The Official Newspaper of the A. E. F.

The Stars and Stripes

By and For the Soldiers of the A. E. F.

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THE A.E.F. TO AMERICA—JULY 4, 1918

ON this anniversary of our independence, the officers and men of the American Expeditionary Forces on the battlefields of France renew their pledges of fealty and devotion to our cause and country. The resolve of our forefathers that all men and all peoples shall be free is their resolve. It is quickened by sympathy for an invaded people of kindred ideals and the war challenge of an arrogant enemy. It is fortified by the united support of the American people.

(Signed) PERSHING

112 MORE D. S. C.'S FOR YANK HEROES IN MANY SECTORS

Marines and Navy Officers on Duty With Them Win 104

50 AWARDS POSTHUMOUS

Majority of Total Go to Men Who Fought Near Chateau Thierry

PRIVATE GETS SPECIAL WIRE

Commander-in-Chief Congratulates Kukoski, Who Captured Machine Gun and Crew

One hundred and twelve new awards of the Distinguished Service Cross have been made for acts of valor on the various portions of the front now held by American troops, 50 of the awards being posthumous.

The majority of the new decorations go to members of the United States Marine Corps for the fighting in and about Château-Thierry and the Bois de Belleau no less than 104 out of the total 112 recipients being officers and men of the "soldiers of the sea" or Navy officers on duty with them.

The citations accompanying the awards fell of a major of Marines who displayed extraordinary heroism in rallying his men and disposing of his guns, and who continually exposed himself until he fell, with wounds in his right hand that have caused him to lose it, and with other wounds in the upper arm and both thighs; of a Marine lieutenant who though badly wounded, refused assistance until his wounded men near him had been treated; of a buck private of Marines who placed his body in front of his platoon leader, while under heavy machine gun fire, in order that he might dress his wounds, and who was shot twice in the hip while thus shielding his superior.

They also tell of artillerymen who left their shelters under heavy bombardment to go to the assistance of wounded men; of surgeons who worked over the wounded while constantly exposed to hostile fire; of men of all branches who risked their lives to save others and in some cases perished in so doing.

Supreme Proof of Heroism

Of the majority of those to whom the award is made posthumously, the general citation is:

"They gave the supreme proof of that extraordinary heroism which with serve as an example to hitherto untried troops." Among the honored dead, ten are mentioned especially, as follows:

Dental Surgeon Weedon C. Osborne U. S. N.—"During the advance on Bouresches, France, on April 6, 1918, at great risk of his life, performed heroic deed in aiding the wounded. He was struck by a shell while carrying an officer to a place of safety."

2nd Lieut. Wellborn S. Priddy, Inf.—"While in command of an important post near Badoviller, France, on May 26, 1918, he displayed courage, judgment and devotion to duty in heroically defending his position against a large force of the enemy, continuing to perform his duty after having been badly gassed. He has since died as a result of the gas poisoning."

2nd Lieut. Alton P. Wood Inf.—"While on patrol in No Man's Land, in the vicinity of Ancerville on the night of May 3-4, 1918, he displayed great courage and devotion to duty in continuing to direct his men, and after having been mortally wounded in refusing aid until he was assured of the safety of his men."

Tried to Protect Comrade

First Sergeant Daniel A. Hunter, Marines—"During the attack at Château Thierry, France, June 6, 1918, he fearlessly exposed himself and encour-

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'ATTACHED' NON-COM STILL RETAINS RANK

Chevrons Not to Be Lost in Hospital, Declares General Order

A new general order corroborates the statement, made in a recent issue of this newspaper, that soldiers evacuated from hospital to a replacement organization will not by reason of this fact, be reduced in grade.

Reductions which have resulted in the past for such a reason will, according to the new order, be considered as having been erroneously made. No longer can you be busted just for being wounded or sick; you will have to be a bad boy.

When non-coms who have passed through hospital and replacement camp are finally assigned to a unit where vacancies do not exist for them, they will be carred as "attached." A report will then be made to G.H.Q. stating who and how many attached non-coms are on the unit's roster, so that they can be transferred to their original organizations or used as replacements.

Organization commanders are asked to make inquiries to determine whether any non-coms in their commands come within this order.

The order adds that it is not to be interpreted so "as to reduce any person in rank, nor as prohibiting reduction for good cause."

THEY GET THE CHEVRON

The War Department has cabled authorization for field clerks and Army nurses with the A.E.F. to wear wound chevrons and war service chevrons.

