508th "PARA BLASTS"

Jan. 1st Vol. 1 No. 2



"Happy New Year"

JCJr.

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MEN TO BE PROUD OF

" OUR LEADERS "

REGIMENTAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER: LT. COLONEL WM. E. ECKMAN

The first time we met our Colonel was at the Frying Pan in Fort Benning, Ga., his warm hand shake as he handed us our diploma and welcomed us into the 508th Parachute Infantry, made us more than anxious to get started. At first glance he impressed us of his very apparent military bearing, leadership ability, and understanding of men. Colonel Eckman was born in St. Louis, is married, and has two children.

He served as an enlisted man at Fort Benning, Ga. in the 29th Infantry from 1932 till 1933. He was a Private at Ft. Shaffner, Hawaii in the 64th Coast Artillery from '33 to '34. He attended West Point Prep School at Schofield Barracks. Our Colonel had an excellent record at West Point and graduated from there in 1938.

His career in the Paratroops started in July of 1941 when he became company B's commander of the 503rd. Later he helped to activate the 504th in the role of Adjutant. Before coming to our Regiment as Executive Officer he was the Adjutant at Headquarters of the Air - Borne Command.

The two favorite sports at which he excelled are football and the rugged game of La-Crosse. He has completed twelve jumps.

In him we find the contageous spirit that puts Paratroopers head and shoulders above the crowd.



SANTA HAD A MALFUNCTION

" A PARA-TROOPER'S CHRISTMAS EVE "

T'was the night before Christmas
When all through the camp
Not a trooper was stiring
Muscles all stiff with the cramp.

Their stockings were hung
around the huts with care,
Not so much for St. Nick
as to get some fresh air.

Each rokkie slept soundly
they smiled in their sleep,
As they pictured old Santa
pulling up in his jeep.

The merry old fellow
gave a laugh and a sigh,
As he struggled with his clothes
That looked strickly G.I.

The pants were to large
His coat seemed quite small,
And his para-troop boots
you couldn't find at all.

Then the merry ole fellow
because time was getting late,
Just double timed down
to the snappy 508.

Each rookie slept soundly
each dreamed of one thing,
Just hoped St. Nick would leave
a Silver pair of Wings.

Then perhaps ole Santa
if he's not in his cups,
Could leave the "deah" Sarg.
about twenty-five push-ups.

Please Santa when I go
up high for my jump,
May I land on my feet
instead of my rump.

Then just one more favor
when I meet my foe,
May I be the guy that's digging
instead of filling up that six foot hole

Another thing "Santa"
that would be kinda nice,
Would be two ever faithful
"Come Seven " white dice.

Then perhaps a letter
each day of the year,
And when my names called
you bet, I'm here.

There's just one little thing
concerning that *-&'?/# K.P.
Please Santa can't you
say no more for me.

With his rounds all made
an the rookies still asleep,
He left them all good weapons
Then was off in his Jeep.

To east and to west
he drove like the wind,
Bringing gifts to his doughboys
in spite of war's dim.

Some bombs for Herr Hitler
lots more for the wops,
And plenty for the yellow island
From bottom to top.

