

# FOTOFACTO

THE LOOTENANT SEZ

A picture is worth 10,000 words,  
but any 10,000 words do not al-  
ways make a picture.

## PROMOTIONS MARK WEEK FOR 163RD

February walked out leaving the 163rd with one new Lieutenant, one new First Sergeant, one new Supply Sergeant, and nine other promotions in the ranks of the E.M.s. These promotions were made 27th Feb. at a special formation.

The lieutenantcy went to 1st Sgt. Perry Satterwhite, Jr. for his "faithful service" and in "recognition of his ability to perform duties of greater responsibility," quoting Capt. Lewis' formation announcement.

Lt. Satterwhite, of Victoria, Texas, took over the route management of the Sunshine Laundry, Kerrville, Texas, after a turn at Business Administration at the Shreiner Institute. Figuring he could clean up more in oil, he left the laundry to buy a half interest in an oil agency; but, exhibiting shrewdness, he sold his interest when his induction into the armed forces was imminent for the job of brakeman on the Southern Pacific Lines to establish seniority, which goes on while he is in the Army. At present, he is classified as Conductor.

He came into the Army thru Fort Sam Houston to Fort Reilly where he, using his own words, "spent 14 bloody weeks in the cavalry." From there he went to the classification office at Camp Crowder thence to the 163 to handle supplies for the company's detachment on the 1942 maneuvers. He was recalled in September to be the Supply Sgt. for 163's advanced detachment making the North African landing, November 1942. He touched on a story that is really worth a ream of paper when he told of his having to swim ashore from the torpedoed U.S.S. Bliss at Fedahla.

He stayed 163 until March 1943 when he transferred to the Army Pictorial Service Co. at Algiers to become its 1st Sgt. which he was until May 1944 when he took over the 1st sergeancy of 163 while it was billeted at San Marco.

"- and the rest is current history," finished the new Lt.

The job of being 1st Sgt. went to T/Sgt. Frank DeToro, Supply Sgt.

Frankie, the boy from Perthamboy, N.J. was office manager and cashier for National Biscuit Co. for 11 years after finishing a course in Business Administration at Perthamboy's Business College. The eleventh



replaces advances  
Photos by Bowen

year saw his trading biscuits for basic. After his induction at Fort Dix, he went to Fort Benning, Ga. for training with the 161st Signal Photo Company until April, 1942, when he was selected for the cadre slated to play skeleton for the 163's body which he kept clothed and equipped from the time of its activation to his recent promotion.

His charges may safely infer that he expects to be the same old Frank from his words, "It's an honor to be the 1st Sgt. of such a fine group of men and officers. I will continue to cooperate as in the past."

And the new Supply Sgt., S/Sgt. John Hester, carrying on the "nothing has been changed" theme started by 1st Sgt. DeToro said, "I hope to carry on the work with the efficiency and geniality of Frankie."

Hester came into the Army

## THE SOFTENING PROCESS



GUDINGEN, GERMANY, American P-47's pulverize enemy defenses around the town to soften up the Germans for an attack by Seventh Army Infantry.

Photo by Lt. Harris

through Fort Bliss' induction center to basic in Camp Crowder then to Fort Sam Houston, 15 May 1942, as a headquarters clerk until placed in supply in July. He passed his first "hash" mark 23 Feb. this year.

Previous to his induction, he did a stretch at the Kansas State College majoring in Land Economics after which he joined the Prudential Life Insurance Company's land office. From there he went to Federal Land Bank working in several of its various branches over a period of four years, finally winding up in Clayton, New Mexico. After that, he landed in the Army.

"It's business as usual at Hester's 'House of the Three Balls,'" quoth John.

When freshly made T/4 Carl Schneider was asked his views on his position in the new set up, he gave out with, "As far as I can see, there's been no change; I just work here."

The nine who were boosted are: to be T/4 Carl Schneider and T. C. Smith; to be T/5 Pat Kohl, Joseph Bowen, and Knight Harris; and to be Pfc William Harvey, Kenry Olson, James Sargent, and James A. Smith.

## SIDE LIGHTS

Lt. Ollar, now in Belgium sends his regards and says he wishes that he was still with the 163rd.

