

First Quarterly Report Of Fourth Army Command

ATLANTA, Ga. — In the first quarterly report issued by the Fourth Service Command Branch Office since it came into existence in April 1942, an all time high in the number of cases handled has been reached. To be exact 8,688 emergency problems of soldiers and their dependents have been solved and happily too. In comparing this figure with that of last year's grand total of 22,000, one can readily see that by July 1944, the volume of applicants will have increased by almost double that of the preceding year.

Headlining the soldier's problems were requests for assistance in regard to the Federal Maternity Program, allowance and allotment difficulties, medical aid, legal advice, and application for financial aid in matters such as food, clothing, rent etc.

It is felt that much of Army Emergency Relief's success can be attributed to the modern, flexible charter or policy which allows the AER officer to use his judgment in many cases. For instance AER renders assistance to all members of military personnel of the Army regardless of rank and this includes members of the Women's Army Corps, too. Where the policies of many agencies prevent them from aiding soldiers and their families who are not residents of that particular community, AER steps in immediately and eases the situation. The same is true of the soldier who might be in a military stockade for a minor offense, once again Army Emergency Relief stands ready to aid the soldier's dependents. Speaking of dependents, one might think a family are eligible for aid but a quick glance in the AER handbook disapproves this. Dependents of soldiers not only include members of the immediate family but also any person who has been dependent upon the soldier for support, regardless of relationship. Naturally all problems are handled confidentially and sympathetically.

The officers, enlisted and civilian personnel of Army Emergency Relief are proud of their record but they aren't sure that enough is being done... maybe some soldier or his dependents are just a bit timid, or possibly they aren't acquainted with the facts... and are suffering needlessly. That's exactly what AER doesn't want, so if there are emergency problems faced by any soldier or his family and AER has not been notified, please write, telephone or visit the branch office of Army Emergency Relief, 321 Grant Building Atlanta, 3, Ga.

Rail oddities

BRIDGE MADE OF AND OUT OF STEEL AND ONLY CARS AND TRAINS WENT ALONG ONE OF THEM

A CITY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HAS BUILT A BRIDGE OVER A RIVER. THE BRIDGE IS A KIND OF STEEL AND ONLY CARS AND TRAINS WENT ALONG ONE OF THEM. THE OTHER ONE IS MADE OF

BRIEF FACTS

ECUADOR'S SALSA WOOD TO WAR

Quindio, long the principal western hemisphere source of the feather-weight salsa wood, now has expanded production to meet the war needs of United Nations. Salsa is used in the manufacture of war planes and such naval equipment as rafts and life preservers. Ecuadorian farmers float balsas down the Guayas River to Guayaquil. Scores of balsas rafts can be seen up-river each morning from the city docks. The rafts are loaded with fruits, vegetables, and other farm products. Farmers unload their products at the city market, then the rafts are floated down to the sawmills and sold.

NAZI EXTEND NORWEGIAN LABOR PERIOD

Norwegians drafted to Nazi slave labor learned recently that they would not be released after six months service, as the Nazis had indicated at the time of their induction. The Nazis had been using Norwegians on fortification work along the coast of Norway and also to German war plants.

WITH THE BOYS IN SERVICE

Dear Mr. Lynch:

I received several copies of the K. M. Herald while in North Africa and we did enjoy reading them very much. I read them over and over, but since I have been in Italy I have not received any but expect to get some anytime now. Just continue to send them the same address and they will catch up with me soothed and I will enjoy reading them when I do get them. I am now in Italy, right up in combat. We have fired on the enemy and have been fired on by the enemy. Bombs have been dropped around and near us. Have seen enemy planes shot down and planes having a dog fight right over head. Cannot sleep very well at night for the noise and rumble of the shells and bombs, but I do get some sleep anyway. Have seen the life of Copri and the volcano mountain Vesuvius at a distance. The volcano mountain Vesuvius is a black cloud of smoke in day time and at night it looks like a big bonfire on

top of a mountain. It is burning all the time. Have passed through Naples and it was in a wrecked and torn up. Just blocks and blocks of buildings and houses wrecked to the ground. It was in a night to see how hot it is wrecked and torn up from being bombed and shelled so much. and I have seen very little of it, but what I have seen so far is really torn up. And from the looks of things there must be thousands of people homeless. There is a boy with me that speaks Italian, and in that way I hear what they have to say and think of the war, and they sure seem glad to see me coming in.

After Italy surrendered, the Germans as they are retreating, over either taking or destroying about everything the boys have had, and killing or injuring the natives and their children. The Germans are really tough on the Italians as they are retreating, and about all the natives here have now to what they could carry with them and hide in the mountains. I like the country and climate here better than North Africa, for it is so warm at night, and the country is not as hot as in Africa. For in Africa about all the trees is alive trees, and they are just planted on each side of the road, and highways, and it is very hilly, bare and rocky. No grass around. Just there and palm trees bushes about here high scattered about, and all over these hills and rocks there is just thousands and thousands of acacia. The French and Arabic people cook and eat these acacia. It is the natives seemed to have lived a more decent and better life, than the natives in Africa, but low on account of the War they are really having a tough time to exist. They seem to have very few clothes. They are all patched and ragged, but they are very clean and in towns there is not the odor as in towns in Africa but some of them do live in the same house with the oxen, sheep, goats, but they keep it lots cleaner here. The natives here are not as noisy and filthy as in Africa. You can see some of them living in the sea and buildings that have been bombed, and trying to exist the best they can.

