aimed at the Seria oil fields 40 miles beyond.

The oil fields, one of the richest in the world, yielded more than five per cent of the British Empire's crude oil before the war.

**Airstrip**

A communique from the headquarters of Gen of the Army MacArthur, Allied Supreme Commander of Pacific ground and air operations, said, yesterday, that the Brunei airstrip, which was overrun three days ago, will be in operation tomorrow and will be able to harbor planes for attacks on points as far distant as Singapore.

Off the east coast of Borneo, Australian troops on Terakan Island, yesterday, were still

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# REPORT PARRI WILL FORM ITALIAN GOVT

Italy's 8-week political jumble seemed headed for solution, yesterday, when BBC correspondent Jack Nixon reported from Rome that Senior Parri, already mentioned for the premiership, has held talks with Prince Umberto, lieutenant general of the realm, and would be able to form a government.

The exact nature of the government was not known, yesterday, as the attitude of the powerful Socialist and Communist parties had not been reported. Last week the two parties had stated that they would not support a government headed by Parri.

After seeing the Prince, yesterday, Parri held a meeting with the secretaries of the six liberation parties which will have to form the coalition government.

**Cleared Italy**

Parri is little known outside of Italy but is well known to Allied military men who knew him as one of the three chiefs of the Italian partisan effort that cleared northern Italy.

## Special Service Shows

**The 265th Eng (C) Bn will be visited, tonight, by the Brantner traveling vaudeville unit while the Cortez team will journey to the airport to perform for the men of the 28th Evac Hospital. The third Special Service feature, the Straub Concert Artists, will perform for the men of the 260th Inf.**

**The 261st's soldier-show, "News and Reviews", will be seen, tonight, by the men of the 365th Med Bn.**

# 61 ARE HURT IN FRENCH ATTACK

### Chambery Citizens Raid Train Of Returning Spaniards

Sixty-one Spanish citizens are in a Chambery, France hospital, this morning, following an attack yesterday, by Chambrey citizens on a trainload of Spaniards being returned to Spain through France and Switzerland from Germany. Most of the Spaniards on the train were workers from German war factories but a few were Spanish diplomatic representatives.

The French government, in a report, yesterday, said none of the passengers on the train were members of the Spanish

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## Jap Suicides

Suicide must have been yesterday's Jap order of the day as marines and infantry on Okinawa report that their mopping up progress in the Yapudake escapement was made much easier by wholesale Jap suicides with enemy soldiers blowing themselves to their honorable ancestors all along the remaining few-mile battle line.

The mopping up progress is bound to be a slow job, a US 10th Army communique warned, as Japs are hiding in every cave along the high ridges of the escapement.

## 45 Days Home

**Occupation troops are to get 45-day vacations in the United States, according to a letter by Maj Gen Ulio, Army Adjutant General, which was made public, yesterday, by Representative Fuller of Massachusetts.**

**At the discretion of the Theater Commander, Gen Ulio said, enlisted men and officers will be placed on 45-day detached service and sent to the United States.**

# TRUK WEAK, RAID BY NAVY SHOWS

### British Task Force Says Jap Fortress Is No Threat

Results of a two-day British naval and air attack on Jap-held Truk Island, Thursday and Friday, were released, yesterday, and reveal that the once great enemy naval base, called the Jap "Pearl Harbor", is no longer a potent factor in the Pacific war.

The British task force whose planes hit Truk's airfields, docks and radio stations, reported very little enemy activity on the major Caroline island and reported only light flack and "almost no air opposition".

Early in the war Truk was the strongest Pacific base the enemy could boast. Following the US Navy's attack of just over a year ago and the subsequent invasion of the Philippines by General MacArthur's troops, which by-passed the base, Truk, according to the British report, has become "a secondary naval station no longer able to retard the Allied effort".

