

# 'Lucky 7th' Saves Antwerp British From Disaster

## Outnumbered Three to One

BY HOWARD COWAN  
WITH THE NORTHERN  
GROUP OF ARMIES, Nov. 2  
(AP)—A valorous stand by the  
American Seventh Armored  
Division late in October  
southeastern Holland saved  
the British-Canadian Antwerp  
campaign from possible dis-  
aster, it was announced offi-  
cially today.

The Seventh delayed and finally  
helped stop a strong German coun-  
terattack against the eastern side  
of the British Second Army salient  
into Holland. The Americans were  
outnumbered three to one.

"The Americans slugged it out  
toe to toe with the superior enemy  
forces," a spokesman said. "Each  
company fought like a battalion.  
Each squad fought like a company  
and each man fought like a  
hero. Unbelievable heroism was the  
order of the day."

### STRETCHED THIN

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into southeastern Holland to pro-  
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western approaches to Antwerp,  
its armor was stretched precari-  
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around Meijel.

Knowledge of the situation evi-  
dently leaked through to the Ger-  
mans for on Oct. 27—when Demp-  
sey's drive was rolling the Ger-  
mans back toward the Maas in  
western Holland and Canadians  
were liquidating the Nazis along  
the Schelde—Field Marshal Gerd  
von Rundstedt aimed a mighty  
counterattack squarely at the  
Americans.

For an hour and ten minutes  
before dawn, German artillery  
rained shells on the American po-  
sitions. The town of Meijel was  
assaulted first.

Forty-three Americans of a cav-  
alry reconnaissance squadron—the  
headquarters platoon of "C" com-  
pany and platoon of assault guns  
—were pitted against 200 German  
infantrymen backed by Panther  
and Tiger tank formations.

"They advanced in three waves,  
wildly, without the caution usual-  
ly displayed by German troops,"  
an official account related. "In a  
matter of moments the first two  
waves had been annihilated."



MAJ. GEN. L. McD. SILVESTER  
... commanded 7th here

### KEEP GERMANS BUSY

The Americans were forced to  
fall back but joined forces with  
"B" troops of their outfit, coun-  
terattacked and kept the Ger-  
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The Ninth German Panzer Di-  
vision and the Fifteenth Panzer  
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Americans at Heitak, slightly to  
the north.

Dempsey ordered reinforce-  
ments into the critical battle and  
told the Americans to hold on.

For two days and a night the  
Nazi tanks fired at the men, dug  
in deep in the marshy ground.  
But when the tanks tried to break  
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out of their foxholes and let go  
with bazookas.

### PRAISED BY DEMPSEY

After four days the Germans  
knew they were licked. A letter  
from Dempsey, commander of the  
British Second Army, told the  
Americans:

"I congratulate you all on the  
splendid way in which you held  
off the strong enemy attack which  
came against you at Meijel. You  
were heavily outnumbered but by  
holding firm as you did you gave  
me time to bring up the necessary  
reserves. I appreciate very greatly  
the high fighting qualifications  
which your division showed."

But perhaps the greatest com-  
pliment to the American Seventh  
came from the German radio—a  
grim joke at the time to the men  
in the line.

German forces, Berlin said, were  
engaged in "very heavy fighting  
with numerically superior forces."

## 7th Trained The Hard Way

The "Lucky" 7th Ar-  
mored Division which  
trained and perfected it-  
self for combat in France  
and Germany at Ft. Ben-  
ning and was heralded in  
the news Monday for  
valorous action at Ant-  
werp, left the Post for an  
overseas destination in  
April this year.

The division was activated at  
Camp Polk in Louisiana in March,  
1942 and was commanded by  
Maj. Gen. Lindsay McDonald Sil-  
vester, who graduated from the  
Advance Class of The Infantry  
School in 1924 and also graduated  
from The General Staff School  
and The Army War College.