Here there is plenty of trees, grass, hills and mountains, and just acres and acres of apple, cherry, orange orchards. Some of the orange trees are just full of green apples and cherry blossoms on the trees. It is about like spring here now in November. I do not know but they must have two seasons a year here. There is also plenty of rich farming soil in the valleys, but the farming is very primitive and crude. It is done with oxen and wooden plows and things that do not have cast, do their farming with oxen. You can see women and men working side by side, open lot acres and acres of ground. I think the women do more of the work here. In places here there is sure plenty of mosquitoes, sometimes they are as thick as flies around a big pen, and they sure can bite hard. They native you meet or see wants us to give him a cigarette or candy, as we have a few in our C-Canned rations and they all seem to be hungry as the Germans talk or destroyed about everything they had. They will do most anything for a can of our C-rations. I do not know where they get them. They must have had it hidden in the mountains from the Germans, but they come around in groups with all kinds of stuff to sell, or trade in such as: apples, potatoes, corn, English walnuts, cheap jewelry, dog and wire, white wine, our old army wine, but I do not like the wine and drink very little of it but you can buy or trade with them very cheap. The old apples about 1 cent each. English walnuts all I can get at one time for 10 cents. Wine 10 to 15 cents a quart. I can get everything anything they say but I am under-stand them enough by motion to buy or trade with them. They can get lots of their stuff by trading with these a package of cigarettes, or a can of Army C-rations. There is a boy with me that can speak Italian and in that way I can hear lots of what they say and think of the war. And from what they tell me the Germans are very much — they are they are retreating, taking or destroying all they had, that the Germans could get their hands on and killing, injuring or sending them out of their homes back into the mountains in caves to hide. As we move up I can see the coming back with all they can carry or themselves, blankets, and so on. They are coming out from where the Germans have driven them out, and as we move up I can see some of them coming back to their homes along as we go forward. Most of them are very glad to see us, and they sure hate the Germans. It is sure something to just see what the war has done to this country and the people, and I have seen very little of it so far.

Please tell Jack Arnold and the boys hello for me, and that I would like to be with each of them, and all my friends a letter but just do not have that much time and space there's nothing to be had in day after day. It with you all read soon. Your friend, as ever, Bill Whittington, somewhere in Italy.

Dear Mr. Lynch:

Would like to say hello, and also to say that I receive the Herald through my wife each week. I have a bit of information that I wanted to pass on to you, and thought that in so doing you could pass it on to the readers of your paper. Provided of course, that you do not already know this.

This information should be especially interesting to the people in Kings Mountain who have members of their family, or relatives in the Army.

We have had quite a few expressions of this kind, and also some you that they have all been pathetically, and quite inconsistent.

The subject that I have reference to, is an Emergency Parole. The Army will grant these in case of death, and extreme illness, when it seems advisable. Now the "kick" is this. They always, and I mean always, check back through the Local Red Cross Chapter, to verify the validity and truthfulness of the message. Now, to save lots of valuable time, and to prevent lots of heartache, and inconvenience. It Van Horn, Texas.

would be so much better, if the person that is sending a message of this kind, would go to the Red Cross first, and have them send the message, if it is a just claim, and they will know.

Having sent so much of this, just couldn't help calling it to your attention.

Hope things are fine in Kings Mountain, and that you people enjoy the best Holiday Season, yet. With best regards, Jim McGill, Camp Creek, Calif.

Dear Raymond:

Spending the night in this little town, on my way to join my old "Company" at DeWitt General Hospital, Auburn, Calif. And I am driving out, taking our time, because we have until Dec. 9 to get there.

The transfer really went through and a lot calmer than anyone expected. I'll be glad to get there.

How about the Herald? Haven't seen a copy lately. Be seeing you. George Whittington, Camp Creek, Calif.

Dr. Mike J. Palmer

OPTOMETRIST

Examination, Diagnosis, Glasses Fitted

10:00 A. M.—5:00 P. M.—Fridays Only

Up Stairs Over Kings Mountain Drug Co.

Brim-full of rich content, and fortified with "Sunshine Vitamin D," our pasteurized milk contains all the nutritive vitamins that both children and grownups need, and tastes better, to boot!

—Sunrise Milk Is Pasteurized—

Sunrise Dairy

Gastonia, N. C.

SPECIAL NOTICE

An ODT Rating prohibits our making but two deliveries per week in any one section of town. In order to comply with this we will pick up your dry cleaning:

North of King Street Monday.
South of King Street Tuesday.
And, Deliver north of King Street Friday.
South of King Street Saturday.

Please observe the dates. Be patriotic to help Uncle Sam win this War, and please don't ask us to break this Rating, as we are trying to be patriotic ourselves.

Walker Dry Cleaners

"Come Clean With Us and We'll Dye For You"

Phone 227

LET'S KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

This community has every right to be proud of the way it is meeting the appeal for more pulpwood. We are proving that we can get out the wood. Now let's keep it coming!

This war isn't won yet—not by a long shot. Our boys will be fighting for quite a while. They will be needing ammunition, food, medical supplies — and all these things that are shipped in paperboard containers are made from pulpwood.

Pulpwood is our wartime job. Pulpwood can still be a bottleneck, holding up America's war effort. Our responsibility is to see that it does not. No boy shall die because we have failed.

NEWSPAPER PULPWOOD COMMITTEE

AS ONE NEIGHBOR

That's the way you like to think of bank borrowing — friendly, easy to use, a natural complement to your other bank accounts.

First National Bank

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM