

The RAINBOW REVEILLE

Rainbow Division Veterans



Vol. XXIV

MAY, 1945

No. 7

OUR RAINBOW DIVISION

President's Message
May Issue, 1945

The landing of the first contingent of our Rainbow Division was greeted by the sight of a rainbow in its path—visions of the Rainbow of '17. It was billeted in some of the old familiar billets we occupied. The first official announcement that on Christmas Day the Rainbow Division was in action, brought with it familiar place-names to us. Rainbow treading again over the same ground as did we, brought memories. From that day to Rainbow's triumphant march into Munich (latest official release we have of its progress), Rainbow history has continued in its finest traditions. History swinging another of those cycles which constitute its colorful fabric.

The sterling leadership displayed by Major General Harry J. Collins during the many important operations against fanatical resistance in which our Division took part, is reflected in the completeness of the accomplishment of his command. Decisions had to be made, risk calculated; the correctness of these decisions is confirmed repeatedly by the effectiveness of the action which followed these decisions. It can be recorded now that another Rainbow Commander spent time in the front lines when the going was toughest. His policy of by-passing resistance and causing it to fall by its own weight in order to save hundreds of Rainbow lives, to move and move fast, to be on the objective by dark, to attack when the going got tough, is like pages read from "Americans All."

Troops, trained for the offensive enabled them to strike at the Germans, make contact with them and fight them with all the

strength at their command all the way. The thorough knowledge of all officers and men of the basic principle of base of fire and maneuver, and the use of supporting arms to the maximum, makes this, Our Rainbow Division of World War II, a truly great fighting organization. Another outstanding division among many, many fine divisions.

Rainbowers, we have followed with interest your daring exploits through Alsace, Germany, and Austria. Veteran Rainbowers stand now at "Present Arms." We are thrilled with pride at your achievements. We bow in reverent tribute to the memory of your comrades who have made the supreme sacrifice. May their souls rest in peace, among Rainbow's immortal heroes.

The announcement of V-E Day is cause for rejoicing, to be sure; yet, that joy must be tempered by the realization that the job is but half over. The war with Japan means for you more hardship, more struggle, still more sacrifice. The curtain on the first act of this World War Drama is rung down. The scenes must now be shifted before the second and final act begins. Victory will not be an easy one, even though the groundwork has already been laid by Rainbow leadership.

The interim necessary to transfer you to the other side of the globe will be a difficult one—the keen edge of performance you have acquired by constant and effective use, must remain keen, to finish the job with the master's technique.

THE WAR IN EUROPE IS WON!!

Victory will be yours in the war with Japan.

EDWARD C. WEITZEL.

WEITZEL CABLES COLLINS

The following cable was dispatched by President Weitzel to Rainbow's Commanding General, Harry J. Collins:

"Rainbow extends cordial greetings. All hail your splendid organization. God speed in all future endeavors."

Rainbow Division Veterans



A national association of veterans of the Rainbow (42nd) Division, to perpetuate that spirit of comradeship which was the greatest single factor in the success of the Division and to keep alive the memory of departed comrades.

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Vol. XXIV May, 1945 No. 7

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S SILVERWARE

Lieutenant Colonel Edward R. Diggs, of the Army Air Forces, passed through San Francisco on his way home to Washington, after two years in the Pacific, and told the story of General MacArthur's silverware. Seems the General left it behind, locked in a small silver box, when he hastily left his apartment in Manila back in 1941. When he returned a few months ago, and came back to the apartment, the silver box was there intact. It had never been opened, although the occupying Japanese had made off with practically everything else. The explanation was simple: The box bore the name

REUNION NEWS

The National Association Rainbow Division Veterans will meet in Cincinnati, on July 13-14. To date we have had no reply from the War Committee on Conventions to our application, requesting permission to hold a regular Annual Reunion. It can be announced, that the National Association will meet on the above dates, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In the event we are denied the permission to hold our Twenty-seventh Annual Reunion as planned, meetings will be held, but the attendance must necessarily be limited to fifty (50) out of state delegates. It is urged now, that active Chapters, planning representation at these meetings, notify the National Secretary at once, giving the name of the delegate to represent the Chapter. All States having State Associations should name one delegate to represent all the Chapters within the State. In this way it will be possible to hold attendance to the allowed fifty (50). This arrangement, in the event our formal request for a Reunion is rejected, will permit complete representation of all Chapters at the meetings.

It is requested that the National Executive Committee member from your State be designated the delegate wherever possible.

The next issue of THE REVEILLE, the June issue, is scheduled to reach you by July 1. By that time we will have definite information, and final plans will be outlined.

EDWARD C. WEITZEL.