# GAIN 5 MILES ON LUZON: 30,000 JAPS IN CAGAYAN

# CHINESE LAUNCH CANTON ATTACK

### Push Within 150 Miles Of City: Aim For Juncture

Striking directly east in a new drive, units of the Chinese 1st Army, yesterday, were reported to be within 150 miles of Canton in a drive aimed at forming a juncture with the other Chinese forces pushing down from Foochow, along the China Sea opposite Formosa.

The twin drives put the Japs in the position of either moving their troops northwest into more solidly held Jap territory or of evacuating their forces. The Chinese report that their drive toward Canton has, thus far, met only light enemy resistance.

## Steam Baths

The Linz Park Bath and Shower establishment announced that steam baths will be available to 65th Division personnel on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. EMs will use the facilities in the morning, while Officers hours are from 1200 to 2000.

At the present time three swimming pools are in operation. Two outdoor pools cater to Officers and EMs respectively. On rainy days, a large indoor pool serves both Officers and EMs in accordance with the same hour-schedule as is set up for the steam baths.

### Philppine Guerilla Unit Hits Japs Near Aparri

A gain of five miles putting the most advanced units 25 miles down the Cagayan valley, was announced, yesterday, by General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters which stated that the gain was made against only slight opposition.

The American tank and infantrymen expect to meet heavy opposition within the next few days, however, the report indicated, because it stated that more than 30,000 Japs are known to be ahead of the American forces in the vast green swamps of the valley.

**Guerrillas**

To the north of the advancing Americans, Philippine guerrillas, were reported, yesterday, to have struck at Jap defense points around the rim of the objective port of Aparri, closest Luzon point to Formosa.

In the air battles, yesterday, Manila-based medium bombers continued their attacks on Formosa while other planes ranged over China and the China Sea.

# 259th ACCEPTS 261 TRACK MEET OFFER

The 259th was the first unit in the division to accept the invitation of the 261st to participate in the July 4th track meet being sponsored by the latter.

Candidates for the 259th team have already begun working out, and many more men of that regiment are expected to turn out soon. In addition to having the use of the sponsoring unit's track, the 259th, itself, has provided a wealth of the needed equipment for its team members.

An inventory of the athletic facilities available to the men in the regiment reveals that the local doughs probably have the best all-around sports equipment in all Austria. Some of the facilities which the bustling Athletic Section of the SSO has built or rounded up includes 2 volley ball courts, a badminton court, 2 horseshoe pitching pits, 2 basketball courts, adjustable hi-lo hurdles, high jump equipment, shot put equipment, dis-

(Cont. on Page 2)

# 65th Men Start Berchtesgaden Visits Today: Trains Will Leave Daily For Hitler's Retreat

This is Where Im going tomorrow 18 JUNE 45

Adolf Hitler's bombed-out mountain retreat and other points of interest in an around Berchtesgaden will be viewed for the first time, today, by 65th Division men when 200 local GI's make a Special Service tour starting at 0645 this morning.

An equal number of men will make the trip daily, for the next several weeks, according to an announcement by Major C. D. Monsson, Division SSO.

**Five Hour Trip**

First class coaches operated by transportation personnel of the 3rd Army will leave from the Linz main railroad station and will make successive stops at Wels (0745) and Lambach (0820) for troops located in these areas. The 95 mile trip to the ex-Hitler hide-out will take a little less than five hours with the men scheduled to arrive at 1130. They will eat "K" and "C" rations, on arrival and then be taken on a conducted tour through the town and the former capital of what failed to be the Nazi Redoubt.

From the train, GI's will travel two miles by foot to the Nazi lair. Guides will take the visitors up for a close inspection of Hitler's concrete-and-steel headquarters, the SS barracks, and buildings formerly occupied by Goebbels, Goering and other Nazi big-wigs. The latter's favorite "toy", the specially constructed, private train, may also be open for inspection.

