

4TH, NEW TO GAME, PROVED ITS WORTH IN JULY COUNTER

Put Into Great Attack in Brigade Units Attached to French. PATROLS NORTH OF VESLE. Courchamps Won in Advance That Commander Called "Splendid Dash".

In the July counter-offensive, the least fortunate of the American divisions, as a divisional unit, was the 4th. Having arrived in France at a comparatively late date on July 18, between the 2nd Division, southwest of Soissons, and the 26th, northwest of Chateau-Thierry, there were no United States troops. There were no concrete units, divisions, but it was just about midway of this stretch of front that the troops of the 4th Division fought by brigade or battalion, the 7th Infantry Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Benjamin A. Poore, and consisting of the 39th and 47th Infantry and the 11th Machine Gun Battalion, operating under the 3rd French Division, and the 8th Infantry Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. Frank D. Webster, and consisting of the 58th and 59th Infantry, and the 12th Machine Gun Battalion, operating under the 16th French Division.

Center of Divisional Sector

General Poore's 7th Brigade was advanced from its second-line positions between Varinroy and Antheuill-en-Valois on July 16, and the 39th Infantry, commanded by Col. Frank C. Bolles, with Companies A and C of the 11th Machine Gun Battalion, under Maj. Floyd H. Waltz, were ordered to the front line to relieve the 11th Infantry, of the 3rd French Division.

The regimental sector thus taken over was in the center of the division, with the 23rd French Infantry on the left, of it and the 20th French Infantry on the right, and it lay just northwest of the village of Troesnes, on the Ourcq, with the marshy valley of the Saviers-river directly in front of the regiment. The hill crowned by a wood, Buisson de Cresnes. From this sector to the next American troops on the right, the 8th Brigade, of the 4th Division, consisted of only about eight kilometers, and to the nearest ones on the left, the 2nd Division, was about ten kilometers.

REGULATION RATION FOR THIRD ARMY MEN

The dear old regulation ration, strongly assailed for some time by the American Expeditionary Forces, is being made available in the Third Army. "Officers and enlisted men of the American Expeditionary Forces," says Order No. 6, Advanced General Headquarters, "are forbidden to purchase or requisition articles of food on the German ration; also all heavy and food for cattle, horses, pigs and sheep." The long and short of it is that the German Government says it is finding it a hard job to ration food. The Germans in many parts of the American area either sell much of their food outright or fix it up appetizingly for Yank stomachs. The soldiers now are ordered to include in such things as "meat of all sorts, chicken and fowl, eggs, milk, butter, margarine and oil, potatoes, sugar, marmalade and all prepared bread, breadstuffs, cookies, pastries and ginger bread." Fresh vegetables, other than potatoes, may be purchased, however, which means that those who have acquired a sackerknaut tooth can still have that peculiar form of melody-appeased. Paragraph 3 of the order reads: "These prohibitions apply to all officers' messes."

MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS C-IN-C'S LUNCHEON GUESTS

High Ranking Officers Pass Out Salutes to Decorated Privates. SUPREME AWARD TO 47 MEN. Party of 17 Heroes, from Captains to Bucks, Entertained at General's Chateau.

Military policemen clicked their heels and snapped into their best salute, just plain doughboys saluted and stared, and high ranking officers raised their hands to their caps Monday noon at G.H.Q. when one limousine, bearing four stars, and two with three, whisked away from the Headquarters building. They thought they were rendering the military courtesy to General Pershing, but, as a matter of fact, they were saluting buck privates and plain captains and lieutenants. The occupants of the three cars were 47 Medal of Honor men, whom the day before the Commander-in-Chief had decorated with the highest honor the United States can bestow for gallantry in action. They were on their way to General Pershing's chateau, Val des Escaliers, to take luncheon with the general.

Never before in the history of the American Army has such an array of stars and bars and just plain O.D. mixed in company in the dining room. And the affair was not a stiff, formal one, either. Take it from one of the doughboys who was there. The generals talked and exchanged jokes with the privates and lieutenants. There was no such thing as rank. Two of the bucks whose organizations are on the priority list for transportation home took the occasion to get themselves transferred from ensual status to their outfits and others obtained three days' leave in Paris as further reward for their brilliant work in battle. The general drank to the health of the 47 honor men, and then everybody ate chicken and sweets, sans mess-kit.

Among those present at the luncheon were Lieut. George Liggett and Bullard, Maj. Gons. McAndrew and Summerall, Brig. Gens. Davis and Nolan, and the 17 honor men.

TO HER VALENTINE

For valentine this year, I've posed This portrait to remind you Of one who waits. Please find enclosed The girl you left behind you.

TO HER VALENTINE Your A.P.O. is far from mine But hope there is a plenty I need not mail my valentine This time in 1920.

SPECIAL TRAINS WILL BEAR YANKS TO LEAVE AREAS

Biarritz, Added to List of Army's Vacation Spots, Opens March 1. Setting out on a wide plan to free the railroad passenger trains of France from the burden of carrying tens of thousands of American soldiers to and from leave areas, the A.E.F. on Monday will run its first all-American through trains from Paris to Cannes, Nice and Mentone.