At the same time it has refused these chevrons to accredited correspondents and other personnel who, while they may wear authorized uniforms are not in the military service.

'A' ALLOTMENTS CANNOT EXCEED $15 PER MONTH

Amount Definitely Fixed in New War Risk Act Amendment

PAY RATE DOESN'T COUNT

Class B Figure for Men With Dependents Is Set at Five Dollars

FURTHER RED TAPE SLASHING

New Regulations Will Simplify Procedure of Getting Money to Soldiers' Families

The War Risk Insurance Bureau at Tours announced this week a number of changes in the workings of the allotment and allowance system which will reduce one of the most complex items in Army finance—complex from the point of view of the Secretary of the Treasury and the buckest of buck privates alike—to the simplicity of A B C.

The changes are embodied in several important amendments to the War Risk act which were adopted by Congress on June 25 with a view to simplifying the procedure necessary to secure family allowances. All became effective July 1.

Hereafter, regardless of the rate of pay of the enlisted man or the amount of family allowance he claims for his dependents, the monthly compulsory allotment will be $15. For the first time in American military history, in other words, the amount of the compulsory allotment is absolutely fixed.

Previously, the Government allowance has been an amount equal to the amount alloted, and the amount alloted had to be not less than $15 and not more than one-half of the man's pay. When a private who alloted half his pay was made a corporal and then a sergeant in any month and then, say, was busted back to a private, the quantity of mathematical engineering required to find out how much he should allot was formidable and enormous.

How New System Will Work

Under the new ruling, the allowances will be apportioned as it has been previously; that is, $15 for a wife, $25 for a wife and one child, and so on.

The flat rate of $15 also holds in case a man makes a voluntary (Class B) allotment to his mother and sister for example. If he is making a Class B allotment in addition to the allotment to his wife and children, the additional allotment for Class B required to secure the family allowance will be $5—no more and no less.

The whole allotment allowance question, therefore, boils down to the following simple table:

Class A	$15
Class B	$15
Class A and Class B	$15 A. $5 B

Effective July 1, by the terms of the amendments to the War Risk Act all allotments in excess of the amount required to support the family allowance claimed will be reduced automatically to $15. If an enlisted man wants to allot any amount in excess of that required to support his family allowance a new allotment covering this excess amount must be executed on Q.M.C. Form 38 and forwarded direct to the Quartermaster General at Washington, not to Tours.

To Cut Red Tape

"What" groans the doughboy. "More forms to fill out?"

For that one particular thing, yes, but the War Risk Bureau and the Q.M.C. are working hand in hand in an effort to cut red tape that is already producing results. The result is that, effective July 1, all allotments previously made on War Risk Form 1 B which should have been made on Q.M. Form 38 are automatically cancelled.

This sounds and is, highly warrisky, Q.M.C.ish and technical. So here's an illustrative example:

Private A has a mother capable of supporting herself who is receiving Private A's allotment of $10 per month. By an error, he made the allotment on Form 1 B instead of Form 38.

Private B has a dependent mother to whom he has alloted $25 on Form 1 B. All that he needed to allot to get an allowance was $15. There is, therefore, a $10 excess on 1 B which should have been made out as a separate allotment on Form 38. In bother of these cases, the War Risk Bureau and the Depot Quartermaster have attempted to correct the errors which Private A and Private B made without bothering them further and to pay the entire allotment in both cases; but under the new rulings Private A's entire allotment and Private B's excess allotment of $10 are automatically cancelled as of July 1. If they desire to continue the allotments, they must immediately be re-executed—on Form 38, to be sent to Washington.

There will, of course, be some delay But Private A's mother is not dependent on him, and Private B's mother, who is dependent, will receive her $15 and

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FIRST FIELD BESTOWAL OF THE D.S.C.

General Pershing pinning the Cross on Sergeant Patrick Walsh, Infantry, 47 years old

LENERT'S ORATORY BRINGS 82 BOCHES INTO YANK LINES

"They're Going to Blow This Woods to Bits," Marine Tells His Captors

GERMANS DECIDE TO MOVE

Flock of Prisoners Do Double Time on Trip to American-Held Soil

This is the story of Private Frank Lenert, a sleepy-looking, flat-footed 19-year-old Marine from Chicago who emerged from Belleau Woods with 82 Boches as his personal prisoners.

It happened on the night the Americans in that sector rounded out their possession of the woods, killing, capturing, or driving out the remaining German machine gun companies that had clung stubbornly to their final strip of the debatable forest. It was a little after midnight, and the intelligence officer at one regimental headquarters had turned in with full pack on for an hour's sleep when he was awakened by the voice of a private calling out his name under his window. The voice went on in what its owner fondly believed to be a stage whisper, but which was really a sort of muffled roar.