Herman's 50-million dollar collection of looted art, however, will probably be "off limits" to the 65th Division. Lt Warren E. Lueder, assistant SSO who made the trip Wednesday says that it is now under a strong 24-hour guard as a consequence of the recent theft of a pair of 30-thousand dollar paintings, and the damaging of a Van Dyke portrait, valued at 45,000 dollars. The excursionists will also miss an inspection of the Berchtesgaden „Eagle's Nest", which overlooks a wide panorama of the Austrian Alps, because it is too far up the mountain to make the five hour return trip at 1600.

**If You Have Any**

So that 65th personnel will get full benefit of Berchtesgaden scenery, Lt Lueder suggests that GI's bring their binoculars. Camera fans will find spectacular pictures at Hitler's chalet, since it is „up in the clouds", 5,000 feet above sea level, where the sight-seer looks down through lowhanging mists upon snow-capped peaks on all sides. The Lieutenant makes the practical suggestion that tourists come equipped with raincoats, since Berchtesgaden weather is unpredictable. As permanent guard details are provided, it will not be necessary to bring weapons.

GI's will leave with a souvenir of the visit -- a descriptive map showing the location of Hitler's beaten-up hide-out and other noteworthy buildings and installations.

## Baseball

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

StL 3 Det 2; Bos 1 Phl 0
Chi 4 Clv 3

| | W | L | Pct. | | W | L | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Det | 27 | 18 | .600 | Chi | 24 | 24 | .500 |
| NY | 27 | 19 | .587 | Wsh | 21 | 23 | .477 |
| Bos | 24 | 23 | .510 | Clv | 20 | 25 | .444 |
| StL | 23 | 23 | .500 | Phl | 17 | 28 | .378 |

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

NY 7 Phl 5; Chi 8,3 Cin 1,0
Pit 5 StL 2; Brk 9 Bos 8

| | W | L | Pct. | | W | L | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pit | 30 | 20 | .600 | StL | 26 | 23 | .531 |
| Brk | 29 | 20 | .591 | Bos | 24 | 24 | .500 |
| NY | 29 | 21 | .580 | Cin | 22 | 26 | .458 |
| Chi | 25 | 22 | .532 | Phl | 12 | 41 | .209 |

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# Battlefields Awards

SILVER STAR to: First Lieutenant Lewis B. Arnold, Jr., 261st Infantry. BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Oak Leaf Cluster) to: First Sergeant Chief T. Saul, 260th Infantry. BRONZE STAR MEDAL to: First Lieutenant Dalton C. Bartlett, 259th Infantry; Technician Fourth Grade Charles N. Bassham, Jr., Medical Department, 259th Infantry; Major Theodore H. Black, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Technical Sergeant Daniel J. Boudreaux, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Technical Sergeant Thomas G. Brown, 259th Infantry; First Lieutenant Samuel A. Buffington, 260th Infantry; Technician Fourth Grade Roy L. Conrad, 720th Field Artillery Battalion; First Sergeant Vernon Cooper, 720th Field Artillery Battalion; First geant Dan DeGiulio, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Staff Sergeant Eugene J. DeMaertelaere, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Sergeant Woodrow D. DiMonda, 261st Infantry; Technical Sergeant Albert M. Estrada, 259th Infantry; Technical Sergeant Neal M. Fenati, 260th Infantry; Second Lieutenant James H. Finke (then Sergeant), 259th Infantry); Private First Class Kenneth E. Goodwin, 260th Infantry; First Lieutenant Elmer C. Goss, 259th Infantry; Staff Sergeant Lawrence W. Hildreth, 261st Infantry; First Lieutenant Earl J. Knotts, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Corporal Jesus M. Leiva, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Technician Fifth Grade Edward Maklakiewicz 365th Medical Battalion; Staff Sergeant Walter C. Mc Connell, 720th Field Artillery Battalion; Private First Class Joseph P. McGarry, 260th Infantry; Master Sergeant Kenneth C. Moore, 720th Field Artillery Battalion; Private First Class Cecil P. Morris, 259th Infantry; Corporal William J. Murphy, Jr., 720th Field Artillery Battalion; Private First Class Nial W. Ogle, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Private First Class Carmine Petrillo, Medical Department, 259th Infantry; Private First Class Robert F. Schumann, 259th Infantry; Private First Class Reginald H. Scott, 259th Infantry; Private First Class Eric C. Sutherland, 261st Infantry; Major Edward A. Thayer, 260th Infantry; First Lieutenant Henry M. Wingert, 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

# MINITURE GOLF IS LATEST INNOVATION

The first miniature golf course to be built by Allied soldiers in the ETO is now being constructed by the 259th Infantry.