REUNION RESERVATION

Mail reservation (with registration fee of \$5 per person) to:

HENRY L. WILSON

P. O. Box 1142, Cincinnati 1, Ohio

Tell Henry the kind of room you want. Rooms with twin beds range from \$5.50 to \$9.00. Rooms with double beds range from \$5 to \$8. Rooms with single beds range from \$3.00 to \$6.00. Suites, \$9.50 and up.

Tell Henry on what date and hour you expect to arrive and to leave. In addition to your name and address, he and Roy Grant, Reunion Chairman, would also like to know the Rainbow unit with which you served and the Chapter to which you belong.

A cable dispatched to General Harry J. Collins by President Weitzel invites the General, if at all possible, to be the guest of honor at the Reunion in Cincinnati, July 13 and 14.

of General MacArthur's father, General Arthur MacArthur, and the ancestor-worshipping Japanese thought it contained his father's ashes, and therefore would not open it.

WITH THE RAINBOW FROM SCHWEINFURT TO FURTH

WITH THE 42nd INF. DIV. OF THE SEVENTH ARMY IN GERMANY (delayed): From the battered city of Schweinfurt to the tenements of Furth is a distance of 55 miles straight into the heart of the Nazi party. It is 55 miles of sacred ground for every inch of which a fanatical SS trooper, a determined Wehrmacht veteran or an obedient member of the Volksturm was pledged to surrender his life.

The 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division advancing on a 25-mile front captured approximately 1,375 square miles of this Nazi holy land and the city of Furth with a population of 100,000 persons in eight days of marching and fighting.

In these eight days the Rainbow Division seized 7,025 prisoners and liberated more than 15,000 slave laborers. It captured 500 towns and advanced into the western edge of the historic Nazi city of Nurnberg.

Behind it there were no by-passed areas to be cleared out—there were no remaining pockets of resistance. The doughboys, walking over the ground, had dug the enemy out of every town he had attempted to defend and rooted him out of every woods and cellar in which he tried to hide.

Although he defended in towns, not once was the German able to put into effect the plan he had conceived for the defense of the precious Furth-Nurnberg area. By their continuous advance the Rainbowmen kept him off balance and finally he was forced to surrender before he could withdraw for a planned last ditch stand in the old walled city of Nurnberg.

The attack of the Rainbow Division in this sector began on April 12. Although mopping up operations still continued in the city of Schweinfurt on that date, the division forced its fifth bridgehead across the winding Main River just south of the famous Schweinfurt ball-bearing factories. Infantrymen then moved across and cleared out the woods southeast of the city, which the Rainbow had captured only two days before.

From then on it was a race to catch, encircle and destroy the enemy before he could establish a defensive line around Nurnberg.

To cover the broad front assigned to the division, Major General Harry J. Collins, division commander, placed his three infantry regiments abreast with the 222nd Infantry Regiment on the left, or North, flank, the 242nd Infantry on the right and the 232nd Infantry Regiment astride the important Wurzburg-Nurnberg road.

On the 13th of April the division advanced 10 miles, and on the following day it had moved ahead another 15. While on the map this was a 25-mile advance in 48 hours, for the infantry soldier it was even farther for he was not walking on a straight line, but working his way forward from town to town on foot—clearing out treacherous snipers and small groups of enemy left behind to harass and delay the advance.

On the following day the Rainbow men moved ahead to within 20 miles of the city of Nurnberg and captured more than 75 towns, including the town of Scheinfeld and the famous Schwartzberg Castle which until the day before had been the seat of the Nazi government for the entire Nurnberg area. In one wing of the historic castle the Nazis conducted a school for Hitler youth and an army officers candidate school. In the other wing were Gestapo offices. So swift and unexpected was the Rainbow advance that the Nazi officials had only time to flee, themselves, toward Nurnberg. Behind them they left rooms full of files and records, photographs and movie film depicting the beginnings and growth of the Nazi party in Germany.

In official terms the resistance being offered by the Germans up until this time could only be classified as light, but it was light because the infantrymen never gave the enemy a chance to make it otherwise. The enemy was there—from the 12th through the 15th of April the division captured more than 1,000 prisoners and thousands of others were fleeing ahead of the advance. The German was armed and he had ammunition—piles of weapons and hoards of ammunition were discovered in every hole and cave. But he could not make the last ditch, fanatical stand he had planned because, before he knew it, the Rainbow sol-

diers were in front of him and beside him and behind him.

A young Hitler youth fanatic who was captured on the 14th gave an excellent illustration of this when he told how he was seized. He was only 16 years old, but he had been trained to shoot a machine gun and he had pledged himself to die for the Fuehrer.