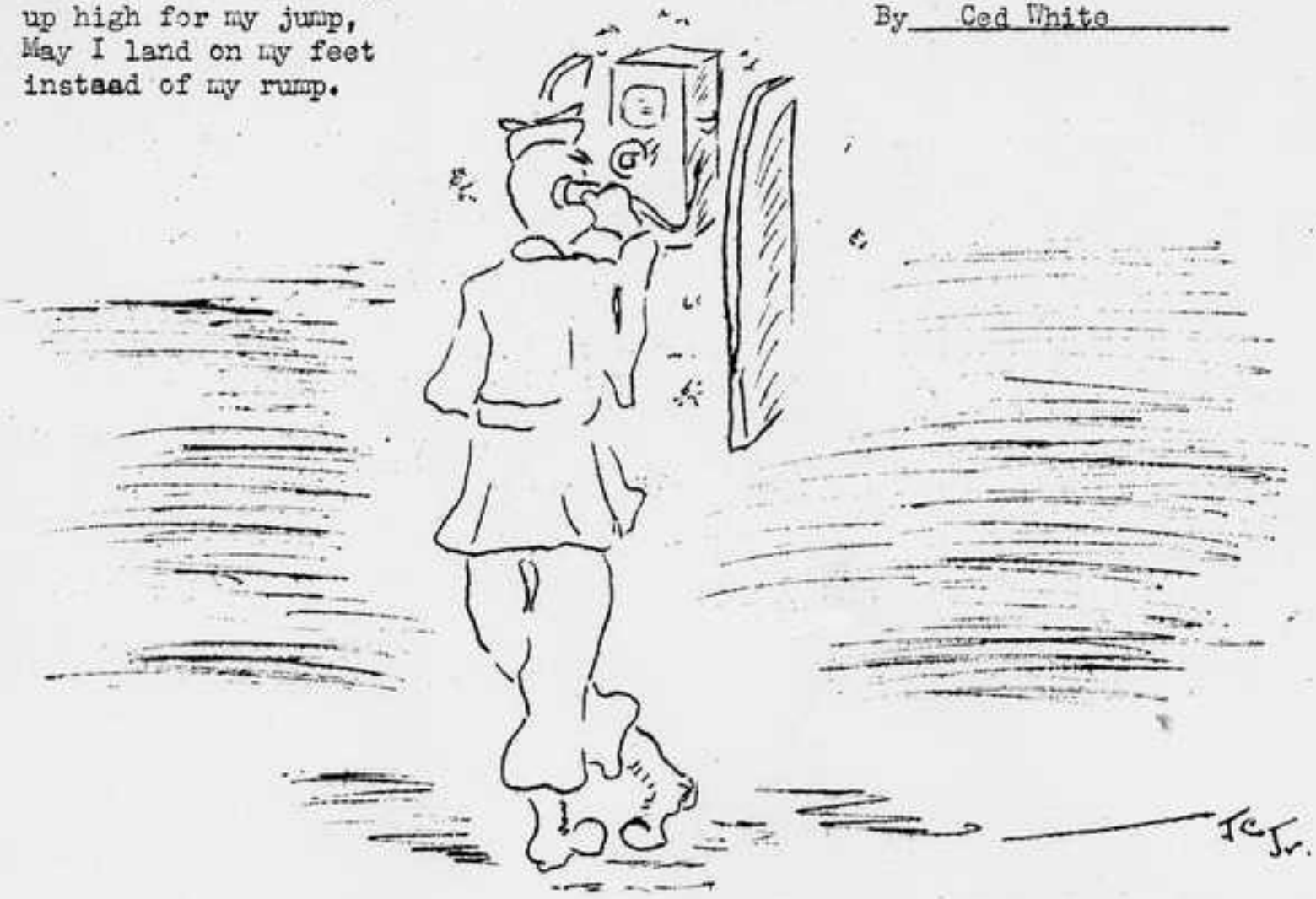
Each rookie did smile
as he dreamed of his task,
Fighting you betcha
what more can a guy ask.

By Ced White



Please Santa when I go
up high for my jump,
May I land on my feet
instead of my rump.

By Ced White



No, No I'm the one that did the Pushups on the dance floor, Remember?

RIP CORD RUMORS

Bob Price is still waiting for that "Michigan Special"? Chin up fellow all good things take long to come.

Claude Miller burns up at the mention of Miami, Arizona. Is it that hot there?

Why did J. Moss join the army? She knows where you are anyway. I don't think a bird told her. Do you?

It is understood that a certain Pvt. Konkel is to be put on the ball and chain of Matrimony. Is that just a rumor?

I think someone should buy Sgt. Gerald a bugle so he won't have to yell so - "Get Up", "Assemble here" "Lights Out" Would you like that Sarg? All you'd have to do is blow, and while we're on Sgt. Gerald don't it sound homely like when the boys check in at night to hear them tell the Sarg. "Goodnight"? Pretty soon he will be patting their cheeks and tucking them in.

There are rumors in Company B that two acting Sargs. from Tennesse, are trying to live up to Sargeant Yorks record. I wonder who they could be? Do you know? Burleson or Smith?

It seems as if Lt. Skipton was having a hard time to get the boys to keep their eyes on the target until 20 or 30 nurses walked by right in front of them. Maybe they should be there all the time?

There are just some certain times when you get a fellow like J.F. Pass to hurry, that is, "Mail Call" and "Chow" How about that Johnnie?

We wonder what is in Sarg. Brewers mouth when he is counting cadence. It couldn't be chewing tobacco could it Sarg.?

There's a rumor that a boy in C company has changed his name from Riot Step Bailey to Route Step Bailey.

It is rumored that John Hardie of C company, who is barracks leader of Hutment #13, can't sleep at night until all of his boys are safely tucked in bed.

It is rumored that Sarg. Nelson (Little Napoleum) of C company is going to clean up the office boys at Batl. Hq. if they don't stop his insurance. Watch out boys, he's good in his Judo.