Situated in Urfahr, right on the bank of the beautiful but doubtfully blue Danube, the course will provide a full 18 holes of the diminutive sport for the regiment's dogfaces.

Cpl Sherman Hoover, regimental athletic noncom, warns that the course will be a difficult one, and will have both man-made and natural obstacles. Among these will be bunkers, hedges, sand traps, and trees. The 18th hole will be set into the side of a 14-foot slope. An effort is being made to provide a water hazard, although no running water is located within convenient distance. A suggestion that the Danube River be used as a water hazard has been rejected.

Also rejected was the suggestion that a team of midget infantrymen be recruited to challenge all comers at the pee-wee sport.

## Aussies Advance

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engaged in the slow job of digging cut-off Japs out of caves and holes in the northern part of the oil-rich island.

Jap radio, yesterday, continued to tell of an air and naval attack on the Borneo east coast port of Balikpapan, but there was no Allied confirmation.

## Movie Schedule

**259th Inf: (Div Hq, Sp Trps) "My Pal Wolf". Central Theater, Linz 1430 and 1900.**

**261st Inf: "Man In White".**

**365th Med Bn: "Doughgirls".**

# U-BOATS SANK 111 SHIPS OFF FLORIDA

A total of 111 American vessels were hit by German U-boats off the coast of Florida in 1942 and 1943, the Navy Department announced, yesterday. In the attacks 880 American seamen lost their lives.

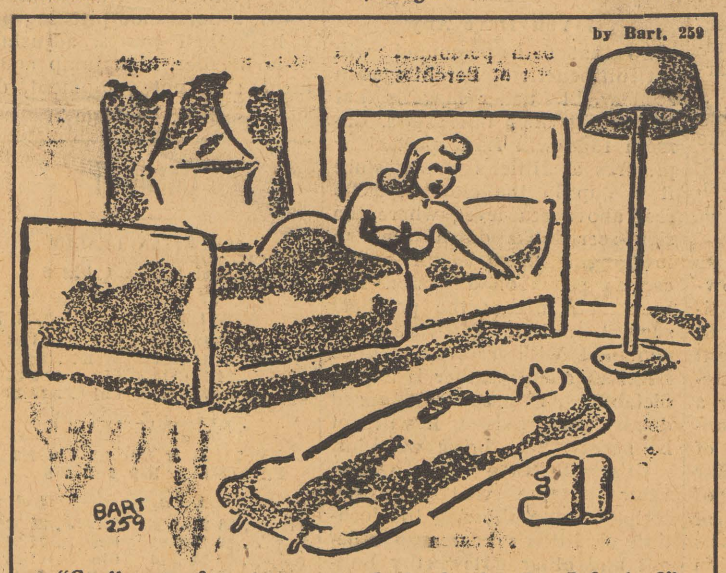
The attacks were at their height in 1942, the report said, when 107 ships were hit and 92 of them sunk. There were only 4 attacks in 1943 as the naval sub defense increased and in 1944 and 1945 not a single U-boat was able to score a hit.

## 61 Are Hurt

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Blue Division which fought with Germany during the war. The attack, according to latest reports, was a well planned adventure with the attackers breaking in the windows of the train to get at the passengers.

French railroad guards and the quickly alerted Chambery police are cerdited with saving the women, mostly nurses, from danger.