"My gun was pointing down the road and I was firing at some Americans who were advancing towards me from the west," he said. "Then my ammunition bearer told me they were coming at us from each side, and we looked around and saw more American soldiers behind us. What was there to do but give up?"

On the 16th of April the resistance stiffened and the German attempted to put into effect the defense he had planned for Furth and Nurnberg. This plan called for a defense of the towns which guard the main approaches to the twin cities. It centered around Herzogenaurach in the north of the division's zone, Neustadt in the center and Ammerndorf in the south. In addition, Nazi party leaders had also ordered a defense of the tiny community of Cadolzburg, near where Julius Streicher, one of the founders of the party and the leader in the German persecution of the Jews, was in hiding on his farm.

Both Neustadt and Herzogenaurach were captured by infantrymen who surrounded the town, waited outside while artillery poured concentration after concentration into the city, and then went in and mopped up an enemy who was powerless against doughboys who knew their job, had the equipment with which to do it and possessed the punch and drive of a winning team.

In Ammerndorf the story was a little different. Under the direction of a group of 15 officers a battalion of Germans had prepared a defense of the town. The men were not eager to fight, but the officers who had been strutting in their Swastika bedecked uniforms since the beginning of the war, boasted they had a duty to fight and die for the Fatherland.

They were given an opportunity to surrender by the commanding officer of the division reconnaissance troop, but they refused. No, they said, their orders were to defend Ammerndorf and they would carry out those orders to the last man.

But they didn't do it. Instead they attempted to retreat and they failed. Two miles east of the town their withdrawal was halted by men of the 232nd Infantry who had moved around behind them. They too were surrounded and they too quickly surrendered rather than be true to their own ideals.

Cadolzburg was apparently ordered defended because of Streicher's farm. There the Nazi garrison made a brief stand against a battalion of the 232nd Infantry Regiment and a tank unit, but Streicher was not leading any fanatical defense of his home. Instead he had fled in the direction of Munich two days before the Rainbow arrived at the town. Behind he left his huge copy of Mein Kampf, a three-foot square volume, 10 inches thick, given him by Hitler himself, and his ornate knife, the gift of Mussolini. Streicher was in no mood to carry with him these souvenirs of better days. With him gone, the defenders of Cadolzburg had no reason to fight. They too were surrounded and they too quit.

On the seventeenth of April the Rainbow Division reached the outskirts of Furth, a modern German city with rows on rows of plain four-story government dwellings in which were packed refugees from nearby communities and from the heavily bombed city of Nurnberg. Furth itself contained many large hospitals and for that reason had escaped with little aerial bombardment.

The city is situated on an island formed by the Regnitz and Pegnitz Rivers and the Ludewig Canal. To take it, the division had prepared a three-sided assault which, coupled with the drives of the 3rd and 45th Infantry Divisions on Nurnberg would completely surround it. By forcing a crossing of the Regnitz River north of Furth at the town of Vach the 222nd Infantry Regiment was able to move down on

(Continued on Page 7)

**HEADQUARTERS 42nd INFANTRY
(RAINBOW) DIVISION
Public Relations Office**

17 April, 1945.

Dear Letz:

This is a little letter to let you know that I have taken Captain Andrew's place as Division public relations officer and also to ask a favor of both you and the Rainbow Veterans.

In the public relations line it is my plan to send you, at least once a week, a report on the Rainbow's operations for that period and also any feature stories in which I feel you may be interested. These I will send through the regular Seventh Army public relations channels and I have already contacted officials there and requested that they be expedited. I do not think that there will be any great delay in their reaching you. I assure you that the Rainbow has been making history, and I know the veterans will be interested in our activities.

Now to ask you a favor. During the past couple of weeks the Division has been visited by many correspondents from the leading American and British wire services, newspapers and photographic services. In addition, we have sent back more than 1,000 releases to home town newspapers telling of the activities of Rainbowmen. All the men are very interested as to what stories and pictures appear in the American papers and it is my hope that with your help the Veterans will organize a kind of clipping service in which they will send clippings containing any mention of the Rainbow by airmail direct to the Public Relations Office, Headquarters, 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division, APO 411, Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

These clippings will be posted at points where the men can see them and don't think they won't gather around and go over them word by word.

If you have any information or special stories you desire just drop me a line and I'll get it off to you by return mail.

Yours in Rainbow,

HUGH C. DALY,

2nd Lt., Infantry.

(Elsewhere in this issue, we printed a small part of the material received from Hugh Daly through the Seventh Army PRO. Please note his request for clippings. I am directed by National President E.J. Weitzel to announce that he takes this method to appoint a clipping-gathering committee to consist of every chapter president in Rainbow. Please send your clippings on OUR Rainbow, the present 42nd Division, as requested above. Ed.)