YOUR REPORTERS MESSAGE

Men, due to a double time notice on the completion of this weeks edition, we haven't been able to write as much as we would li ked to. However with your help and suggestions we will have a real copy for your reading pleasure next week. You will find near the bulletin board a box marked - Rip Cord Rumors. In this drop your suggestions for material for your paper and we will see that it gets in the following edition. If you've enjoyed this short edition let us know, if not still let us know and we'll correct it.

Cordially
J.L. Ross - J.W. McKinster
Reporters of B Company



UGH! ME GIVE HEAP GOOD G.I.!!

"THE EDITORS"

Fellows: Geronimo: We're in trouble. We are furlough bound and sorely in need of contributions (not finacial). All material for next issue can be turned into Lt. Fleming's office located in rear of Recreation Hall.

To all our readers a very Merry Xmas & A Happy New Year.

_ PRIVATE _OF _THE_ WEEK_ _

One of the most interesting personalties of Co. E is Pvt. Larry Murphy, one of the shortest men in the Company. He was born in Portland, Maine in 1921.

A third of his life has been spent on the high seas and he invariably sounds off with "Aye Aye"

He shipped to Liverpool, England when he was 14 years old and spent the next three years as a fellow fisherman on the banks off Scotland.

Murphy then shipped in the Merchant Marines and saw a great part of the world including South Africa, Germany, Belgium, and France.

Although never torpedoed, Murphy has seen several ships go down and was at one time sunk off the coast of Wales by a mine.

Murphy joined the Army at New Orleans and volunteered for the Para-troops. He smiled broadly when called a "Liverpool Irishman" His prime ambition is to learn to drive an automobile.

G. I. POEM

Rise by the G.I. bugle,
Dress in the G.I. style,
The sergeant walks by in his G.I. way,
And gives you a G.I. smile.

Clean the place with G.I. soap,
Then its time for G.I. chow,
Your G.I. ham and eggs are cold,
Your face shows a G.I. scowl.

Scrub your teeth with a G.I. brush,
Give your shoes a G.I. shine,
Hear the G.I. whistle blow,
Fall out in a G.I. line.

Time for G.I. inspection,
Straighten that G.I. tie,
Did you shave with your G.I. razor,
Then you tell a G.I. lie.

A G.I. march this morning boys,
On the well-known G.I. double,
If yo miss one G.I. step,
You'll catch some G.I. trouble.

After ten G.I. miles,
Your G.I. corns are worse,
You go on G.I. sick call,
And try to date the G.I. nurse.

In the evening a G.I. haircut,
Till your scalp shines through,
While at the G.I. Post Exchange,
You have some G.I. brew.

When the G.I. day is over,
Return to your G.I. dwelling,
Limp into your G.I. bed,
Those G.I. corns are swelling.

Time for some G.I. dreaming,
Of the one back home so dear,
Oh, my darling angel,
Gee, I wish that you were here.

Clothes Make The Officer - Almost.

Pvt. Howard Gamble grabbed the nearest blouse one day when mess call sounded during his work in the inspectors office and hurried to his dinner. As he entered the mess hall someone barked "attention" and the men stood at their places until Pvt. Gamble sat down. Sensing that something was wrong he looked around finally noticing that he was wearing the Colonel's blouse which he had taken by mistake.

Christmas Exchange:

On Dec. 25, each man will play Santa Clause to one of his fellowtroopers, i.e., each man has piched out a name and has bought him a present which will be given out beneath our tree Xmas Day.

Lt. Taylor, our Co. Commander, has played the role of Santa Clause already by presenting a small gift to each man in the Company.

THANK YOU SIR *** FROM YOUR WHOLE COMPANY.

And now with Company News slight, we of company B, that is our Company Commander, the officers, the non-coms and enlisted men, all join together to wish our Regimental Commander, Colonel Linquist, our Battalion Commander, Major Harrison and all the other officers and enlisted men of the 508th, A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

SPORTS

The old Spot light is shining on Boxing this week. This Regiment is really being represented in a big way in the world of Pugilism. Two of our boys fought in the Jacksonville arena last night.

Russ Golding of Service Company lost a close decision to Texas Joe Dundee Lillo, according to "The Florida Times Union". Joe's 18 years of ring experience was to much for Russ. However, the old Ed. has his own a out this info. According to some very reliable first hand reports Golding was tiring fast in the last rounds of this six round bout. Russ is a class scrapper, who shines when it comes to in-fighting. The Judges gave Lillo the first two, Golding the Fifth and counted the others even. However with all due respect to our elders we haveour own idea about the Jacksonville Arena Judges. (Best of luck in thefuture Russ. We think it was close enough for a draw.)