### HARDENED TROOPS

The 7th Armored Division was  
partly trained by the old 3rd Ar-  
mored Division when it was acti-

*The Walrus has some  
happy recollections of the  
Seventh Armored Division's  
stay at Fort Benning today.  
See Page 8.*

ated at Camp Polk following 13  
weeks of basic training. In keep-  
ing with the policies of the divi-  
sion, established by General Sil-  
vester, the men of the division  
were hardened through experience.  
The division participated in man-  
euvers in Louisiana and Texas and  
returned to garrison at Ft. Ben-  
ning, August 12, 1943 after desert  
warfare training.

The 7th Armored Division was  
trained at Camp Polk in less time  
than was ever known in the his-  
tory of Armored Forces. The  
"Lucky Seventh" used the 3rd  
Armored Division's equipment,  
tanks, trucks, weapons, kitchens  
and times.

### PRAISED BY GILLEM

The division won praise from  
Maj. Gen. Alvin C. Gillem, Jr.,  
commanding the 2nd Corps at the  
time of the activation. He told  
the men "the Seventh is lucky for  
two reasons—you have had your  
initial training with the 3rd Ar-  
mored Division and you have had  
General Silvester for your com-  
mander."

Like magic, General Gillem's  
illusion to the division as being  
lucky spread, and since that time  
it has been the "Lucky Seventh"  
everywhere the division is men-  
tioned.

## General Reported Killed

LONDON, Nov. 25.—(INNS)—Maj. Gen. Silvester Lindsay, commander of the American Seventh Armored Division, has been killed, according to a German Transocean Agency report quoting "an American prisoner of war."

## Dean Bryant Reported Missing In Action

First Lt. Dean Bryant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bass Bryant is reported missing in action in France. Lieutenant Bryant is a graduate of Midland High School and attended Texas Tech at Lubbock.

Before enlisting in the Army in February, 1941 Lieutenant Bryant was employed at Wadley's Department Store. He married while stationed at Fort Knox, Ky. Mrs. Bryant and their young daughter, which Lieutenant Bryant has never seen, are living at Memphis, Tenn.

Lieutenant Bryant was serving in the Tank Corps with the Third Army in France.

## Lt. A. D. Bryant May Be Prisoner Of War

German propaganda broadcasts have reported First Lt. A. D. Bryant of Midland is a prisoner of war of the Nazis. The officer has been missing in action since Oct. 27. He was in Holland with the Tank Corps.

Several persons have notified his wife that they heard the broadcast. Mrs. A. D. Bryant and daughter, Diana Lee, and Mrs. Grace Smith, all of Memphis, Tenn., now are here visiting the officer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bass Bryant.

## Nazis Claim Capture Of Midland Officer

MIDLAND, Dec. 26—(Spl.)—German propaganda broadcasts have reported First Lt. A. D. Bryant of Midland is a prisoner of war of the Nazis. The officer has been missing in action since October 27. He was in Holland with the Tank Corps.

Survivors of his tank corps have notified his wife and they heard the broadcast. Mrs. A. D. Bryant and daughter, and Mrs. Grace Smith, all of Memphis, Tenn., are here visiting the officer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bass Bryant.

## First Lt. A. D. Bryant Is 'Well And Safe'

First Lt. A. D. Bryant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bass Bryant, who recently was reported missing in action in Holland is "well and safe." He had been missing in action since October 27.

His wife, who lives in Memphis, Tenn., notified his parents she received a telegram Sunday through the War Department which was apparently sent by Lieutenant Bryant from a prisoner of war camp.

The tank corps officer has been in the Army more than three years and formerly was connected with Wadley's Department Store here.

## 1,200 American POW Moved Into Germany

WASHINGTON —(A)— Senator Tom Connally (D-Texas) has been advised that 1,200 American prisoners of war were removed to Germany from a camp near Posen, Poland, ahead of liberating Russian armies.

From a camp identified as Oflag 64, at Schubin, Poland, the men were taken to Stalag camp No. 3-A at Luckenwald, Germany.

Connally, concerned about the fate of 65 Texans confined at Schubin, last week directed a cable to the U. S. Ambassador to Russia, W. Averell Harriman, inquiring whether Russian forces might have liberated the Americans held there.