**"Can't you forget you used to be in the Infantry?"**

# NO TAX WORRY FOR RETURNED SOLDIERS

Servicemen returning to the United States on their way to the Pacific or those in the US for discharges will not be bothered by Mr. Morgenthau's tax collectors for the time being, according to a report, yesterday, by the Army News Service.

The ANS quotes a US tax collector as saying that the orders state that a veteran on his way to the Pacific will still be considered under the income tax waver which exempts all overseas personnel from immediate reckoning with the Treasury Department. Men to be discharged, the ANS continued, will not be expected to start payments until after five and a half months in the States.

At present there is a bill before the Congress to forgive all overseas veterans any income tax on money paid for their service outside the country.

# 260th PLANS TRACK MEET FOR SATURDAY

Plans for an elaborate track and field meet for participation by 260th Infantry Regiment athletes to be staged at the 65th Division Athletic Field on Union Strasse, Linz, on Saturday 23 June, were completed yesterday at a meeting held by Battalion Athletic officers.

Feature of the afternoon's run is expected to center in the one mile relay and the hundred yard dash with outstanding performers having signified their intentions of entering. Other events will include the 220 yard, 440 yard, individual mile and mile and two mile relays, which are likewise well supplied in top notch talent.

Field events will embrace the shotput, javelin, high and broad jumps, and these too are expected to provide a real battle.

Lt. Alan Eastwick, 260th SSO, assisted by Cpl. Bertucci and Pfc Dobner, is in charge of the program, which is expected to be a highlight in the summer athletic program now underway.

## BLACK MARKET

In an attempt to put a stop to the black market on meat, the Detroit council, Saturday, passed a law that forbids residents of Detroit to cross the national boundary into Windsor, Ontario to purchase any food stuffs.

## HOPE COMING

Bob Hope is flying to Europe, today, to make his second tour of Army units in the ETO. With Hope is Jerry Colona and an all-star cast.

No schedule for the Hope tour has been announced.

## CABINET MEETS

The Belgium cabinet will hold a meeting, this morning, after threatening to resign following the announcement that King Leopold had decided to return to Belgium.

The cabinet, dominated by Socalists, had urged the King to stay out of the country.

## FIRE

A small fire, Saturday night near the barracks of the 28th Evacuation Hospital was quickly extinguished by the 65th Div MP's and the Medics.

The Linz Fire Department arrived in time to go home.

**"RIGHT TO BE PROUD"**

The delivery schedule for the rest of the booklets follows:

**Monday, 18 June**

1700 - - 260th Inf
1710 - - 261st Inf
1720 - - 808 TD Bn
1730 - - 748 Tk Bn

## Leaves "Margie"

**The guy who got into S/Sgt Johnny Nagy's music portfolio must be a critic.**

**Nagy, whose MOS is message center chief and whose MCO is pianist and arranger, recently left the brief case containing his music and notes in one of the theaters played by the 259th Dance Band. Among the papers were three of Nagy's own arrangements for the band - "Margie," "Swanee River," and (beg honorable pardon) "Nagasaki." When Nagy returned to get the forgotten portfolio, only "Margie" was there.**

**Of course, he'd like to get the other two arrangements back, so that he can use the tunes to entertain his buddies in the regiment. But Nagy's artistic pride is outraged, too. He says his "Margie" arrangement is the best of the three, and that if any music was taken, it should have been "Margie." If the critic will return "Swanee" and "Naga", Nagy is willing to prove it by having the band play all three numbers for him.**

# 259 REBUILDS KINO THEATER FOR SHOWS

**By Len Savage**

Now that the bustling doughfeet of the 259th are situated in Linz and vicinity, Urfahr's modern but much-bombed Kino Theater is undergoing what the trade calls extensive alterations, as well as a rechristening.

The 259th, be it remembered, was the outfit that was able to build three huge outdoor stages amongst the manure mounds that were its former domain, so it wasn't phased a bit when replanning of a cinema palace was prescribed.