Writes Captain Stevenson, now in California, along with plugs for 163 and regards for his former associates still on this side, "I met a woman the other night who had a son in the Sig. Corps and insisted on telling me of the tough life he led and all the hardships of war he was suffering. After about half an hour of this, I was convinced that he lived exclusively at a forward machine gun post. It turned out that he was working in the Lab in Rome." He reports that Lt. Bradley is shooting inserts, thoroughly miserable.

## SOP-CAT

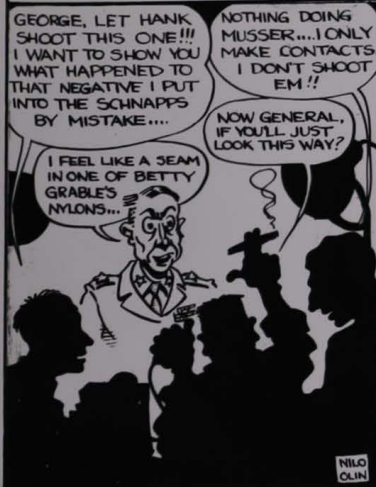
When you hear the term SOP-CAT, you will now know that it means Standing Operating Procedure for Combat Assignment Teams. This is one section of the Complete Company SOP to be published in three sections.

Section I deals with Hqs. operations; Section II deals with Photo Liaison Officer's operations, and Section III, with the combat assignment team.

The company's operations officer, Lt. Noah, is responsible for putting out the latest revisions and amendments to the SOP which will normally become part of the annex. In this way, up to date information on every function within the company will be available for reference and guidance in doing a better job.

## THE PORTRAITISTS

by Olin



NILIO OLIN

## FROM THE CAT REPORTS....

CAT 5: Lt. Harris finishes his report with "WHAT A WEEK" And why? Close calls with shells and mortar bombs, a broken motor support, night patrols, and a "rookie driver" in a 2½ ton truck, whose moping jeopardized everyone behind him...CAT 10: And still it goes on, Gerzen sets them up, Bikow knocks them down. Apparently T/4 Bialkowski has had no interesting experiences this week...CAT 7: Mostly movie bugs for T/3 Peterson. CAT 24: It was an ailing battery for PFC. Durband, things in general, quiet...CAT 2: Troubles, troubles, troubles...CAT 9: Quiet, nothing scrappy...CAT 4: "What would we do if it weren't for decorations and maps?" CAT 6: T/4 Bell grew wings to get tactical pix that proved very satisfactory. All else seems to be "flats"...CAT 21: It was commissions and decorations for T/4 Galbraith and associates...CAT 23 made up of T/5's Harris, Weintraub, and G. Smith, stuck their necks out to shoot the "biggest Jag-tiger Jerry tank" knocked out on this front. The team worked under barking guns and strafing planes...CAT 12: Sgt. Heller down with sinus; but still shooting...CAT 11: T/5 Powers has gone in for directing and reshooting - for instance, a flag sequence in Forbach...CAT 3 and 19 caught some terrific combat stuff.

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## OUT SEVENTH ARMY WAY....

T/5 Elliott has set up "Whistle Pix" at 7th Army Hqs. He went into operation for the first time in the new location 2nd Mar..... T/5 Kelly's filing system has his supplanter, T/4 Geo. Bamberger, baffled...With the amount of attention being given to the Easter Bunny, there should be a terrific story for the coming.

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## ABOUT THE AF EA....

GUESS WHAT CAUSES: a jeep and driver to be dispatched - rush; the cooks to quit work; Lt. Strock and his crew of owls to get up - pronto; Cpl. Merritt to miss a stroke; Peck and Sparks to don their iron hats; Rocha to set his watch; pandemonium to break loose in supply; and the whole company to "fall out" - You guessed it! The 163rd "Loof-

waffe" from Paris comes in on schedule and the Air Courier "always buzzes twice". The service is now as dependable as the weather. ...The bright and shiny, new 1st Sgt. would like to know where Pfc Reitnauer goes every afternoon...T/4 Parrish is trying a new hair restorer, towels steeped with hot tea...Albanese is back in the barbering business, day room twice a week. Check the bulletin board for appointment, you with the long tresses...If anyone noticed the chest of one T/4 Grubman sticking out in the last few days, be advised it wasn't pride - it was the pup. Grubby should feel right at home in Australia...Lt. Newell & Lt. Dieves are in for a few days - threatening the officers' quarters with double-bunks, the E.M.'s. enigma...Capt. E.P. Lero off Prd 6th Army Group and once a charter member of 163, visited company Hq. Saturday while on tour of 163rd units.