The Senator said his information about the camp came Monday from the United States Embassy in Switzerland, through the State Department.





# 7 Armored Divisions Fight Biggest

## 7th A.D. Tankers Outnumbered 3-1 Halt Nazi Attack

WITH THE 7TH ARMORED DIVISION—A stand of the 7th Armored Division in which the Yanks slugged it out toe to toe with enemy forces that had a three-to-one superiority, delayed and finally stopped a strong German counter-attack that threatened the British Antwerp campaign with disaster, it has been officially announced.

The action occurred when the Germans counterattacked in strength against the eastern side of the British 2d Army salient into Holland. The Americans were outnumbered three to one.

"The Yanks slugged it out toe to toe with the superior enemy forces," a spokesman said. Each company fought like a battalion. Each squad fought like a company, and each man fought like a lion. Unbelievable heroism was the order of the day."

### Stretched Thin

When the 7th A. D. was moved into southeastern Holland to protect Lt. Gen. Dempsey's right flank during the month-long campaign to clear the northern and western approaches to Antwerp, its armor was stretched precariously thin over a 22-mile sector around Meijel.

### Counter-Attack

Knowledge of the situation evidently leaked through to the Germans, for on Oct 27, when Dempsey's drive was rolling the Germans back toward the Maas in western Holland and the Canadians were liquidating the Nazis along the Schelde, Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt aimed a mighty counter-attack squarely at the Americans.

For 70 minutes German artillery rained shells on the American positions. The town of Meijel was assaulted first.

Forty-three Americans of a cavalry reconnaissance squadron—the headquarters platoon of "C" company and a platoon of assault guns—were pitted against 200 German infantrymen backed by panther and tiger tank formations.

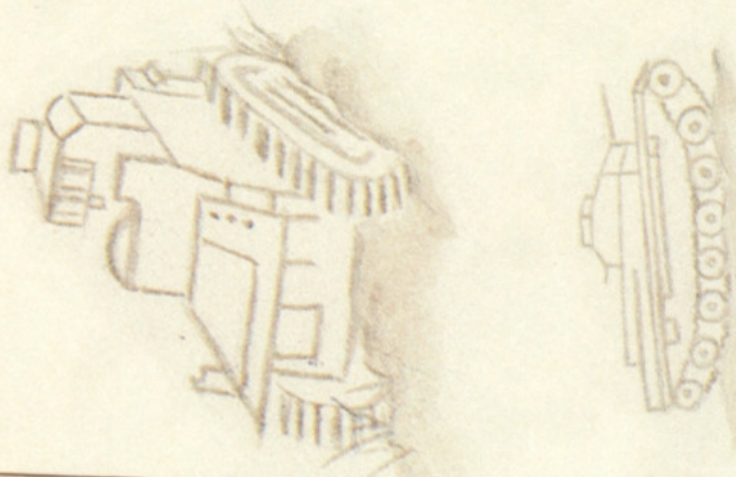
"They advanced in three waves, wildly, without the caution usually displayed by German troops," an official account related. "In a matter of moments the first two waves had been annihilated.

The Americans were forced to fall back but joined forces with "B" troops of their outfit, counterattacked, and kept the Germans busy the rest of the day. The 9th German panzer division and the 15th panzer grenadier division smashed at the Yanks at Heitak, slightly to the north. Dempsey ordered reinforcements into the critical battle and told the Americans to hold on.

For two days and a night the Nazi tanks fired at the men, dug in deep in the marshy ground. But when the tanks tried to break through a few Americans popped out of their foxholes and let go with bazookas. After four days the Germans knew they were licked.

A letter from Dempsey, commander of the British 2d army, told the Americans:

"I congratulate you all on the splendid way in which you held off the strong enemy attack which came against you at Meijel. You were heavily outnumbered but by holding firm as you did you gave me time to bring up the necessary reserves. I appreciate very greatly the high fighting qualifications which your division showed."