"Say, come on down; I got some prisoners, I have."

"Well," said the lieutenant, "stick them in a shed somewhere, and I'll be down and look them over."

Into the Moonlit Road

"I guess I'll have to hire a hall," was the reply the lieutenant heard while he adjusted his helmet and gas mask and he was chuckling at that bit of Yankee braggadocio as he tumbled down the stairs and out into the moonlit road. The road was crowded. The sleep vanished from his widening eyes as he gazed upon a German company drawn up in full array, with a beaming Marine on guard on either end, and Private Lenert standing at attention, with his right hand fondling the butt of a German captain's automatic.

Over his shoulder was slung an exceptionally fine pair of German field glasses. He had just tossed away a pleasantly flavored German cigarette. Everyone looked very happy, including the Germans

"Where in the name of all that's wonderful did you get all these?"

"Oh," said Lenert cheerfully, "they just came along."

Later, when the prisoners had been marched off down the road to brigade headquarters, this account of the capture unfolded itself from the testimony of all concerned.

Lenert's battalion had been in the thick of the fighting, which had been preceded by a series of hotly contested advances since a little after sundown. He himself, in the height of the excitement, had got astray from his company and, confused in his bearings, he was

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YES, THEY'RE ON AGAIN

Leaves are on again.

That is, leaves are on again for all A.E.F. troops not actually on that part of the front between Verdun and the North Sea, or not actually under orders to go to that front.

Any organization now eligible for the granting of leaves, but which is later ordered to the "Verdun-North Sea front," will of course, have its leave privilege suspended temporarily.

But it is good news for the S.O.S.

ARTILLERY GETS INTO BIG ACTION IN RECORD TIME

Hike, Dig, Fire, Is History of Memorable Coming to Chateau-Thierry

FEEL RIGHT AT HOME NOW

Dugouts Have All the Hallroom Luxuries, Including Libraries and Fireplaces

When, on the heels of the Infantry, the Artillery trekked across France and flung itself into the swaying battle which held the German advance in the region of Château-Thierry, they came with the same roar and rush, shared in the same memorable spectacle which all the roads leading up to the Marne afforded—the spectacle of an army in a hurry.

At least one regiment came from a point distant considerably more than a hundred miles. It came by train the greater part of the way, and then made the last weary 35 miles on foot.

When they approached the region where their colonel had already been reconnoitering in his motor car, the afternoon was still young. Towards them the Germans were still advancing, in the woods ahead of them the Infantry and Marines were fighting like mad.

French Uniform, but—

There was no time to lose. There was no time to wait till darkness, or to select advantageous and well-masked positions. Under steady fire in broad daylight that Artillery regiment dug their shallow trails in the open field, flung up in front of them the camouflage screens of fish-net and green tufts which they carried rolled up on their limbers, and, one half hour after they had finished their dusty hike, started in to fire.

Out of the woods and down the road came a man on horseback, riding as if the devil were after him—a man in the uniform of a French officer who called out to them breathlessly that the Boches were only a kilometer away and still coming, that this was no place for them and they must be off at once if they hoped to save their guns.

They stayed where they were, and ever since there has been dawning on them the suspicion that that courier of

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NATION'S THOUGHT NOW EXPRESSED IN UNITS OF BILLIONS

Next Liberty Loan, Already Planned, Will Be Biggest Yet

ARMAMENT BILL IS PASSED

Government Expenses 13 Times Higher Than They Were in Days of Peace

[By Cable to THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

AMERICA, July 4.—The House of Representatives passed the huge $5,500,000,000 armament bill unanimously on the day after the committee reported it. The Senate has also passed the bill, likewise unanimously. It now goes to the President for signature.

In the House no amendments were offered, and the discussion was limited wholly to a businesslike consideration and scrutiny of all the bill's provisions, in order to assure success. The Senate finance committee passed it unanimously and without amendment the next day. Then the Senate itself followed suit.

Other enormous finance bills have been passed by Congress with almost equal celerity and unanimity. The Senate passed the annual supply measures in less than four hours, appropriating more than $20,000,000,000, mostly for the Army and Navy.

The Army appropriation bill was for over $12,000,000,000; the fortification bill for $5,500,000,000, and sundry civil bills totalled $3,000,000,000.