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## LAB GAB...

The Lab welcomes T/5 Keith Miles of Charlevoix, Mich, who has transferred from 3290 Sig. Service Det. and who has been assigned to the lab - nite shift. Keith, a member of the Brush Off Club, has soldiered at Ft. Custer and Camp Claiborne, has hit reppo deppo #24, and has 27 months overseas. ...Lt. Harris sent us the following note: "Lab personnel: The ETO work isn't the main reason for this statement. Real reason is that our Lab. processing, printing, and caption work makes a fellow want to do comparable work. Your work is tops, and your caption polishing, great." And he says also that the editing is OK; he knows what we have to put up with on that score.--Thanks a lot, Jack...M/Sgt (Uncle Bill) Barr found the following note wrapped around a bottle of Schenley's "For you and the rest of Lab crew. I wish there were more. Well, one for me and thanks for everything. we meet again." signed "Capt. C.I. G."

Lt. H.E. Strock...O.I.C.  
T/5 J.W. Feather...Editor  
1st Sgt DeToro...Local News  
T/5 E.J. Schwarz...Technician  
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

**"L'ANNIVERSAIRE"....**

Lt. Kieft, as head of the committee for 163rd's birthday party, is asking for pix of bivouacs, cantonments, billets or any other subjects pertaining to the company that might be used in connection with a small scale "company history" program. Pix submitted should be marked with the name of the owner mitigating the problem of returning them. Lt. Kieft will accept prints any time you can catch him.

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**AN ADDED CREDIT...**

The new masthead was whipped up by Captain Lewis, the sign painter extraordinary.

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The new First Sergeant, a likable gent,  
Was asked what views he'd like to vent.  
And after several thoughts had drifted pass,  
He said he had struck one thought at last,  
He Sed:-

"There are cans for butts; there's a place for trash;  
There are brooms and mops; there's a spot for ash.  
I know this billet is not for a queen;  
But whad d'ya say, fellows! Let's keep it clean."  
That's all.

**COMMENTS FROM YANK....**

Quoting a letter from YANK to the C.O., "We should like to acknowledge very gratefully the regular delivery of pictures taken by your company on the 7th Army front. The photographs are excellent and we are using them, and will continue to do so. No other organization whose pictures we are receiving here has such a consistently high record of good photographs and we appreciate them very much."....Thanks, YANK.

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**CAMPAIGN STAR...**

Per letter Hq ETOUSA, File AG 200.6 OpGA dated 5 February 1945, the personnel of 163 are now authorized one (1) Bronze Star for campaign "Germany".

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Don't forget. We are still accepting suggestions for the birthday party celebration.

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**FROM THE BULLETINS...ACHTUNG!**

Verrechnungsschein is a new type of German military paper being issued to German Military Personnel, according to rank and status, in occupied countries as a means of obtaining restricted amounts of German currency. It is issued for conversion into Reichmarks stated in amounts of 1, 5, 10, and 50. Be cautious, it is not legal tender and it has no cash value.

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**SIGNS OF THE TIMES....**

The signs you see hanging about the kitchen are not for entertainment, but for stirring thought. They are the bit players in a food conservation program. Comparatively speaking, our menus are anything but undesirable; we should consider ourselves very fortunate; but we must not profane our good fortune by taking more food than we could ever hope to eat at one sitting, then discarding the overflow. It is better to come back for seconds. Or would you RATHER be a pig!

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**LIKEWISE....**

There is also a request to conserve paper. (If anyone would like to throw this request back into the teeth of FOTO-FACTO, please collect your facts and figures; we'll arrange a debate.)