Prisoner of War Camp

Date 8 Nov. 44

(No. of Camp only; as may be directed by the Commandant of the Camp.)

I have been taken prisoner of war in Germany. I am in good health — [redacted] (cancel accordingly).

We will be transported from here to another Camp within the next few days. Please don't write until I give new address.

Kindest regards

Christian Name and Surname:

ALBERT D. BRYANT

Rank: 1st Lt.

Detachment: CAV.

(No further details. — Clear legible writing.)

PRISONER OF WAR POST  
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST  
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION



7351

RANK AND NAME (CAPITAL LETTERS) 1ST LT. ALBERT D. BRYANT  
UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR.

PRISONER OF WAR No. 3314  
(SEE NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME AND No. OFLAG 64

SUBSIDIARY CAMP No. [redacted]

COUNTRY GERMANY

VIA NEW YORK, N. Y.

# 3 Liberated Fort Worth Officers Tell of Prison Camp Hardships

BY ROBERT WEAR,  
Star-Telegram's Own Correspondent in  
European Theater.

WITH THE 9TH U. S. ARMY,  
on the Elbe River in Germany,  
May 6 (By Press Wire).—In a  
German village serving as head-  
quarters of the 83rd Division, a  
reunion took place Saturday such  
as will be enacted in thousands of  
homes in the United States as lib-  
erated American prisoners of war  
reach that country.

This bridgehead on the Elbe  
River was the scene of the meet-  
ing of Lt. Amon Carter Jr., freed  
from more than two years of im-  
prisonment by the Germans, with  
his father, Amon Carter of Fort  
Worth.

Lieutenant Carter reached the  
American lines from Luckenwalde  
prison camp shortly after 2 p. m.  
Saturday and two freed fellow pris-  
oners, Lt. Robert T. Henry Jr.,  
3064 Baldwin, Fort Worth, and Lt.  
John T. Jones of Fort Worth and  
Houston, arrived at the 9th Army  
press camp soon afterward.

## Writer Goes for Him.

Jones' parents live at the Lamar  
Hotel, Houston, and he is a nephew  
of Jesse Jones.

Frank Conniff, International  
News Service correspondent, went  
to Stalag 3-A prison camp 30 miles  
south of Berlin by jeep Friday af-  
ternoon, found young Carter and  
brought him Saturday to headquar-  
ters of Brig. Gen. Robert C. Macon  
of the 83rd Division.

The senior Carter had just fin-



LT. ROBERT T. HENRY JR.



LT. JOHN T. JONES JR.



LT. AMON CARTER JR.

ished luncheon with Lieutenant  
General Simpson, 9th Army com-  
mander, and Undersecretary of  
War Patterson, and was standing  
in front of the division command

post, waiting for a car, when his  
son walked up.

"Well, Dad, here I am," the son  
said, slapping his father on the  
shoulder.

They shook hands heartily.

## Russians Reached Camp.

The reunion ended the prisoner-  
of-war experience of young Carter,  
who had been in enemy hands  
since his capture on Feb. 23, 1943,  
in the battle of Faid Pass in  
Tunisia.

Carter's first thoughts, after  
greeting his father, were for the  
liberation of Americans he had left  
behind in Luckenwalde prison  
camp.

Trucks already have been or-  
dered from the Salle River bridge-  
head to Luckenwalde to bring back

Continued on Page 3.



FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Amon G Carter, President

Fort Worth, Texas

February 7, 1945

To the Family of Lt. Albert D. Bryant  
Route 1, Box 236,  
Midland, Texas.

Dear Folks:

Enclosed you will find a photostatic copy of a card dated November 17, 1944, received this morning from my son, Amon G. Carter, Jr., in which he states that Lt. Albert D. Bryant has arrived at that prisoner of war camp and that he was captured October 29th.

While, I am sure you have already had direct information, I am taking the liberty of sending this along because I thought you would be interested in seeing it.