Passed in Fifteen Minutes

The $5,500,000,000 fortifications bill—which really is for artillery and munitions for you—passed in 15 minutes. The bill carries no limit on the possible Army, to be raised.

The House of Representatives also passed a bill authorizing the Government to issue a new $8,000,000,000 Liberty bond loan. It is not expected that the Government will decide to issue more than $6,000,000,000, but it has the authority for more.

This act makes the total bond issues, out and authorized to date, $22,000,000,000, and some of us wonder if we will ever learn again to speak in terms of one dollar bills.

Last Saturday ended our first fiscal Government year of war, and it was shown that we have spent $13,800,000,000 since war began, against less than $1,000,000,000 annually in peace times.

We are now spending about $50,000,000 daily, and if any well-wisher wants to raise the stakes, we are right there with more.

WEST WINS SHIP FLAGS

[By Cable to THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

AMERICA, July 4.—The first honor flags, of blue, for ship tonnage constructed during the month of May, have been awarded.

California and Oregon are the States to be thus favored.

PLANES BATTLE AS YANK HEROES ARE DECORATED

General Pershing Bestows Seven D.S.C.'s in First A.E.F. Ceremony

FRATERNITY THE KEYNOTE

Brief Formalities End With Whole Battalion Passing in Review

BALL TEAMS ABANDON GAME

Players Who Peek From Woods See Brothers Honored and Boche Machine Fall in Flames

The first field ceremonies of decoration since the Distinguished Service Cross was created—the first American ceremonies of decoration in the history of the A.E.F.—were held at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

They were held in a level green meadow that lies near the waters of the Noye, not much more than a brisk hour's walk from the ruined acres that were once the little village of Cantigny.

On the last and fairest day June brought to France, in the presence of a battalion of Infantry fresh from the line, the Commander-in-Chief himself fastened the bronze cross for valor on seven soldiers. Then, in a line with him and with four generals of the divisions—taking their place just to the left—the seven stood while the battalion passed in review, a touch of fraternity in the American ceremonies which most distinguishes them from the more elaborate and much lengthier ceremonies that attend the bestowal of the Croix de Guerre.

The seven were 1st Lieut. Christian R. Holmes, Sergeant Patrick Walsh, Sergeant James A. Murphy, Sergeant William Norton, Corporal Henry J. Mongean, and Private Edward V. Armstrong, Infantry, and Corporal Ernest W. Birch, Field Artillery.

Facing Their Chief

As they advanced across the field and stood facing their Commander-in-Chief and the reviewing party, the brief chronicle of their deed was read aloud. Then General Pershing stepped forward and, through these men, addressed their division. He told them in a few hearty words how proud it had made him, how well, as the first American division to take a place in the European battleline, it had fulfilled its double task of representing the American Army before the Armies of the Allies and of setting a proud example to the countless divisions that had followed and would follow.

Then he and the other generals moved down the line while the Commander-in-Chief pinned on each Cross, shook hands and spoke with each man and paused especially to congratulate Lieut. Holmes because, since the awarding of the Cross, he had distinguished himself by an exploit even more notable in the history of American bravery.

It was a perfect place and a perfect day for these ceremonies of thanks and appreciation.

As the morning drew toward noon, the chosen battalion marched along shady country lanes from its camp to the field, where the men were drilled in their parade. The sky was cloudless, and for a time all you could see in all the great expanse of blue were the observation balloons swaying ever so slightly in their place of vantage in the heavens.

Then, while the battalion was resting behind stacked guns, a spectacle was staged in the skies. French and German airplanes did battle overhead, and once the big guns gave chase to a German machine, the path of its flight marked by dozens of puffs of white shrapnel, which broke against the blue sky like full-blown dandelions.

The climax of the spectacle came when a German machine was brought down in flames, a great upshoot of smoke from a patch of woods reporting the happy event to the watching field.

Ball Players Vanish

By the time General Pershing arrived, all signs of war had vanished. Just as a coatless team that was taking advantage of the fine field for a little Sunday ball had vanished into the woods at his approach to watch the subsequent proceedings through the curtain of underbrush, so the airplanes had retreated from the sky and, except for the occasional boom of a distant heavy and the occasional rat-a-tat-tat of the machine guns in the groves all about, except, too, for the glint of the afternoon sunlight on the helmets, you would have thought this was a ceremony on which some such fair and peaceful parade ground as the one that stretches away from the lakeside at the Madison Barracks back home.

It did seem as if home and its piers and parade grounds could not be so very far away when the band came round the corner of the woods to the blast of a good old Sousa march.

