

'Now, the Best Route to Chicago Is . . .'



Trailblazer Photo
PVT. WALTER K. LUNDTTOFT of the 70th Transportation Office explains routes and timetables to this group of Trailblazers soon to leave on furlough. Leaning on the table (left to right) are Pvt. Clarence Ybarra, James Harrold, William Powebrick and Pfc. Ralph Smith. In the back are Sgt. Joseph Koy and Pvt. Joseph Fratarcangeli.

Travel Reservations Made for Men of 70th

Even when it's "Destination: home!" with those coveted furlough papers clutched fervently, there's a fly in the ointment that could cause Joe Trailblazer plenty of headaches before he got back to the old home town. That "fly" is the old transportation problem.

The 70th Division Transportation Office, however, has eliminated this worry and hundreds of Trailblazers were able to enjoy over-the-holiday furloughs w/y over on the other side of the continent with nary a hitch.

But, let's let T-Sgt. C. R. English of the 70 QM Co. tell us about it:

Increased Travel

"We all know that rail travel has been increased tremendously by the war. Not only do more businessmen have to travel by train, but war workers and their families, relatives and friends visiting servicemen, and the GIs themselves have added greatly to the passenger load.

"Formerly a soldier would be given a furlough, and when he arrived, say, at Portland, he'd have to wait one, two or even three days before he could catch a train. We all know those furlough days are too precious to waste in a waiting room.

"So this section was set up to take care of the rationing necessary on railways. We started operations December 15 and will work through the 11th of this month.

"Trailblazer units notify us of the number of men who will leave on certain days — there are 140 men pushing off every single day — and we receive and apportion our share of the rationed transportation a week ahead of time.

Shortest & Fastest Way Home
"Five days before he leaves, the soldier comes up to our office. (Ed. note: The Transportation Office is in the same building as the division classification office, just across Postal Avenue from the Dental Clinic). We route him home by the shortest and fastest route."

T/Sgt. English has been in the transportation business for more years than he'll admit to. He knows train schedules from the Union Pacific's crack flier to the milk run

on the Podunk, Pumpkin Center and Bear Hollow R. R. So, when he looks up a timetable in the complete file he has, it's more to document his routing than to help his memory.

The rumor that men had to travel by routes other than their own choice is—like most latrine rumors—completely false, says the sergeant.

Different Routes May Speed

"Once in a while," he says, "either because we can give him a speedier connection, or because there's no more room available on a particular line, we suggest a different routing, but no man is forced to travel any way except his own choice.

"We order his tickets and he picks them up three days before he leaves," he explains.

With post-basic furloughs being granted throughout the 70th, the Transportation Office has become one of the busiest—and most popular—spots on the post.

All Units on Post To Cooperate with Paralysis Drive

When the 11th annual appeal for funds for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis gets under way on Jan. 14, Adair GIs will have an opportunity to strike a blow against another vicious enemy—the dreaded infantile paralysis disease.

Lt. Charles F. Payne of the Post Finance Office has been placed in charge of Post participation in the drive and expects soon to receive the now familiar coin receptacles which will be distributed to organizations throughout the Post.

The 91st Division has appointed Lt. Elvis L. Gilbert to handle its share of the drive, and Trailblazer participation will be under the direction of Lt. Walter R. Bogart.

Funds realized from the various activities planned in conjunction with the drive will be turned over to the Foundation to be used for infantile paralysis research and treatment.

COMPANY BOASTS 100% INSURED

Anti-tank Co. of the 362nd Infantry is the kind of a customer that all insurance men dream about.

It is now 100% signed up for the Army's \$10,000 Service Life Insurance.

S/Sgt. Ralph Mead had the dubious honor of being the last man to put his signature on an application as he signed up last week.

First Reports on 4th Army Tests in 91st Very Good

Although a formal report is not yet available on the results of the 4th Army Intelligence tests conducted in the 91st Division last week, comments of the umpires concerned indicated that the "sections had come through with flying colors."

This was the consensus of opinion as the rigorous seven-day tests on the status of training in intelligence came to a close. The series of examinations marked the first of its kind given by 4th Army.

The strenuous program was under the supervision of Col. Charles P. Bixel, G-2 of 4th Army, with Maj. Leo W. Bagley, Assistant G-2, actually conducting.

The tests covered every phase of patrolling, reconnaissance, night intelligence, the establishments of command posts and mapping. Participating in the tests were the G-2 section and Recon Troop of the division.

