


WAR PRISONERS AID NEWS

Published by
War Prisoners Aid of the Y.M.C.A.,
347 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

A participating service of the
NATIONAL WAR FUND.

Vol. 2  403

MARCH, 1945

No. 3

Y.M.C.A. Increases Aid to Prisoners in Germany:

Truck Fleet Carries Supplies; Workers Defy Bombers



Y.M.C.A. TRUCKS AID PRISONERS IN GERMANY: In the photo above Hugo Cedergren (left), the associate general secretary of War Prisoners Aid of the Y.M.C.A., is shown with two other "Y" officials in Stockholm as they took delivery of the fleet of Swedish-built Ford trucks and trailers now being used in an effort to overcome the disrupted German transportation system. The trucks carry badly needed supplies into the camps and in addition have been aiding in the evacuation of men and materials from those camps in the paths of the Allied armies. The trucks have become a "sanity life-line" to the men, for without them, the "Y" would be seriously handicapped in its efforts to aid the prisoners.

LONDON—A new fleet of Swedish-built trucks and trailers is being used by War Prisoners Aid of the Y.M.C.A. in an endeavor to overcome disrupted German transportation facilities and get badly needed supplies to war prisoners in the Reich.

The trucks, charcoal-burning Fords, also are being used to move men and materials from camps being evacuated from the battle zones. Drivers for the fleet, which has become a "sanity life-line" for the prisoners, have been provided by the German authorities. To facilitate their passage, all the trucks are clearly marked in German, "War Prisoners Aid of the Y.M.C.A." with the "Y's" Red Triangle insignia also prominently displayed.

Service Being Increased

Service to American prisoners in Germany is being increased in order to help ease the hardships being brought on by over-crowding in the camps, Dr. Tracy Strong, general secretary of the World's Committee of the Y.M.C.A., under which War Prisoners Aid operates, declared. Neutral workers of the "Y" are continuing to visit the prison camps, many times at great personal risk, he said.

Many Y.M.C.A. representatives have had narrow escapes from death as the roads along which they were traveling were attacked by Allied war planes. The constant stream of refugees along the highways adds to their difficulties, forcing them to drive their automobiles at a snail's pace. The snows and rain that have hampered military operations also have turned the roads to the prison camps into quagmires, presenting another obstacle that must be overcome before the prisoners are reached.

Headquarters Moved

Headquarters of War Prisoners Aid in Germany have been moved from Sagan to Meissen, near Dresden, the London offices of the organization announced. Sagan, and Stalag Luft III which is located near it, have been over-run by the Russians, but not before the prisoners were moved to other camps.

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Yanks Win Sports Badges While at Stalag Luft VI

Six Americans were among the Canadian, Jamaican, South African, Australian and British prisoners of war in Germany awarded Y.M.C.A. badges for sportsmanship in athletics while at Stalag Luft VI.

American winners of the awards are: S/Sgt. D. E. Kirby, 1672 South Fourth Street, Columbus, Ohio; T/Sgt. G. A. Houser, 1100 Second Street, Monessen, Pennsylvania; T/Sgt. R. E. Doherty, 483 Linden Street, Fall River, Mass.; S/Sgt. A. J. Donatelli, Box 38, Bakerton, Pennsylvania; V. J. Pesature, Jr., 3030 Heath Avenue, Bronx, New York, and S/Sgt. W. M. Beach, 94 North Fifth Street, Northwood, Iowa.

Red Cross Keeps Prisoners Fed

Many an American "soldier out of luck," a prisoner of war of the Axis nations, becomes an expert cook during his enforced stay behind barbed wire. His skill is born of grim necessity. For often, those who would eat must cook.

Don't let an American lad whose life is bounded by barbed wire feel that he is forgotten because he's a soldier without a gun. Help keep him fed and clothed.

Food and clothing packages reach American prisoners of war through the auspices of the Red Cross. Give now to the 1945 Red Cross War Fund.