The Crosses bestowed last Sunday afternoon were awarded at various times and the news of the awards has been printed in this newspaper.

'PERFECT ATTACK,' FRENCH TRIBUTE ON VAUX CAPTURE

Infantry Takes Village Exactly According to Set Schedule

HUNS LOSE THREE TO OUR ONE

Five Hundred Prisoners Made, Our Largest Bag of Germans to Date

SPECIAL PART FOR EACH YANK

Reconnaissance Work Includes Aerial Detective Stunts Performed by Americans Alone

"A perfect attack" was the compliment the French observers paid to the neat, swift and strikingly successful advance which the American Infantry made last Monday evening in the region just to the west of Château-Thierry—an advance which put in their hands the village of Vaux, the woods of La Roche and some wooded territory roundabout.

This advance, made on a battlefront of a mile and a half and pushed to a depth of 1,000 yards, was a little encounter as battles go in 1918, but it was notable for the swiftness and precision of its execution and for the damage it did the Germans in comparison with the losses the Yankees suffered.

For every casualty in their ranks—for every man killed or wounded—the Americans could count two prisoners in their pen and one dead German within the rewon territory. How many Germans were killed beyond the new American line and how many were hurt can only be guessed. The prisoners numbered more than 500, the largest haul we have made in any single engagement.

The attack was made by men who had been in the line for 13 days, who, for the most part, had not had their clothes off since Memorial Day and some not since the last week in March. When dawn came on Tuesday, they were dog-tired but jubilant, and there was a cheer left in them for the few who were called out of their dugouts in the early hours of Wednesday morning, scrubbed within an inch of their lives and generally beautified so that they could look their best for the parade through the streets of Paris in the Franco-American celebration of the Fourth of July.

Backed by American Guns

This was the first complete military operation that was not only planned and executed by our forces, but supported entirely by our own artillery. Only the French heavies shared in the bombardment which lasted all day Monday and prepared the way for the Infantry, who advanced exactly on the stroke of six. It was the first engagement on the Château-Thierry front in which American aviators had done the overhead work.

The attack was notable for the thoroughness of the reconnaissance which preceded it. A most patient painstaking study of the desired land was made before the bombardment began.

Civilian refugees from the pretty village of Vaux instructed the American intelligence officers in the twists and turns of its little streets, old picture-post cards yielded further information, while a treasured photograph of a 1913 picnic party told them all they needed to know about the tunnel under the main street, a tunnel big enough to hide a whole battalion.

Then our aviators brought in birds-eye pictures of the town and our night-prowling scouts brought back such tidings that, when the Infantry went over, each platoon and squad leader had in his possession a map of the town with the very cellar he was to capture marked in red ink.

Hand-to-Hand Fighting

A 30-minute bombardment razed in ruins the scarcely scarred village, the first wave of Infantry that had risen from its trenches at 6 rushed through the wave of machine gun bullets, reached the outskirts of Vaux at 6.15 and at 6.25 were in complete possession. With hand grenades, they drove the Germans from the tunnel out into the mouths of the machine guns waiting for them at the other end.

There were hand-to-hand encounters in the street. One sergeant found 12 sleeping Germans in a cellar, shot dead the two who woke at his entrance and brought in the other ten as his personal prisoners.

One little miner from Pennsylvania chased a German lieutenant through the streets till he ran into outstretched Yankee arms, but the miner himself claimed the officer's iron cross and was wearing it complacently when he came in later with five prisoners of his own taking.

Meanwhile, part of another regiment was busy taking La Roche Woods, routing out machine gun nests and turning the guns on the retreating Germans.

The first batch of prisoners brought in—five of them—were captured by an infantryman who was celebrating his return to duty from sick in hospital that very day and who had insisted on going over with the bunch despite a new affliction in the form of an ulcerated tooth which had swelled his face till he looked like a comic valentine.

Headquarters Kept in Touch

Throughout the attack, the runners, the signal men and the low-swooping airplanes kept regimental headquarters in constant communication. All that night, one colonel had his major on the wire continuously except for one 30 minute break. The intelligence officers who was telephoning steadily from the second story of an outpost cottage went right on telephoning after an annoying break of 15 minutes which occurred when a German shell blew the roof off the house.

The attack lasted only 80 minutes. By 7.30 o'clock, the listeners in one colonel's dugout heard his chortling over the telephone: "Hooray! God bless you! Gott in Himmel! Wipe 'em up!"

Then, turning to the waiting group around him, he explained his outburst:

"The major says they've got all their