

# Armored Tribune

No 630 -PAGE 1

{ Registered at the War Department, Washington D.C. }  
for transmission by post as a newspaper.

STRAZNY, TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1945

FOR PERSONEL OF THE U.S. FORCES

## RAIN AND MUD CAN'T STOP OUR ADVANCE!



Armored infantry receiving last orders before the



Heavy Armors going into combat



Right now the troops have set up camp on a football field and are preparing for the next day. The local "businesses" have brought in pink booted ladies to please the troops. So far they have not had any business though...



Climbing the Bohemian hills



**S**ucice May 4<sup>th</sup>.  
Dry and sunny weather helped speeding up the allied advance towards Prague. The troops of the 4<sup>th</sup> AD were able to cover about 30 miles in the last 24 hours, a distance hardly ever thought to be possible by the high brass until now...  
So far the officially pre-prepared version of the Allied high command.  
Reality was different though. Heavy rain and cold weather hampered the advance, technical breakdowns and command decisions nearly caused disaster amongst the troops.  
After some smaller engagements in Kvilda and Borova Lada, today's objective, the border town of Strazny, was only reached only after severe delays. Poor reconnaissance and/or communication problems also led to near disaster when two of 25<sup>th</sup> CAV M-8s were caught in a swamp.  
Only with the help of friendly Czech locals was it possible to reestablish full fighting power again.

### CAPTURED AND SENT BACK!

**L**ast night our maintenance crew was attacked by a german squad during which T5 T. Sparks was taken prisoner. He was smoking a cigarette when he saw silhouettes of soldiers approaching him. Before he recognized who they were the villains jumped on him, pulled a canvas over his head and dragged him into their Kubelwagen. Sparky (as he is called) ceased resistance when they nearly choked him to death. After what he recalls to have been a 15km drive the car stopped at an old farm house. He was threatened to be interrogated by the Gestapo. "I was so pissed off that the Krauts have ruined my evening that I was prepared to tell them anything," he told us later. "When I realized that I would have to spend the night there I decided to make the best out of it and joined the already half drunk Nazi gang. I drank numerous huge glasses of beer, some little thingies and something that tasted like gasoline."

He safely returned to our camp this morning in a Kubelwagen. Given by the hastily departure of the latter it must not have been a pleasant experience - for the Germans. T5 Sparks' comment: "What a rowdy bunch that was!"



Cartoon drawn by T5 Photographer Rick van Nooij, 166<sup>th</sup> SPC