**WITH THE 42nd INF. DIV. OF THE
SEVENTH ARMY IN GERMANY**

26 April 1945

Leading the entire Corps attack, the 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division today forced two crossings of the famous Danube River and by dawn held a bridgehead of more than four square miles.

The crossings were made by infantrymen who fought their way across the river in assault boats which turned and twisted in the swift current that carried the boats downstream. The first unit across was the first battalion of the 242nd Infantry Regiment whose leading elements entered the water in the vicinity of Schafstall at approximately 1 A. M. Two hours later the second battalion of the 232nd Infantry Regiment made a similar crossing south of Altisheim.

While engineers labored to get a foot and pontoon bridge across the river, the third battalion of both the 232nd and 242nd Regiments also crossed in boats.

Once on the south side of the river all units raced forward and within a short time had advanced to the vicinity of Oberndorf.

The crossings were made after the enemy trapped north of the Danube by blown bridges had been annihilated and the second battalion of the 222nd Infantry Regiment had raced along the river and captured the city of Donauworth after six hours of bitter fighting.

Supported by tanks, the doughboys reached the river at a point east of Donauworth. They then turned and followed the river road into the city, firing everything they had at enemy infantry attempting to flee over the table-top terrain immediately south of the river.

Trapped without cover by Rainbowmen who had dashed through heavy artillery, rocket and small arms fire to reach the river, the surprised enemy made perfect targets for the tanks and infantrymen. When the Rainbow soldiers reached the town they left behind them a plain littered with enemy dead.

As the infantrymen and tanks neared the city the bridge across the Danube at that point was blown. This left the Germans in the city no alternative other than to stay and fight. Against fanatical resistance doughboys fought their way into the town and in fierce house to house fighting wiped out the enemy force defending the city.

**LT. ROBERT R. RENO, III, RETURNS
TO AMERICA**

Honorary President Bob Reno's host of friends throughout Rainbowland will be glad to know that young Bob recently spent a 21-day reunion with his family in Oak Park, Ill. Bob the Third is a Bombardier-Navigator on a Liberator B-24; was stationed with the 8th Air Force; had completed several missions; was interned in a neutral country about 12 months ago; has returned to the States and is now in Miami Beach, Fla., where he is hospitalized for rehabilitation and further assignment.

IN MEMORIAM

"... to keep alive the memory of our departed comrades."

THEN:

Far over the hills was the Rainbow's end
And the fleeting Pot of Gold
That bade them follow, nor fear to die,
Nor let their hopes grow cold.

NOW:

Their dreams of Peace have come true at last
"In the land where we never grow old"
And a Rainbow is "round about the Throne"
They have found their Pot of Gold!

—REV. HARRY CARTER, National Chaplain.