Last week Corp. Golding won a two round bout over Oliver Hamm of Texas.

Speedy Marty Sherzer of REG. HQ. CO. made a sensational de ut for the local fight wolves Tuesday night. The welterweight came through in true Paratrooper form with a one minute- ten second K. O. over Hosea Pace- 170 lb. shipbuilder from Jacksonville. The boys felt each other out for a few seconds then after one fast flurry Marty turned the lights for Mr. Pace. Sherzer intends to fight often here.

Ring magazine carries an article in January's issue about Pvt. Tom Hinton of the 508th Medical Detachment. He's recommended by Petey Larron, former feather weight champ, to goplaces in the fight world. Tom's record includes a decision over Dixie Walker in Atlanta, Ga.

All of you pugulists and would be puglists please see me: We're going to organize a boxing team that will be able to wreck a Jap air base in less time than (Refer to Lt. Don Davis for this comparison) LETS GET ON THE BALL. I KNOW THAT WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF TALENT.

We're sorry if we bored you with so much boxing news, buts its in season now.

Here are our official guesses on the bowl games. No Bronx cheers please.

Rose Bowl	- - - Georgia 20	UCLA	- - - 7
Sugar Bowl	- - - Tulsa 14	Tennessee	- 7
Cotton Bowl	- -- Georgia Tech 20	Texas	--- 14
		(It breaks my heart to do this)	
Orange Bowl	- - -Boston College 14	Alabama	- 0

That's all for this time, gang. Any critism on this page will be appriciated. It's your page. I'm the public servant.

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Signing Off
Cpl. Tex Daniels

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Cpl. Tex Daniels


BOOPER
THE
TROOPER
DONT OPEN TIL XMAS
GOOD THING GRAN MAW SENT ME THIS UMBRELLER!
ST PETER 1 MI.
A. SKLIVIS 4-2

To those who've missed Sgt. Carden he has been wearing an M. P. band on his arm aroundthe streets of Stark. (Sh;) He's splipped of on a leave for a while.

All evil things come in 3. Three shot Pvt. Erwin---2 shots, onein each arm and a shot in the jaw for a tooth extradiction.

The girls at the P. X. are:

Judy Fisk at the ice cream counter.
Frances Joyner at the cigarette counter.
Mary Lillian Pittle at the Magazine & Xmas card counter.

A Letter To Santa

The only thing we want is to make the dead line but we wonder if we can get the following for the following:

1. For our leaders--- The best disciplend regiment in the army.
2. For our Recruits---Successful completion of jump training.
3. For our Chaplin--- An ample fund to cash the checks we bother him with.
4. For our cooks--- A sweet disposition and some better meat.
5. For our Latrine Orderly's--- Long handled G. I. brushes.
6. For our Jumpers--- More planes,or just planes, or jut jumps.
7. For our Top Sgts.--- More push-ups.
8. For our K. P.'s--- Electric dish washers & automatic potato peelers.
9. For our C. O.'s---Less trouble & more time off. (Ed. Note-Doesht this rate a pass?)
10. For our Regt.--- A continued fine spirit of coope ation.

JACKSONVILLE BEACH

For you troopers that are tired of bad beer and ong for a change go to Jacksonville (First get a week-end pass) Bus terminal. Buy a round trip ticket to Jacksonvil e Beach-50¢. Buses leave on the hour. Smell the good old Atlantic; For a dime you can rent tackle and fish from the Pier. A Dandy U. S. O. is located about 5 blocks from the Pier. Showers and all. You can sleep at the dormitory next door for a mere two bits. Breakfast is on the U. S. O. We gaurantee you a great ti e. Yes---women too.

THE PUCKERED TENT

Co. B 1st Bn.

Sports Extra:

Dec. 15, 1942
Co. B outkicked Headquaters Company in hard fought soccer game---2--0.
Co. B was outran by Co. C in a real gridiron classic. Final--8--6. (It seems we can't beat them, however we'll try again.)
Here & There------ Open Challenge To All Companies.

Standing Broad Jump.
Sargeant Brewer of Campany B says, " I'll challenge any man in the Regiment." Anyone to dispute the statement look up our Sargeant, but watch out he doesn't wear springs because he can really jump.

Debates.
Hutmen'3 will out argue any Hutmen in camp, so they claim. They may not know exactly what it is all about but they always end

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Debates.
Hutmen#3 will out argue any Hutmen in camp, so they claim. They may not know exactly what it is all about but they always end up the final victors. Are there any Daniel Websters in camp who wishes to pit his nowledge against these " Quiz Kids"?