We have been advised that the American officers in Oflag 64, formerly located at Schubin in the Polish Corridor about 100 miles south of Danzig, have been moved to Stalag No. 3-A about thirty miles south of Berlin in Luckenwalde, Germany. Mrs. Minor in Buffalo, N.Y., has a friend who received a letter from her son, interned in Oflag 64, dated January 18th. It seems almost incredible that a letter could arrive in New York in fifteen days time; however, it is possible.

Mail and next-of-kin parcels should continue to be addressed to Oflag 64, Germany, as the camp has not lost its identity.

If I get any additional news or information, I shall be glad to send it to you.

Sincerely,  
A.G. Carter

Enclosure:

November 17, 1944

Dear Dad, Here is the name of 3 Texas officers captured Oct 29th Lt. Albert D. Bryant Rtl, Box 236, Midland, Lt. Leo V. Thieme, 109 Mountain Avenue, El Paso, and Lt. Charles A. Robertson Jr., 3617 Fountain Terrace, Amarillo. I am fine, but all of us could certainly use some R.C. food parcels. Always send food, ~~re~~ never clothing. Don't listen to anyone else. Love, Amon Jr.

# The Walrus

**Unbelievable Heroism?  
Seventh Armored Just  
Lived Up to Reputation**

By Charlie Hesser

Out of the Western desert in August of 1943 there roared a group of tough fighting men whose destination was Fort Benning, Ga.

Yes, brother, they were loaded for bear because men just can't take as much desert training as they did and not let off "steam" in the first inhabited region they strike, which happened to be Ft. Benning and Columbus, Ga.

They became known to the natives here after a couple of days as the "Lucky" Seventh Armored Division. They were "right" guys, but hard—I can vouch for that because I knew plenty of 'em—from the newest recruit to the commanding officer, Maj. Gen. Lindsay McD. Silvester.

The paratroopers can also vouch for that because it wasn't but a few days and a few scraps before the sky soldiers had a healthy respect for anyone who wore a Seventh Armored insigna on his uniform.

Yes, they were tough, they were men and they were also good fellows and good fathers.

Last Christmas Maj. Gen. Silvester and his outfit gave a party for the members of the division and their families. It's something the kids and the men too, will never forget. Santa Claus rode up on one of the massive tanks which was a part of the Seventh's fighting equipment.

Get the idea of the type of men who made up the Lucky Seventh?

The rolled out of Columbus in April of '44. There weren't any bands playing or huge crowds to wish them well because the Army doesn't advertise when a division pulls out under sealed orders.

But, they were missed. Only people in the "know," failed to ask, "Where are the Seventh Armored laddies?"

It seems that they've been pretty busy since they left here, covering themselves with glory and saving the British-Canadian Antwerp campaign from possible disaster. The Associated Press gave us the facts in a story released today.

The dispatch tells us that the Seventh delayed and finally helped stop a strong German counter-attack against the eastern side of the British Second Army salient into Holland. And the Americans were outnumbered three to one!

The Berlin radio announced the same scrap thusly:

"German forces are engaged in very heavy fighting with numerically superior forces." They probably thought they were fighting numerically superior forces at that!

Here's what one spokesman said about the Seventh:

"The Yanks slugged it out toe to toe with the superior enemy forces. Each company fought like a battalion. Each squad fought like a company and each man fought like a lion. Unbelievable heroism was the order of the day."

Unbelievable heroism? Well, it might have been unbelievable, but it wasn't unexpected—that is, not to those who knew the men of the Seventh Armored. They just lived up to advance notices!

## American Seventh Saved Day For

By HOWARD COWAN

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# 'Lucky 7th' Division Silver Star Studded

WITH THE 7TH ARMORED DIVISION IN FRANCE (Special to the Armored News)—One hundred and 70 soldiers of the 7th Armored Division were awarded the Silver Star Medals, eight were cited for

Distinguished Service Crosses and four for Air Medals, during the time it took to spearhead the Third United States Army's drive from the Cherbourg Peninsula to Metz. Approximately 600 Bronze Star Medals were presented.

