

MEDICAL CARE

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Photos show medical treatment
at the front and in the rear.

"I WAS WOUNDED"

"I WAS WOUNDED," declared one prisoner recounting his experience at the front, "and they carried me on a stretcher through deep tunnels which were receiving direct hits from our artillery but it scarcely shook a grain of dust from the walls and we finally got to a deep bunker hospital, very warm and safe as being at home. Then I had a four-hour drive in a motor ambulance to another bunker hospital, after a week's treatment and then came here by truck. I'm doing fine now and I'll soon be well as ever."

Said Pfc. Edward E. Clevenger of Dayton, Ore., U.S.A.: "My feeling towards the Chinese Volunteers before I was captured was very hostile because I was told they were cruel and if I was ever taken prisoner by them that I would be treated very bad

"The captain had his leg broken the Volunteers give him the best treatment they possibly could by putting a splint on his leg Then there was this boy shot in the arm and the bone had been hit. The Chinese performed an operation and took out part of the bone. Then when they were ready to leave, the Chinese gave him a blood transfusion thus it kept the boy alive.

"I will tell you that I was very much touched down inside."



Cpl. Peter Williams of Bradford, Yorks, England, who was wounded in the left foot and thigh, writes:

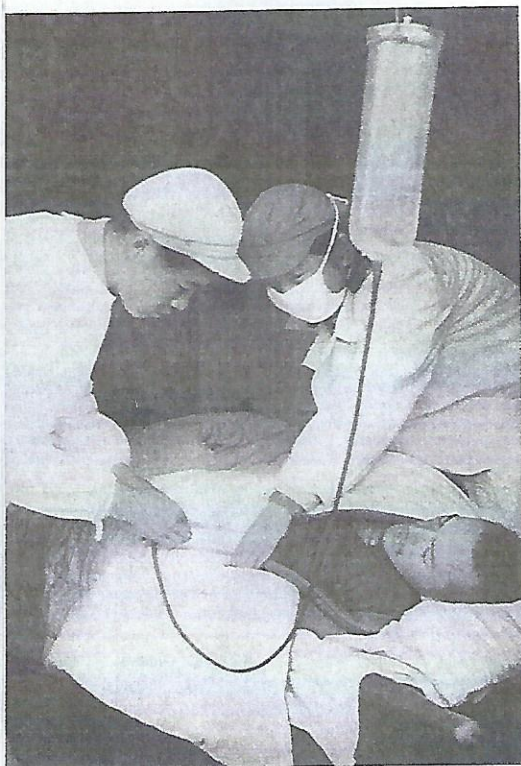
"With many others, I was captured and taken to a village in the rear of the fighting line. On starting for this village, a Chinese Volunteer noticed that I was wounded and could not walk, so he asked a couple of the other prisoners to help me on the way. He kept a tender watch on us and when I wanted to rest he found me a spot which would be comfortable.

"On arrival at the village, I was put in a room with six others who were wounded and we were told to rest. Very shortly afterwards three Volunteers, a doctor and two medical orderlies, came to see to our wounds. They treated me, first removing my boot from my wounded foot with the greatest of care, so as not to cause any further pain. The treatment started with washing and cleansing the wound, after which a powder was applied and my foot bandaged. Similar treatment was given to my other wound.

"This treatment of my wounds was a daily repetition for me whilst we were in the front-line area.

"Exactly the same care is given to prisoners as to the Chinese Volunteers themselves. Thanks to the medical attention that I was given, I am now able to play a full ninety-minute game of soccer."





Intravenous therapy.

CAMP HOSPITAL

A vivid description of hospital life in a P.O.W. camp is provided by Pfc. William K. Dillon of Bluefield Va., U.S. This is what he writes:—

WE have wonderful food and all we need to eat. The food is just like the food we have in the States. The dishes we have consist of beef stew, pork stew, pork paddies, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, chicken stew, greens, turnips, potato salad and several different types of gravy. At different times through the day we receive several different treats like cookies, apples, pears, candy, and each morning we receive a hot drink of sweetened milk and at nights we receive sweetened tea. The real sick patients are on a special diet, they get fried eggs, cake, cookies, baked potatoes, all through the day and special attention from the doctors and nurses.

