

## MEDICAL DETACHMENT



Capt Kirtland, S/Sgt Wright, T/3 Carpenter, T/4 Saunders, Cpl Plum, T/5 Carter, T/5 Parowski, Pfc Alfred, Pfc Allen, Pfc Lovelace, Pfc Pearcey.

Before activation of this Battalion, the Enlisted men of the Detachment were from the Coast Artillery and Mule Pack Artillery. Saunders, Lovelace, Pearcey and Wright were members of the original Medical Detachment. 246th CA VANG, from Roanoke Virginia. After induction into the Service on September 16, 1940, they served at Fort Story, Virginia, until March 1941. Carpenter and Carter joined the Detachment at Fort Story. In September 1942 Plum followed suit. In March 1944 the 246th CA was inactivated at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, where Gallagher, Allen and Riethmiller joined the Organization thus composing the Medical Detachment 743rd FA Bn. In September 1944 we were honored by having Parowski enter the unit. Capt. Kirtland joined us in September 1944 just in time to walk into the job of examining the Battalion for overseas duty.

During our training at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, we always hated to load our equipment into the vehicles for the famous RSOP, but when we arrived on this side of the world we realized the soft job we had at Chaffee. At each town, village and crossroad we stopped, we added equipment to our fast growing circus, including clowns, until it got to the point where it took two trips to move. Luckily the last two movements were of such a short distance, that this could easily be done or we boys would have had to walk. Training taught us operations in the field, but in battle we couldn't operate unless we occupied a Doctor's office.

All during training we were ribbed by every member of the Battalion in regards to not working but I doubt if there is a man who wanted us to work during combat. We are glad we didn't give out any more Purple Hearts than we did. The Battalion is fortunate and we are glad for two reasons: one, less work for us, two and most important, the Battalion casualty list was kept at a minimum.

We still laugh when we think of the first German town in which we stopped and Capt. Kirtland told Plum to dig a latrine, quote "If you hit something hard, stop digging, it may be a mine" unquote.

T/4 Saunders

### MEDICS

1. The Doc, 2. Article 9 of the Geneva Convention, 3. Parowski and Lovelace, 4. Battery aid Man, 5. CBI limp, 6. Achtung!, 7. "I can't work all the time".

1. War is hell, 2. Purple Heart distributors, 3. Victory over a bottle of schnaps, 4. Late news from home, 5. Getting even with the 1st Sgt, 6. Even the Medics worked at Twenty Grand, 7. & 8. At the close of day, — or was it?, 9. Under the willow thinking of home.