Having been exclusively a film theater, the old Kino has an apology for a stage, and any old actor will tell you that you simply can't emote on an apology. So, the present stage, which is not quite 7 feet deep by 24 feet wide, is now being enlarged to a depth of 14½ feet, and will boast a curved front (No, fellas, it won't be Jane Russell). To do this, the 259th has had to rip out the first three rows of seats.

The number of problems which have arisen, and been licked, are legion. Quite by chance, it was discovered that the enlarged stage could not be seen from balcony front, because of the balcony rail. That was solved by raising the entire stage one foot. But that made it impossible to see the top of the movie screen, so the screen was lowered a foot.

Extending the stage almost 8 feet into the orchestra, it was found, would cause the stage lights to reflect onto the ceiling and out into the audience. That called for the construction of a mask over the extension. And the stage curtains must now be moved forward to the new "stage front". The curtains are operated electrically, which calls for some complicated wire work.

The Kino has been renamed, unmistakably, the 259th Theater. It has a seating capacity of 453, and will seat considerably more when the doughboy decorators finish installing several new rows.

The alterations are proceeding despite a shortage of adequate tools. One Mr. Fixit, who had to cut down a 2X4, was caught reaching for Pfc Charles Bandi's singing saw!

Among the bomb-damaged sections of the theater is the vitally important pissoir. But the gnomes are at work, and that, too, will soon play to standing room.

# ALL SERVICES ASK PEACE TIME DRAFT

All branches of the service have joined in asking the Congressional post war military committee to recommend a peacetime draft bill. Latest pleas came, yesterday, from Admirals Nimitz and Halsey who pointed out that "no other workable solution to America's defense problem has been offered".

Admiral Nimitz went on to say that "if there is a next war, America will feel the full weight, at least, in bombing raids".

In Saturday's committee meeting, Marine officers joined the other services in asking for the draft. They echoed statements already made in favor of the bill by Gen's of the Army Marshall and Eisenhower and Secretary of War Stimpson.

# 261 SUPER SERVICE INCLUDES HAIRCUT

American super-service garage-service was gone one better when, to the long list of windshield wiping, free air, and change of oil, the 261st Motor Pool added a shave and a hair-cut.

Enterprising T/5 Fred A. Goeldner, Sv Co, 261st, is responsible for an assembly line of 21 German PWs which starts with a jeep wash, and ends with freshly puffed tires, while the driver gets a head clipping under the skillful scissoring of an ex-Wehrmacht barber. Fifteen minutes, and both driver and jeep leave the motor pool in "prima" condition.

**How It Works**

Here is how the "261st Maintenance Roundhouse" works.

A jeep pulls into th Regimental Motor Pool, and the driver is immediately whisked off to the German tonsorialist. Meanwhile, a carefully handpicked crew of former Wehrmacht garagemen are working over the jeep. First stop is the washing and cleaning section where the vehicle is hosed from hood to tail-light. Then two more Krauts take over to tighten bolts and nuts, while another specialist sews torn canvas and irons out body dents. Further along, motor washers and lubricators go to work, with painters next in line.

While the barber is taking the last little bit off the top, a German „Roundhouse" serviceman checks the tires of the driver's jeep. Then, on schedule, the reconditioned driver and newly conditioned vehicle leave the 261st's production line.

## 259 Accepts

(Cont. from Page 1)

cus throw materials, and pole vault equipment.

In addition, the now-famous 259th Gnomes have built a regulation boxing ring, and the regiment's pugilists are already working out and looking for opponents. The ring, as well as all the track and field facilities, are located in Urfahr, on the Danube, at the old Urfahr Boathouse, now titled "The 259th Boat & Athletic Club".

Only 300 yards from the boathouse, a baseball diamond has been set up and is now in condition to be used.

## 259 SV WINS

Behind the pitching of Pfc "Frenchy" Lefebvre and Sgt. "Ole" Olsen, the diamondmen of 259th Service Company sent the strong 65th QM softball team down to defeat Saturday, 6 to 3.