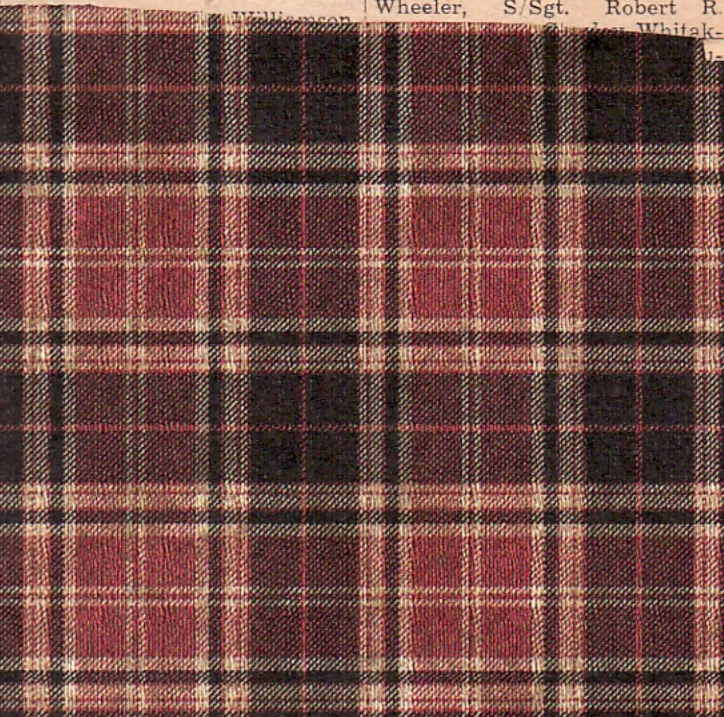
The "Lucky Seventh" Armored Division made a distance of 620 miles in 21 days through France and took part in major engagements at Chartres and Melun, and captured Chateaufort, Thierry and Verdun in the speedy dash through France.

Silver Stars were awarded Lt. Timothy C. Armstrong, Richard M. Barber, Tec. 4 Alexander Bloom, Maj. John Brown, Pvt. Charles H. Bupke, Lt. Col. Richard D. Chappin, Pfc. Earl J. Clements, Lt. Francis J. Cunningham, Capt. James P. Daniel, T/Sgt. John C. Goeig, Pvt. James E. Douglas, Wilbur L. East Jr., S/Sgt. Joseph J. Ferreri, Lt. Mario Fortuna, Tec. 5 Matthew S. Gagher, Sgt. Harry D. Gibbs, Walter R. Couak, S/Sgt. Robert C. Hansard, S/Sgt. Lloyd Hammond.

Lt. Joseph Hoban, Capt. James E. Irland, S/Sgt. Andrew Johnson, Capt. John E. Kennedy, S/Sgt. Bruce N. Kimbrell, S/Sgt. Clarence E. King, Bennie J. Kuykendall, T/Sgt. Wallace Leach, Pvt. Salvatore Leto, S/Sgt. Robert J. Mask, Lt. Robert E. Mendick, Tec. 3 Michael B. Palys, Sgt. Claud P. Paul, Pvt. Ralph L. Phillips, Capt. Mortimer D. Pier, Lt. Donald E. Prentiss, Lt. Warren J. Queeny, Lt. George J. Racibe, Lt. Earl L. Rainbow, Maj. Curtice H. Rankin, Lt. Roy E. Richmond, Lt. Col. Wm. W. Rosebro, Tec. 5 Williard H. Schultz, Pfc. Maynard G. Sexton, Lt. George K. Tanham, Capt. Marvin E. Uter.