One of the highlights of the series was a stream crossing problem. The only known ford had been booby-trapped. The testing officers believed that the stream could not be crossed.

However, the G-2 section, under the command of Lt. Col. E. O. Foster, recognized the trap, avoided it and plowed through the stream at another point, jeeps and all. The water was up to the fenders, but they got through.

Case of Nerves Sends Sarge After Bromides

Sgt. Liptay had a slight case of the jitters when Co. B's stalwarts paid their respects to the hand grenade range.

As he watched the boys dash up with little pieces of sudden death in their hands, the Sarge started to worry.

Suppose one of them dropped a grenade at his feet. Suppose one of them bounced his missile from the top of the stockade instead of over it?

Pvt. Jaffee cause no worry, however. With the command, "Pull pin," Jaffee, in one very fast motion, yanked the pin and heaved the grenade over the fence, before the Sarge could blink his eyes.

Jaffee also is a conservative and was taking no chances.

Pfc. Longworth pulled his pin, and the fuse immediately started smoking. Somewhat surprised he looked at Liptay for advice.

It was forthcoming. "Throw that thing—hurry up—fast—heave it—get it out of here!"

The Sarge spent a quiet weekend in bed with a bundle of bromides.

LT. SULLIVAN APPOINTED

Lt. Frederick Sullivan has been appointed assistant post training officer, according to a recent announcement by Col. Samuel D. Hays, post commander.

Lt. Sullivan entered the military service in May, 1941, at Camp Roberts, Calif. He is a graduate of the Tank Destroyer School at Camp Hood, Tex., and the Camouflage School at Ft. Belvoir, Va.

Col. Murray Rewards His Men



316th Eng., 91st Div. Photo
COL. PAUL MURRAY, departing commanding of the 363rd Inf., presents Lt. E. M. Ostrand, Hq. Co., 1st Bn., with good conduct medals for his company. This was one of the last acts of Col. Murray before he left his command on orders transferring him from the 91st Div., and the first time the medals were awarded in his regiment.

Col. Murray, 363rd CO, Leaves 'Best' Regiment

(Continued from page one)
attended Command and General Staff School, graduating in 1923. From there he was again assigned to the Officers Reserve Corps, this time in New Hampshire.

In the early thirties he was attached to the 2nd Division at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., and in 1935 he was promoted to Lt. Col. After this he left for the Philippines where for two years he was commander of a prison camp.

For a year prior to joining the 363rd Col. Murray served as commander of Camp Edwards, Mass. However, in June, 1942, he assembled with the original cadre of officers for the 363rd at Ft. Benning, and a month later was raised to the rank of colonel.

He Could Take It

While with the regiment, Col. Murray showed that he could

both take it and hand it out. Although over 52 years old, he made every step of a grueling 91 mile march at the head of his column. During the cadre training period, the colonel also swam the treacherous Rogue River with full field equipment.

He was the enlisted men's officer, always keeping their interests upper-most in his mind. At the same time he demanded the highest physical and mental standards of his men.

No better summary could be given of Col. Murray than the simple statement he made just before he left: "I don't want any fuss about my leaving. I just want to step out of the ranks like a soldier."

A good soldier never holds his hands in his pockets.

This Was No Merry Christmas!



316th Eng., 91st Div. Photo
PVT. FLOYD TRUNTHAM, of the 91st Div. QM, grinds away on that stack of dishes. He was just one of the many men in the division that had to turn over their holiday New Years in that glorious cause of the KP.

Mess Hall Personnel Deserve Great Praise for Their Work on Holidays

Out of the subsiding tide of New Year's celebration on the Post there emerged this week one great, but considerably unappreciated, class of heroes: the mess hall personnel.

With their very lives dedicated toward making the yuletide season enjoyable for others, the mess sergeants and KPs found very little merriment for themselves as they spent 14, 15, and even 18 hours in the kitchen over Christmas and New Year.

Every mess hall on the Post was

decked out in gala decorations from floor to rafter by these "Knights of the Chow." Cigarettes, candy, nuts and those huge turkey dinners were also prepared by the untiring staffs.

Behind that stack of dishes and pots and pans was the KP for the day, forgotten, forlorn, and just a little disgusted. These men spent the holidays uncomplainingly at work, while we celebrated.

For this they deserve a lot of credit, even though belated.