

Italian Service Battalion Stationed

Ex-POWs To Do 'Housekeeping' Chores at Post

If you've been wondering about the GIs with the green brassards and unusual cap patches—and couldn't get to first base with them in conversation, it's because they are members of a newly-arrived Italian Service Battalion.

The outfit, which arrived at the Post Saturday, is made up of former Italian prisoners of war taken in Africa who, now that Italy is a declared enemy of Germany, have taken the opportunity given them by the United States to volunteer for specially organized service units.

Organized along American lines to perform various service functions for our forces, the men will do general "housekeeping" duties here for the Officers' Mess and the 803d and 15th Signal Training Regiments. They cannot be used for actual combat duty.

The Italians officially are known as "signees" because of the oath of loyalty to the United States they must sign when they volunteer. Like American military personnel, they are subject to the Articles of War.

They are staffed by Italian officers and noncoms, but are under the ultimate command of American officers. Officers and enlisted men wear GI uniforms with a green brassard bearing the word Italy and a red and green circular patch with the word Italy on the cap.

Under the Geneva Convention governing prisoners of war, they are paid 80 cents a day, but receive only one-third of that amount in cash. They receive the remainder in Px coupons.

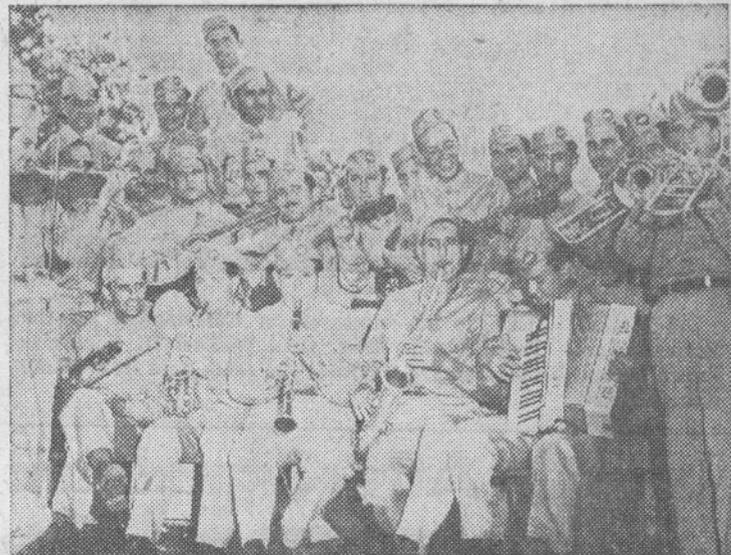
The battalion is housed in the Area D. Like American GIs, they arrived loaded down with musical instruments and all sorts of gadgets. Their area seems to be constantly alive with happy chatter and from their mess hall comes the aroma of—you guessed it—cooking spaghetti.—(This is a copyrighted feature.)

Join Signal Corps And See The World

The England-bound convoy was under relentless submarine attack. For eleven days the torpedo wakes criss-crossed like a spider web, big rifles roared on the escorting warships and drowned out the lesser chatter of the .50 caliber machine guns.

Twenty-seven times the shark-like raiders made their bid for

They Are On Our Side Now



LIKE OUR OWN GIs, the Italians have plenty of extra-curricular pastimes. Upper left, two are shown doing their own barbering. At the right, a man who was a violin-maker in the old country seems little affected by the war. Their own band, below, plays swing in addition to "Funiculi, Funicula." And you don't need three guesses to figure out what's cookin'. It's spaghetti, all right.

He's Back To Finish Job He Thought Done In '18

After a lapse of 26 years, S. Sgt. Clyde Philbrook is going back over again to finish what he thought was concluded back in 1918.

A supply sergeant at Camp Edison, Sgt. Philbrook looks back to the time when he fought in the first World War as an infantryman in four of the five major battles. A veteran of Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne and the Defensive



Hand Grenades 'Damned Handy' Things In Battle

Hand grenades are "damned handy things," every bit as useful as rifles under fire, according to Maj. Robert A. Nicholson of the Marines and Sgt. Alan Buck of the Signal Corps, who spoke on a recent "Back from Action" program at the 15th Signal Training Regiment's Rec Hall 2. Both spoke from experience gained on Guadalcanal.

"They're used an awful lot," Sgt. Buck said, "and you'll be wise to know thoroughly how to handle and throw them."

Maj. Nicholson, who is Marine Liaison Officer on the Post, told of the Battle for Guadalcanal as