Maj. Thomas H. Wells, Lt. Walter H. G. Weissenberger, Lt. Col. John P. Wemple, Lt. James H. Whitcomb, Jr., Pfc. Morris J. Chase, Lt. Joseph D. Carpenter, Capt. Louis C. Christian Jr., Pvt. Bernard B. Chesbrough, Pvt. Stanley E. Cox, Pfc. William F. Diknelacker, Pfc. Roy V. Donnelly, Lt. Col. James G. Dubuisson, Lt. Col. Robert C. Erlen-

busch, Sgt. Willie B. Esters, Tec. 5 William H. Easton, Pfc. Ben T. Ferguson, Capt. Harrison S. Forester, Capt. Claud Garland, Lt. Viggo K. Gruy, Lt. Mack Geiger, Sgt. Walter J. Graczyk, Sgt. Forrest L. Grobe, Pvt. Ode J. Garner, S/Sgt. Thaddeus Goscinski.



Dan Jennings, Sgt. Leo S. Johnson, Lt. Col. Theodore T. King, Pvt. Henry C. Lemke, Pvt. Salvatore Leto, Maj. Leslie A. Lohse, S/Sgt. Ernest D. Lucadamo Jr, Pfc. Daniel S. Lentz, Pfc. Albert W. Lippelt, S/Sgt. Mitchel D. Leo, Pfc. John A. Marchand, Col. Ed. T. McConnell, Cpl. Robert H. Mathias, Lt. Carl K. Mattocks, Pfc. D. B. MacEachern, T/Sgt. James Menedez, Lt. Col. John V. Maxwell, Lt. Col. James W. Milner, Tec. 5 James D. McCartney, S/Sgt. Robert F. McGenigle, Lt. Kenneth McMurtry, Capt. Roy W. Nelson, Lt. Arville R. Cusdahl, Capt. Willie W. Oliver, Lt. Robert C. Ostdick, Lt. Joseph Paris, S/Sgt. Andrew Petrochi, Pvt. Adrian G. Prince, Lt. George J. Racine.  
Cpl. William A. Rau, Lt. Glen L. Randall, Pfc. Doyle W. Ro-

land, Pvt. William H. Russell, Lt. Donald J. Stelma, S/Sgt. Deaver G. Shell, Tec. 5 Chester P. Seitz, S/Sgt. Martell W. Seymour, Lt. James K. Shelton Jr., Tec. 4 Leonard H. Siffring, Pfc. John S. Stabrawa, Tec. 5 Jasper J. Timmons, S/Sgt. John C. Tackaberry, Pvt. Elmer E. Thomas, Pvt. Robert R. Tyler, Pvt. Arlo Thomas, Maj. Rex Thomson, Tec. 5 John A. Timko Jr., Pfc. Wilbur J. Tucker, Capt. Bernard L. Travicky, Pfc. Chas. M. VanDyke, Lt. Donald R. Varner.

Lt. Heron de Villefosse, Sgt. Arthur H. Wuellner, Pvt. John A. Williams, S/Sgt. Leo R. Worthington, Tec. 4 Norman V. Wickman, First Sgt. Ernest L. Woody, Pvt. Kenneth Wood, Pvt. William E. Wilson, Pfc. Ed. R. Wright, Lt. Raymond M. Wheeler, S/Sgt. Robert R. Whitaker.

a light tank under darkness through enemy territory for more than 40 miles.

The Bronze Star was given to Pvt. John Pendergast, Chicago, for volunteering to drive a load of ammunition to the front under fire. Pendergast, a member of the 35th Tank Battalion, with Sgt. Robert DeBoyne City, Mich., recently persuaded 15 Nazis to surrender an occupied town by standing in the center of the street shouting "Achtung," in his Chicago accent.

Pendergast is a driver for Col. George O'Connell, Emporia, Kans., battalion commander.

A tank driver, whose courage under fire enabled his gunners to knock out four enemy tanks, two trucks, and one half-truck was among those decorated Sgt. August A. Bureiza, Battle Axe, Mich., was given a Bronze Star for action near Arras while under direct enemy

## Nazis Believed To Have Moved POW Camps

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Three German prisoner of war camps situated between Poznan and Torun in Poland may have been moved from the path of the Russian drive, Chairman Basil O'Connor of the Red Cross has said here.

He said that one camp, not named, had been officially announced as moved, and added "it is taken for granted that the two others, Stalag 20 A and Oflag 64 also have been moved."