BOCHE CAPTIVES IN HIGH DUDGEON

The literary tastes of the 500 German officer prisoners of the American Army interned at Richelieu, near Tours, have been offended. In a complaint sent by them to the Adjutant General of the A.E.F., they protest that the extensive library of the owner of the chateau and grounds wherein they are confined was "wretchedly selected." They say



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VAMPIRES TRAIL ARKANSAS YOUTH

Censor Asked to Stop Letters from "Designing Women". The latest freak letters addressed to the Base Censor of the A.E.F. and he gets a lot of them—arrived in last week's mails from the States. A very much worried mother of a doughboy who is somewhere in the A.E.F. wrote from her home in Arkansas appealing to the Base Censor to help her save her son from "two designing women." She had just found out, she said, that two married women in her town were writing letters to her boy. She asked the Base Censor to "get on the job and help her thwart them."

SEVEN AMERICAN DIVISIONS CALLED FOR METZ ATTACK

7th, 28th, 33rd, 92nd, 4th, 35th, 88th Were to Figure in Drive. Further light was thrown this week on the great untought battle of the war, the Allied offensive of November 14 in Lorraine which would have forced the evacuation of Metz and to avoid which the German general staff put up its hands. It may now be stated that the American divisions summoned for that battle were—taking them as they were lined up from left to right when the fighting stopped—the 7th, 28th, 33rd, 92nd, 4th, 35th and 88th. All these were either in the front line or in reserve when the whistle blew.

FORCES PRESENT FOR BATTLE

"In this battle, perhaps the gravest in history, what were the forces present? I am authorized to publish the figures. On the Allied side, there were 25 divisions, 10 French and six American; on the German side, there were four divisions, two of them Landwehr. When, stung by this inequality, I asked what at least was the German General Staff had at its command, I was told: "Zero." I asked what could bring from other fronts where they had been so severely engaged; again I was told: "Zero."

54,424 SET SAIL IN RECORD WEEK; INFANTRY LEADS

Departure Total Now Carried Within Sight of 300,000 Mark. Marseille Added to List. Mediterranean City Designated as Embarkation Port—Three Officers Go Singly. Fifty-one thousand four hundred and seventy-five enlisted men and 2,919 officers sailed for home the week ending February 5—almost twice as many departures as in any previous week since the signing of the armistice.

This record week's figures brought the total of those who have gone home to almost 300,000, the actual figures being 18,338 officers and 275,183 enlisted men. Infantry led the last week's totals with 19,067 enlisted men and 641 officers. Casualties came second, with 15,538 enlisted men and 1,700 officers. Almost 12,000 officers and men of Artillery units were also included.

One indication that the increased sailing rate will be maintained is seen in the announcement this week of the designation of Marseille as a new port of embarkation, at which Italian, Greek and other Allied vessels will take about A.E.F. passengers for the States. Only a comparatively small number of troops will be kept in the Marseille embarkation camp.

ROTTERDAM AND ANTWERP BASES FOR THIRD ARMY

Barge System on Rhine to Relieve Congestion in France. Only Small Detachment of Enlisted Men to Be Stationed at Dutch and Belgian Ports. Rotterdam and Antwerp have been made the supply bases from which the American Army of Occupation in Germany will receive its food and other material, according to announcement this week at Hq., S.O.S.

The Rhine will relieve the overburdened railways of France. Thousands of tons of freight will be carried up the Rhine to Coblenz on deep draft barges which will be loaded out of the holds of ocean liners at Rotterdam, at the mouth of the river, and at Antwerp, on the estuary of the Scheldt. Within easy towing distance of Rotterdam, Warehouses will be established at both ports.

NEW YORK NOW RAILHEAD

Under the new plan New York in effect will be the "railhead" for the Third Army. Freighters and cargo liners will take aboard stores already sorted by officers in proportion to divisional needs for a given period. These supplies will be delivered to the divisions entirely by water, with the exception of the final land haul. The deep draft barges will be loaded according to needs of the various Third Army units, Coblenz being practically a regulating station for the port in Holland and the one in Belgium.

TRANSPORT READY TO WEIGH ANCHOR FOR WILSON PARTY

Presidential Group on the George Washington Will Not Exceed Ten. With the transport George Washington ready to weigh anchor at Brest and the Presidential party, from the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy down to the last lucky casual who has been punching a switchboard in the Executive Mansion in Paris, prepared to entrain tonight, it need be nothing but delay in the committee room of the Peace Conference is holding up the homeward journey. But President Wilson has until Monday, if he wishes to use up his last minute of leave, and still reach America before he is AWOL at his headquarters.

MORE S.O.S. CITATIONS

In addition to the 21 S.O.S. soldiers recently mentioned in orders as having performed meritorious service, G.O. No. 4, Hq., S.O.S., has issued commendations for four additional men, all privates: Robert L. Smith, who volunteered to care for patients during an epidemic of pneumonia and influenza, October 2, 1918, at the Third Corps Artillery Park. He contracted spinal meningitis from one of the patients and died.

HALF POUND STEAKS FOR MEN NEARING TRANSPORTS

One-half-pound steaks—no bone in them—are being served to troops on the special trains from the Le Mans embarkation center to the ports of Brest and St. Nazaire. With the steaks go cream gravy, rolls, jam and coffee.

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