

1 Jan 44

Mignano

0800 Snow. First we've encountered here.

0900 Field message from 48th checking yesterday's verbal orders. Made corrections and returned to 48th.

Find my new trailer roof leaks, right over the bed.

1130 Lost Jake Moore today. Transferred, I understand, to Peninsular Base Section. No details yet.

1530 Anne Schwartz and Kathy, both of 262d Hosp., came with Winger and Pickett to visit our headquarters. A little shelling. I made eggnog of rum, eggs, and canned milk for my open house. Also a punch of native gin and fruit. Some pronounced the "Nog" better than last year's at Muskogee.



1530 General Allen ordered the 48th to position on the left flank to guard that flank.

1800 Infantry unexpectedly reached its objective early. Now they want bridges built immediately, so the armor can move forward.

2130 235th is on the bridges.

fire. At one
American soldiers
German soldiers over a three-hour
period and completed their opera-
tions under small arms fire.
But the greatest enemy on the

6 Jan 44 Mignano
0030 The bridges are in. Roads have
been swept for mines. I am
ordered to leave one company
sleeping under arms in the vicinity
of SAN PIETRO RJ for a possible
counterattack; and let the balance
return to their bivouac.
Very cold. Very high wind. This
trailer rocks like a boat.

Got the 48th returned and started
work on the railroad again. Barely
had started when the general called
and asked they be put into Reserve
again, as all reserves had been
committed. At about 1700 he put them
into the line as Infantry companies
to replace losses in the
Infantry battalions. I have protested
but there are no replacements avail-
able until tomorrow. All I can do
is to pray! One of these Infantry
battalions is already down to little
more than 100 men.

1600 235th lost one officer (Collins)
and 4 men while working on repairs
to the bridge today. Jerry got a
direct hit on our forward Engineer
dump as Winger and Foley were passing
and Winger got a broken foot from it.
235th has lost over 5% and nearly
10% in these last three days.

I've had to relieve Flowers,
and will ask for reclassification
He says he cannot take men into this

ighting or go into it himself again.

Reardon and Lynch each picked up German prisoners today. Lynch was on a reconnaissance for me, and went way forward (as usual). His prisoner, it developed, was one of the patrol which caused us so much trouble the other night, and he claims that when Lynch took our half-track in against them he killed 11 of the 14 men of that patrol.

Three letters from Laurella. She saw Gunnar on December 19th, and says he is so big and straight "like a cadet-gray wall closing in", and yet still a little boy, thank God! I do thank God for that family of mine! No man ever had a finer!

1800 I complained to Gallagher (II Corps Engineer) that my Engineers are being wasted as Infantry. This is not necessary! There are regiments resting.

2000 General Allen (through his Chief of Staff) says he is particularly sorry to have to commit my specialists as Infantry because they were "the best damned Engineers he has ever seen."

2210 Three British officers in for road information. They hope to move a tank column through us and toward MOUNT CEDRO.

2240 I ordered one company of the 235th put under arms and alerted at the Quarry, for fear we might get

a hurry call for them.

7 Jan 44 Mignana
0120 Pope reported Co C 235th ready at the Quarry. Goodpaster called. His last company, Co B, has now been committed as Infantry. And the bridge we call "obstacle 13" still needs about 2½ hours more work to complete it. I sent Co C, 235th, in to finish it if possible. Of course, they will need time to organize, etc., which the 48th would not have needed. I told the 235th not to work after daybreak on it.



ception of a purported German counterattack on MOUNT PORCHIA tonight. It's certainly materializing.

Co A 48th has already had two casualties from S mines; one the First Sergeant. Lester went to the hospital tonight with the GI's. Munson is commanding. Munson shot a German with whom he collided almost immediately after taking over.

0315 Burwell (who is checking for me on the new Engineer dump to replace that blown up today) and I have just had coffee.

Lt. Carter called; gave me a complete report on the condition of the ford past which we are trying to build a culvert. A particularly fine job, considering the conditions of mortar fire, artillery fire, and minefields that had to be braved to get it.

I reported his findings to General Allen, who told me conditions are improving; some replacements have arrived (and are already in the line and assured me he would not call on the 235th except as a last resort. He also said he did not expect to need our culvert until after daybreak.

0430 Visited C Co on obstacle 13. It's quite a sight, the display of fireworks all the guns make in the dark.

The bypass is certainly going to be passable for tracked vehicles by daylight.

0600 Returned to TFA. Learned we now hold the East and forward front slope of MOUNT PORCHIA. 250 more Infantry replacements are due today--a total of 400 more than yesterday. So we should then be OK.

If we can hold against the

probable dawn counterattack as we've held against the others during the night, we should be safe by 0800.

1825 I am so tired. Goodpaster came in early with news of heavy (perhaps over 50%) casualties in A Co 48th--Munson has been wounded and taken prisoner--no casualties are being evacuated--disorganization. I told the general about it, also telling him it was all based as yet on hearsay, but that if it proved to be correct I was going to demand a complete and formal investigation.

