

# Two-Thirds of Army Earmarked For Overseas

Major changes affecting army officers and enlisted men are in prospect this year as a result of a move to shift the majority of the army from this country overseas, the War Department has announced. Present plans provide for a force of about 5,000,000 men overseas at the end of 1944 as compared with about 2,500,000 overseas at the end of 1943.

The shift will permit a substantial reduction in establishments in the United States, and many posts will be put on a caretaker basis, permitting the release of many administrative troops for reassignment. The War Department has ordered that physically qualified enlisted men who have served more than two months at fixed stations or in overhead activities in the United States shall be reassigned to mobile activities destined for overseas service.

Men under 30 will be reassigned first, according to their length of service in the United States. Men who have served overseas since Dec. 1, 1941, will be exempt from reassignment, as will men possessing highly specialized skills which cannot be utilized fully overseas.

Replacements, when necessary, will be taken from civilian employees, next from among the Wacs and then in order from men permanently disqualified for overseas service, men who have served overseas, recently inducted men with physical handicaps, and enlisted men with less than 12 months service at home.

## Findings From the 51st



By Pvt. Ernest G. Cushman

The 51st Battalion, assembled last week to see an impressive orientation program at the Post theatre Sunday.

The program gave trainees an insight into what an important part the Corps of Engineers is playing in the armed forces and also was of paramount interest because it revealed we now are members of a battalion with an enviable record and a high reputation for achievement. The 51st is again on the march for bigger and better records.

Sgt. John R. Johnson, in the arms of Morpheus when we first shuffled into the Third Platoon barracks, welcomed us with "make yourselves at home." He immediately was bombarded with questions, the general run

## BIG BUSINESS IN BONDS



Post Signal Photo Lab.

More than \$2,000 worth of Tokyo-aimed shellfire is shown getting started here. S/Sgt. Cooper, of the Finance office, assisted by Minutemen Mrs. Elvan Henry and Mrs. Mayme Mills sell war bonds to civilian personnel from the laundry. Buying bonds, from left to right, are: Mrs. Ernest Ruden, \$100; Mrs. Huldah Peasley, \$500; Rose L. Strathdee, Civilian Personnel War Bond Committee; Mrs. Daisy Hale, \$1,000; Mrs. Pearl Race, \$50; Mrs. Zetta Watts, \$400; Mrs. Jemie Godsey, \$25; Mrs. Marie St. Clair, \$50.

of which was along these lines: "How cold does it get up here? When can we get to town? How many Wacs are stationed here? When do we get paid that 'long green'? How's the chow here?"

Supply Sergeant Francis E. Long, who also has been acting first sergeant during First Sgt. J. Weldon's furlough, cautioned all to guard and cherish equipment. The advice was given so trainees won't become members of the "Statement of Charges Club."

The last question brought a surprise answer from our benign-looking sergeant. He said it would be a good idea for some of us to go over to the mess hall and see if our lunch was being prepared to suit our taste. In short, we drew KP forthwith. However, it is the consensus of opinion the food is excellent.

Sergeant Johnson and Corporal Kuzmicki were seen parading around in nature's raiment, and with the temperature being what it was, it somewhat shamed the well-bundled warmer climate birds. "Yard birds" Louis Cowan and R. Hammond informed us the Bernarr McFadden display was brought on by the fact they had just finished a three-week period of unit training and therefore were oblivious to cold weather.

The "Fourth Estate" shall carry on with a weekly report as to the progress and development of Company B.

Our motto: Semper Fidelis—To the Cause.

## Notes From C-58



By Pvt. Armand A. Renaud

Most of the men who were hospitalized because of severe colds or influenza are now back and well again. To those few, including Oregon, Boutel, Neiser, Vasquez, Maxwell and Carpenter, who must go to other battalions, good luck and we're sorry to lose you.

If Palma can throw a grenade like that when he's saying, "I'm sick and wanta die," boy, what a pitcher he'll make when he's well again.

The mess hall staff is now called the "furlough gang." The cooks alternate every fifteen days—or so it seems.

Who slipped up? Sgt. Belluci has been awarded a good conduct medal.

One week after pay day, a few games of "checkers," one pass to Bend and finances are "snafu."

The fourth platoon went off to their first class this morning singing "School Days." "Papa" Johnson—who loves his boys but has had a hard six weeks—relaxed lazily most of the day, a contented smile of relief on his face.

## Polio Donations Pass \$1000 Mark

The thousand-dollar mark was exceeded by the March of Dimes campaign at this post, final returns indicated. Total receipts were \$1015.68—well over the dime-per-person which was set as goal in the fight against infantile paralysis.

The money was collected on a purely voluntary basis, Major M. J. Cuadra, Headquarters Commandant and chairman of the drive, announced. Contributions came from social events, birthday card folders, and coin jars placed in accessible spots.

## Wacs to Appeal For Bond Sales

Translating the cost of their typewriters and trucks into war bonds, Sgts. Mary Scheeler and Rosemary Kassap are scheduled to present a graphic appeal for bond purchases to the people of Redmond. The date for the talks is at present undecided; the originally scheduled date was postponed because of weather conditions.

## Abbot Soldiers Attend Concert

More than 100 enlisted men from this post were the guests of the Bend Community Concert Association of Bend Monday night when Dorothy Maynor, widely-acclaimed Negro soprano, presented the opening program in a concert series. Tickets, distributed by the Special Service Office, will be available to ser-

## Pin-Up Portion Of Sweetheart Contest Dropped

Modesty, a distrust of photography or some mysterious aversion to becoming "pin-ups" on the part of the feminine contingent has forced the Service Club to alter its plan for selecting a "Sweetheart of Camp Abbot" at its Valentine's dance Feb. 26, Mrs. Helen Smith, director, announced.

Under the original plan, soldiers were to have selected their favorite beauty from numbered photographs on display in the club after giving gals the once over "in the flesh" at last Wednesday's dance. A call for pin-up art, however, brought in only one photograph.

Under the new plan, each female bosom will sport a number for the formal affair, and after due deliberation, soldiers will mark their ballots—by the numbers.

## In Our Poets Corner

A LETTER TO MOM

I may write a thousand letters to the girl that I adore, And declare in every letter that I love her more and more;

I may praise her grace and beauty in a thousand gleaming lines, And compare her eyes of azure to the brightest star that shines;

If I had the pen of Byron, I could use it every day

In comparing written worship to my sweetheart far away.

But the letter form of welcome, to the young and gentle breast, Is the letter to you Mother, from the boy who loves you best.

You will read it very often, when the lights are soft and low, Sitting in the armchair, where you held me long ago;

And regardless of its diction, or its spelling, or its style, And although its simple manner might provoke a critic's smile,

In your fond and trembling fingers it becomes a work of art, Stained by tears of joy and sadness, as you hug it to your heart.

Yes, the letter of all letters, no matter where I roam,

Is the letter to you, Mother, from your boy away from home.

—Pvt. John A. Trainer, Co. C, 56th ETB.

vicemen when Patricia Travers violinist, and Walter Hautzig, pianist, present other concerts in the series. Dates for the latter programs will be announced.

## Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

## I Dream Of Genii