MEMORIAL FILE — 1944-1945

R. O. Alexan.....	Battery B, 149th Field Artillery	Frank Kemp.....	Co. A, 117th TH&MP
Pearl Ames.....	Co. C, 166th Infantry	Fred Kunds.....	Bn. Sgt. Major, 166th Infantry
Dr. Harold R. Applegate.....	165th Ambulance Company	Morris H. Karno.....	Battery F, 149th Field Artillery
John S. Bailey.....	Co. H, 166th Infantry	Bert Lebew.....	Co. L, 166th Infantry
Harold G. Baldwin.....	M. G. Co., 166th Infantry	Thomas A. Lynd.....	Med. Det., 149th Field Artillery
B. Douglas Balthis.....	Co. F, 117th Engineers	Nolan McCrary.....	151st M. G. Battalion
Oran M. Barron.....	Co. D, 167th Infantry	Harold A. McKeon.....	165th Infantry
Thomas Barry.....	Supply Co., 150th Field Artillery	Dr. H. A. McMains.....	117th Trench Mortar Battery
James C. Benningfield.....	Co. G, 166th Infantry	George Mailey.....	Hdq. Co., 166th Infantry
Patrick J. Berney.....	Co. G, 166th Infantry	Tom Martin.....	Co. L, 168th Infantry
John J. (Jack) Boxley.....	Co. A, 117th TH&MP	Floyd Meyer.....	Co. A, 168th Infantry
Carl Bruce.....	Co. C, 166th Infantry	Grover C. Miller.....	Battery A, 149th Field Artillery
John N. Bryan.....	Hdq. Co., 167th Infantry	Fergus J. Mullins.....	Hdq. Co., 165th Infantry
Arnold M. Buckner.....	Co. B, 165th Infantry	Matt Myers.....	Battery C, 150th Field Artillery
Charles J. Burke.....	Supply Co., 165th Infantry	Richard Francis Murphy.....	Supply Co., 168th Infantry
Patrick J. Burke.....	Supply Co., 165th Infantry	Joseph A. Myers.....	Co. G, 166th Infantry
C. W. Burnett.....	151st M. G. Battalion	Henry W. Neubauer.....	167th Ambulance Co., 117th San. Train
Cyril Burt.....	Hdq. Co., 150th Field Artillery	Heath F. Overstreet.....	Co. A, 117th TH&MP
Chauncey A. Byers.....	Co. G, 166th Infantry	Joseph W. Percival.....	Battery F, 149th Field Artillery
Charles B. Cain.....	166th Infantry	Ernest T. Rasmussen.....	117th Supply Train
Bernice Carpenter.....	Co. L, 167th Infantry	Frank A. Rossner.....	Hdq. Co., 149th Field Artillery
Lee C. Champlin.....	Co. H, 168th Infantry	Edgar Rubie.....	Co. E, 166th Infantry
George Robert Conley.....	Co. G, 166th Infantry	Benjamin Leon Shaeffer.....	151st M. G. Battalion
Joseph Cosgrove.....	165th Ambulance Company	Carl D. Sheets.....	Battery D, 150th Field Artillery
Howard Criswell.....	Battery B, 150th Field Artillery	Pearl L. Shroats.....	Co. K, 166th Infantry
Roy C. Dawson.....	Co. C, 168th Infantry	Arch Simpson.....	Co. A, 168th Infantry
Warren L. Dillman.....	Battery F, 150th Field Artillery	James C. Spence.....	Battery E, 149th Field Artillery
Chief Frank Young Eagle.....	165th Infantry	Roy C. Staggs.....	Co. E, 166th Infantry
Fred Eckhout.....		Lyman W. Stephens.....	Battery B, 149th Field Artillery
Roy C. Fatzinger.....	Battery F, 150th Field Artillery	John P. Stickle.....	
Ed M. Fitzpatrick.....	Battery A, 151st Field Artillery	August G. Streeter.....	Med. Det., 149th Field Artillery
Frank L. Flood.....	Battery D, 149th Field Artillery	Griffin H. Taylor.....	Battery F, 149th Field Artillery
Neal Ford.....	Co. L, 167th Infantry	Harley Taylor.....	Sanitary Det., 168th Infantry
Eugene Galloway.....	Co. F, 166th Infantry	J. Ten Broeck.....	165th Ambulance Co., 117th San. Train
Warren S. Geslin.....	Co. G, 166th Infantry	Harry W. Tiedt.....	Battery D, 149th Field Artillery
Stanley Ginsberg.....	Co. D, 165th Infantry	Paul Travoni.....	Co. D, 168th Infantry
Carl George Graham.....	Co. E, 166th Infantry	Johu Ursu.....	Battery F, 150th Field Artillery
George Griffin.....	Co. I, 166th Infantry	Harry Martin Walker.....	Medical Det., 166th Infantry
Russell E. Haines.....	Co. L, 166th Infantry	Walter B. Warren.....	117th Field Signal Battalion
William J. Harmony.....	Co. B, 149th M. G. Battalion	Richard Weaver.....	Co. H, 166th Infantry
Oecil W. Harper.....	Medical Det., 150th Field Artillery	Francis J. Weber.....	Hdq. Co., 168th Infantry
D. C. Harris.....	151st M. G. Battalion	David E. White.....	Battery E, 150th Field Artillery
H. E. Harris.....	151st M. G. Battalion	Fount H. Whitesell.....	Battery A, 150th Field Artillery
A. H. Herman.....	117th Ammunition Train	Robert O. Whitmer.....	Co. M, 166th Infantry
Wesley Herring.....	151st M. G. Battalion	Marvin A. Whittaker.....	166th Ambulance Co., 117th Sanitary Train
Clyde Herrod.....	Co. M, 166th Infantry	Angus Wilson, Jr.....	Co. G, 166th Infantry
Lee M. Hiser.....	Co. M, 166th Infantry	Hans H. Wohlers.....	Battery A, 151st Field Artillery
Harry E. Holmes.....	168th Infantry	Leonard F. Wood.....	Battery B, 150th Field Artillery
Edward L. Hook.....		Dr. W. Stuart Wood.....	Battery F, 149th Field Artillery
William J. Hulzman.....	Co. E, 166th Infantry	Robert A. Young.....	Co. L, 166th Infantry
Anton Jirkovsky.....	Co. D, 168th Infantry	John Zaver.....	M. G. Co., 168th Infantry
James E. Johnson.....	Co. B, 117th Field Signal Bn.		
J. L. (Dad) Jones.....	Co. B, 168th Infantry		

THIRD DIVISION RESCUES RAINBOWER MERRILL

(We are indebted to the Gulf Oil Corporation and thank them for their gracious permission to print the following transcript of a recent "We, the People" radio program. Ed.).

MASTER OF CEREMONIES BOULTON: The scene is Mitchell Field, Long Island. A huge C-47 transport has just landed and another cargo of wounded American GI's is back home in the U. S. A.! — home from the battlefields and prison camps of Europe. A medic opens the hatches of the transport and scurries inside. He stops at the first cot and shakes the hand of a thin, half-starved soldier.

MEDIC: Congratulations, Mac! You're the forty-fifth hundred guy to land here this month. Where do you come from?

SOLDIER: I was a prisoner of war. Just got out of the hospital at Heppenheim, Germany.

MEDIC: How were things over there?

SOLDIER: Brother, if it hadn't been for those two American doctors—that Major and that Captain—I'd be a dead duck right now!

BOULTON: And tonight, WE THE PEOPLE are proud to have as our guest one-half of that life-saving team. He is Captain Warren Merrill, of Berkeley, California, battalion surgeon with the 42nd Infantry Division, Seventh Army . . . whose last address was Stalag Hospital, Germany. Captain Warren Merrill . . .

MERRILL: On January 9th, this year, in the Alsace District of France, I was captured and made a prisoner of war by the Germans. We travelled to Limburg—walking more than half the way—where we were placed in a temporary "stalag." There our prison life began.

BOULTON: Can you tell us about that, Captain Merrill?

MERRILL: Words cannot describe German prison life. Two hundred officers were cramped into one small barracks. There was no heat, and it was winter. The men stayed in bed most of the time to keep warm. The Germans issued each of us three thin blankets—blankets so filthy that in the morning you'd wake up covered with dirt. There was one tiny toilet for over two hundred men. Most of us were suffering from food poisoning. We lived in constant fear of typhoid or some other epidemic breaking out among us. Finally, on February 1st, the Germans asked Major Tansley, the other medical officer, and me, if we wanted to go to a nearby hospital where there were American wounded who were getting little medical care. The major and I talked it over and decided that we might be able to do some good, so we consented to go. There, at Heppenheim, we found a prison hospital

with 300 American wounded. Our first sight of the master race's approach to medicine was this: As we entered a ward we saw a German doctor changing the cast on an American soldier's leg. The boy was in extreme pain. The Germans stuffed paper in his mouth to keep him from screaming.

BOULTON: Captain, what kind of food did you get in that prison hospital?

MERRILL: Well, Mr. Boulton, breakfast was a small piece of potato bread and a cup of ersatz coffee. Lunch was a cup and a half of potato peeling soup. Supper was two or three small potatoes in a little flour gravy. Every now and then we'd get a tablespoonful of cheese. Our death rate started to increase too. I remember one man's bed—the sheets literally polka-dotted with the blood of crushed lice. The patient in that bed had lost fifty-five pounds in two months. It was heartbreaking to look at the men. But then, early in the year, the news came that a big American offensive had started. Our stock began to go up. We weren't living on food—we were living on hopes. One night we had a church service. The men prayed to God to be liberated. In all my life I've never seen such a touching and devout religious service. Shortly after that, we heard American artillery fire off in the distance. And then, at daybreak one morning, we heard small arms fire close by. It wasn't long after that that an American infantryman came wandering into the hospital. "Some dame downtown," he said, "told me there were some GI's up here." I said, "You're damned right there are, soldier." Maybe we hugged him — I don't know. Pretty soon the hospital was filled with the infantrymen of the Third Division. They were reaching into their pockets and hauling out chocolate bars and chewing gum and cigarettes. And then came the food—not in individual packages but in cases. Red Cross workers came. Special Service men came—everybody wanting to do something for us. And they did!

BOULTON: How did it feel to be liberated, Captain?

MERRILL: Well, the place was a bedlam for the next four days. We ate until we were sick. We found the Germans had lied. The cellar of the hospital was stocked with fresh and tinned meat, fresh vegetables, sugar, fruit, eggs, medical supplies—all the things that would have saved the lives of our men. Then General Jacob Devers came to the hospital. He heard our motto: "Eggs for Easter", and he gave the order in these very words, "These men are all to be between white sheets in a general hospital and to have fresh eggs for breakfast by Easter morning." The General's order was carried out to the letter. How does it feel to be liberated? Well, when you've lost freedom

and found it again, there are so many people to thank you don't know where to begin. The infantrymen of the Third Division, the two aid-men at Heppenheim, who, though wounded and prisoners of war, themselves, never once stopped working to help others. You want to thank General Devers and the men of the evacuation company who got us to Paris in such quick time. And you want to thank the folks back home for giving our men the stuff that means liberation—until the last prisoner of war is home again. Home for good!

FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

P. O. Box 342, Roanoke 3, Va.

A hearty welcome is extended to Miami and to South Bend as they return to the list of active chapters, following in the footsteps of Crawford Z. Ables, Jacksonville and Edson H. Miller. Pensacola of the Florida Association and Sedan of Toledo in the Ohio Association are showing signs of life and can take their proper places in the active ranks with just a bit more effort. Maryland, Sedan and Cleveland of the Ohio Association and Philadelphia of the Pennsylvania Association have equalled or exceeded last year's membership since the last report.

You will note on the next page, you Rainbowers who have not shouldered your pack for a long time now, that 735 more members are needed this year to raise our 1944-45 budget. The time is getting short. Use the coupon on the next page; and DO IT NOW!!!

R. ALLEN GIBBONS.

RAINBOW REACHES AUSTRIAN BORDER

The Rainbow Division ended the war with a 400-mile-drive from the foothills of the Hardt Mountains in France, through the Siegfried Line to the Austrian Border. The famous Division captured the key cities of Wurzburg, Schweinfurt, Nurnberg and Munich and the infamous concentration camp of Dachau. The infantrymen of the Division, in one month, marched and fought from the Rhine River to the Austrian Border, a majority of them hiking every inch of the way. They attacked continuously for 37 days, during which time there was not an hour when they were not in contact with the enemy, and shoving ahead in their drive into the very heart of Nazi Germany.

The Division forward command post, under Major General Harry J. Collins, was set up at Palling, Germany.

(Continued from Page 3)

the city from the north. Advancing directly east through a woods which guarded the western edge of the town the 242nd Infantry Regiment reached a position to hit the city from that direction, while the 232nd Infantry Regiment—on the division's right flank—approached the city from the south.

On the night of the seventeenth all three regiments sent out strong patrols and discovered that the cornered Nazis had blown all bridges across the rivers. This, however, did not delay the attack and at 5 A. M. on April 18th the Rainbow Division launched its assault on Furth.

Spearheading the attack was the 222nd Infantry Regiment which itself conducted a two-pronged drive on the northwest corner of the city with an objective of entering from both the north and west that portion of the town which jutted into an inverted "Y" formed by the Pegnitz and Regnitz Rivers.

Here the doughboys met real fanatical resistance for, although the Nazis in the city had orders to leave Furth and withdraw into the walled city of Nurnberg for a last ditch stand, this retreat was not to be made until the next day. That was their plan, but the Rainbow had again upset the program for defense by arriving just 24 hours before the German military leaders had believed it possible for them to reach the city.

The enemy had a choice now of either attempting to defend or to withdraw in a wild, disorganized retreat. He tried to fight it out, but he couldn't stop the Rainbowmen.

Smashing into the German defenses, the 2nd battalion of the 222nd Infantry drove south from its river crossing site at Vach and the first battalion pushed forward from the west. The goals of each battalion were two blown bridges over whose twisted girders and piled rubble the infantry soldiers could cross the river. Moving through small arms and machine gun fire the men of both battalions reached their objectives and despite a hail of death fought their way over the ruined bridges and through the icy waters into the city. By midnight six blocks of the northwest corner of the city had been cleared.

By morning all foot elements of the 222nd Infantry had made their way across the broken bridges and the defenders of Furth were ready to quit. They were surrounded in position they had been preparing for years. They were cut off from retreat by foot soldiers who laughed at their elaborate road blocks and either leaped over them or walked around.

At 9 A. M. on April 19 the burgomeister surrendered the city of Furth and he himself rode through the streets shouting to the people to hang out flags.

This was the end of organized resistance, but it was not the end of the fighting and sniper fire continued until men of the 222nd Infantry and those of the 242nd Infantry—who early in the morning crossed the river into the southern portion of the city—had advanced through every street to the limits of Nurnberg and the Ludswig Canal.

By nightfall Furth was a completely conquered city. White flags hung from every window and more than 3,000 prisoners had been gathered up in the city's streets and marched off to prisoner of war inclosures. They were the men who were to have fought to the last man in Nurnberg, but the Rainbow Division had trapped them before they had a chance to make their stand.

SOUVENIR BOOKLET

For sale, for 40 cents each, while they last, the beautiful souvenir booklets of the Father Duffy Chapter Ball held last April. The booklet contains the company roster of the 165th Infantry (old 69th) at Camp Mills on September 30, 1917; a brief history of the 165th; its regimental commanders; period and distance between each location. Write to Treasurer James Mason for a copy of the booklet. Don't wait; the supply is limited.