Munson escaped later, and returned to us--only slightly wounded. I understand he played dead and the Germans abandoned him. Later check on casualties seemed to indicate that many are merely lost along the hillside, mixed up with other units. Our casualties are not being evacuated rapidly, it is true, but they are coming out as rapidly as the others from other units, at least.

I was promised I could get the 48th out at 1800, but later developments--or lack of developments on the right and left flanks--prevented it.

I visited the forward aid station today, and got shelled terrifically. Finally got out without injury, although I was certainly covered with dirt. Met Thomson

Mignano, 1 Feb 44
48th unsuccessfully tried to create a by-pass south of the bridge where Hwy 6 crosses the canal at Cassino last night. The Infantry could not furnish sufficient covering force to permit the work to be accomplished.

Two ensigns, two nurses, and a Jeep driver tried to drive into Cassino to see our "newly captured town" last night, and got badly shot up at the river. It's criminal to be shot joy-riding!

Started a salvage drive of my own today. I had an extra truck, officer, and men. So they're out collecting some of the waste stuff thrown all over around here. After all, I, too, am a taxpayer.

More Silver Stars:

Dr. Dixie Snyder)
S/Sgt. Olsen) all 48th
Sgt. Brikman)
Pvt. Marcon)

Commendations to

Pvt. Gatsopoulos) 48th
Lt. Hollar)

Goodpaster, bless his heart, gave me a deep-seated chair like mine at home, tonight, so my leg won't hurt so.

Mignano, 2 Feb 44, Wed.
I recommended Sorrell for



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Mignano. Wed. 9 Feb 44
Frightful pain this morning
(maybe because it's a wet day),
but it tapered off by noon.

Went to Army and offered
them Polich for CO of the Mine School.
Asked for Coffee, a classmate of
Goodpaster's, I hope they go through.

Show "Frontline Follies"
played out here this afternoon. Had
the cast in for drinks and coffee
afterwards.

Munson promoted to Captain:
Jonah to 1st Lieutenant, today, as
of 29 Jan.

Christmas cards from Fritz
Phillips and the Livermores.

Mignano. Thurs 10 Feb 44

All day in the rain in a Jeep
inspecting our roads again. I
think they'll hold, in spite of
the enormous load of traffic and the
rain.

An interesting thing--two or
three miles beyond the place I gave
up as a CP after being bombed I ran
into a first-aid station full of
French woman ambulancieres. What
does it mean?

General Raleigh



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17th Gen Hosp. Tues 15 Feb 44

What a night! Took codeine at 9, but didn't sleep until 11. Awoke at 3 and unable to call the nurse. Finally let up about 5-- feels good, now I'm sitting up.

Can't find an issue sacro-iliac belt here, so they've measured me and will try to buy one downtown. Meanwhile, Major Perkins has also airmailed to the States for a Mayo model of one.

Winger, Pickett, Ann Schwar and Kathy Black called during the evening, bringing a bottle of SanRemi. It was fun.

17th LIRE

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Troops yn Nazis Building

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ed 16 Feb 44
Wednesday, February 16, 1944

Managing Editor
Art Editor
Ralph G. Martin, Jack Foise
Dorsey, Cpls. Charles A. Hogan.



? Some GI, I think, is eligible
courts-martial.
terday, Daisy Mae's dress cut
nees and no long johns; to-
he long johns cut her ankles
uestion is—where were they
day?

—S-Sgt. A.

Daisy Mae and Jane

ditor:
expected great things of
Mae when she stripped-
Why even Jane in Union
an do better than that. Al
must be losing his grip.

—British Devotee

boy, amazingly clean, who
red about the floor; twenty-
year old Emma, whose hus-
fought in Yugoslavia and
w held prisoner by the Ger-
scurries busily about clean-
up with a cigarette dangling
cally from her lips; "Grand-
maintained a sort of a crotch-
allence and concerned herself
the repairing of worn G
and "long john" underwear
soldiers blended into this do
ic scene like cream into col

Sorrento, Tues. 29 Feb 44

Stopped in Naples and checked with the hospital there then called on Gabriella to felicitate her upon her recent engagement. It seems he's a Spanish refugee, named Gomez, who has obtained a Captain's commission in our OSS.

Assigned to a General's room at the Albergo Vittoria Grande. Beautiful view of the Bay.

Hop tonight. Saw many of the Sorrentinians I had met before, but tried dancing only once--it was unsuccessful. My leg hurt too much.

Sorrento. Wed. 1 Mar 44

Spent the day quietly at the hotel--quite tired.

Picked wildflowers with Bob Krueger and a Red Cross friend, Miss Brown. Pickett was coming to bring me my pay, so I had a table reserved. When he decided not to stay for dinner, I took Miss Goody (-a Red Cross girl, formerly (20 years ago) the lead in "Hit the Deck"--to dinner. The little singer from the orchestra, Gianna Massi, Major Klein, the hotel manager, and Miss Brown joined us.