A prominent Texan in Washington said he had learned from three repatriated prisoners of Oflag 64 that the camp was moved intact, between Jan. 10 and 12, to Sagen, Germany, a town about 80 miles south of Berlin.

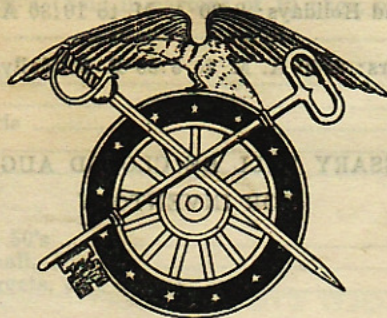
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Quartermaster Corps

# PRICE LIST

SALES COMMISSARY

Fort Benning, Georgia



August 1943



December  
Nineteen



New Year





*December Thirty-first  
Nineteen. Forty-three*



# *New Year's Eve*



*The  
Officers'  
Mess*



*Fort Benning, Georgia*

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8A-H2003





*Greetings*



**Troop "F"**  
**87th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron Mechanized**  
**Fort Benning, Georgia**





# PRISONERS OF WAR BULLETIN

Published by the American National Red Cross for the Relatives of American Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees

VOL. 2, NO. 12

WASHINGTON, D. C.

DECEMBER 1944

## The 1944 Christmas Package

Christmas Package No. 2, packed by women volunteers in the Philadelphia Center during the hottest days of the summer, reached Germany via Sweden in time for distribution to American prisoners of war and civilian internees held by Germany.

The ten thousand Christmas packages sent in 1943 for American prisoners of war and civilian internees in Europe were hardly sufficient to go around, although at the time of ordering, the number seemed excessive. No chances were taken this year. The total shipped in September was fully 50 percent in excess of the number of Americans reported held by Germany at that time, and much more than sufficient to cover those captured since September.

Similarly, all preparations were made—insofar as they could be by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the American Red Cross—to get the packages in time to all camps and hospitals in Germany housing American prisoners. They were shipped, along with large quantities of standard food packages and other supplies, on Red Cross vessels from Philadelphia to Goteborg, Sweden, and thence transhipped on Swedish vessels to a north German port fairly close to the camps where the largest numbers of Americans

are now held. The aim, of course, was to avoid railroad transport in Germany as much as possible.

Much thought was given to planning the 1944 package—the basis of it being “turkey and the ‘fixins’.” A complete list of the contents follows:

Plum pudding.....	1 lb.
Turkey, boned meat.....	¾ lb.
Small sausages.....	¼ lb.
Strawberry jam.....	6 oz.
Candy, assorted.....	¾ lb.
Deviled ham.....	3 oz.
Cheddar cheese.....	¼ lb.

Nuts, mixed.....	¾ lb.
Bouillon cubes.....	12
Fruit bars.....	2
Dates.....	14 oz.
Cherries, canned.....	6 oz.
Playing cards.....	1 pack
Chewing gum.....	4 pkgs.
Butter.....	3¾ oz.
Games, assorted.....	1 box
Cigarettes.....	3 pkgs.
Smoking tobacco.....	1 pkg.
Pipe.....	1
Tea.....	1¾ oz.
Honey.....	6 oz.
Washcloth.....	1
Pictures (American scenes).....	2



Contents of the 1944 Christmas package for American prisoners of war and civilian internees in Europe. More than 75,000 of these packages were shipped from Philadelphia.

The packages were paid for by the United States government, and the contents in large part were purchased through the Department of Agriculture.

Left unsaid, but implicit in every package, were the heartfelt wishes of the American people for the safe and speedy return of their kinsfolk.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to get a special Christmas package to American prisoners held by Japan, but it is to be hoped earnestly that the large shipment of relief supplies held in Vladivostok, which was picked up by the Japanese steamer *Hakusan Maru* early in November, will reach the camps in time for distribution at Christmas, just as the *Gripsholm* supplies shipped to the Far East in the fall of 1943 reached the men in most of the camps by Christmas.