Chapter		Last Year's 1944-45		Chapter		Last Year's 1944-45	
		Record	To May 12			Record	To May 12
Alabama State Association	6	4		St. Paul	36	30	
Crawford Z. Ables	9	28		MINNESOTA TOTAL	115	159	195
Major John W. Carroll	58	46		Missouri-Kansas	4	5	
Mortimer H. Jordan	120	73		MISSOURI-KANSAS TOTAL	119	159	
William M. Peters	34	29		Nebraska	33	38	
Dallas B. Smith	1	1		New Jersey	103	109	
Julian M. Strassberger	95	99		Gen. Charles T. Menoher	30	23	
Durward Crowder	17	16		NEW JERSEY TOTAL	133	134	
ALABAMA TOTAL	340	296		New Mexico	1	0	
Los Angeles	163	178		Father Duffy of N. Y.	653	614	
San Francisco	170	101		Long Island	30	35	
Joyce Kilmer	19	20		Westchester	30	25	
James Daugherty	9	4		NEW YORK TOTAL	713	674	
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	361	303		Ohio State Association	44	36	
Pueblo	2	3		Ralph Berger	28	43	
Denver	41	38		Cincinnati	106	87	
COLORADO TOTAL	43	41		Columbus	83	126	
District of Columbia	89	91		Newark	29	50	
Florida State Association	1	0		Luther Swigert	18	19	
Jacksonville	12	26		Akron	30	37	
Miami	9	23		Dyer J. Bird	33	34	
Pensacola	2	3		Paul Hume	4	4	
St. Petersburg	0	0		Sedan	8	12	
Gen. Charles P. Summerall	100	101		Edison H. Miller	0	16	
FLORIDA TOTAL	124	153		Lancaster	49	54	
Georgia Chapter	34	28		Ancerville	0	0	
Frank Joerg	25	1		Cleveland	37	37	
Cooper D. Winn	37	42		Springfield (New Chapter)	0	24	
GEORGIA TOTAL	96	71		Vets. of Co. G, 166th (New Chap.)	0	111	
Illinois	779	803		OHIO TOTAL	469	690	
Danville	39	47		Oklahoma State Association	2	2	
ILLINOIS TOTAL	818	850		Oklahoma City	27	24	
Indiana State (Indianapolis)	127	221		Tulsa	56	63	
Bloomington	76	66		OKLAHOMA TOTAL	85	89	
Fort Wayne	15	6		Oregon	13	7	
LaFayette	25	28		Pennsylvania State Association	0	1	
Martinsville	22	22		Easton	0	1	
South Bend	1	18		Pittsburgh	93	87	
INDIANA TOTAL	266	361		Bethlehem	67	53	
Iowa Association	0	0		Lancaster	63	62	
Col. E. R. Bennett	188	220		Reading	24	27	
Cedar Rapids	47	42		Philadelphia	38	48	
Oskaloosa	46	46		PENNSYLVANIA TOTAL	285	279	
Creston	46	55		South Carolina	28	27	
Lee County	19	19		Tennessee	20	1	
Fort Dodge	7	7		Texas	107	75	
Mason City (N. Iowa)	38	33		Virginia State Chapter	104	115	
Red Oak	9	0		Homer A. Hughes (Lynchburg)	37	34	
Mathew A. Tinley	43	58		VIRGINIA TOTAL	141	149	
Cedar Valley	35	36		Washington (Seattle)	19	26	
Ortuma	29	16		Wisconsin State Association	8	8	
Southwest Iowa	16	24		Appleton	26	33	
Northwest Iowa	39	32		Gen. Douglas MacArthur	39	23	
IOWA TOTAL	562	588		Fond du Lac	33	20	
Louisiana (New Orleans)	19	25		Oshkosh	39	42	
Maryland	74	76		WISCONSIN TOTAL	145	126	
Massachusetts	69	42		National Chapter-at-Large	28	17	
Michigan	151	182		GRAND TOTALS	5,510	5,765	
Minnesota State Association	1	2					
Minneapolis	122	163					

5,765 — 5,510 = 255 members ahead of last year; but the budget requires 6,500 members for 1944-45. Therefore,

6,500 — 5,765 = 735 members still needed. YOU are the one to do something about it!

If you do not belong to a chapter, use the following coupon:

R. Allen Gibbons, National Secretary, Rainbow Division Veterans, 5/45
P. O. Box 342, Roanoke 3, Va.



Dear Allen: I am proud of being a Veteran of the Rainbow Division.

I served with the _____

(Name of Unit in 42nd Division)

and wish to join our Association. I enclose \$1. Please send me my membership card and continue sending THE REVELLE to the following address:

T. E. NELSON,
65 OAKLAND PARK,
COLUMBUS, OHIO