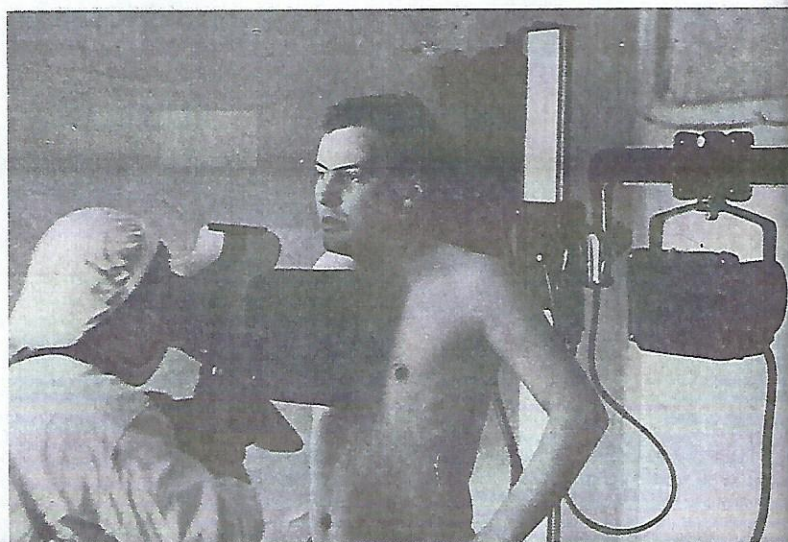
The doctors and nurses are doing a wonderful job here. They are on duty day and night and are always glad to help the patients at any time. The doctors here have operated on several G.I.'s for appendicitis. They are getting along fine. Several of us have taken the tissue operation. I myself was in very bad shape, I had a bad case of asthma. I couldn't sleep or eat, and was awfully poor. Since taking the operation I have gained my weight back, sleep good and have a good appetite. All the boys who took the operation are doing fine, some of my buddies have completely recovered from their sickness and gone to the compound.

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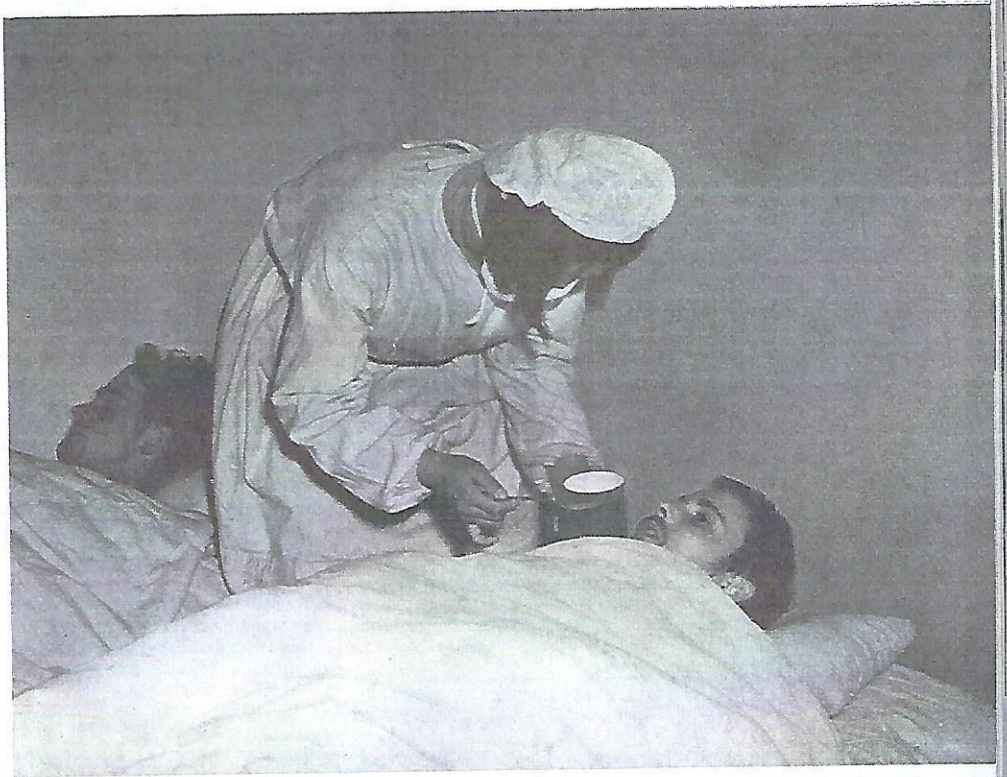
Ear ailments get attention, too.



Cpl. Kenyon Lewis Wagner, U.S. Army, gets a fluoroscopy which revealed T.B. Read his own story of how he got better on page 38.



This man is seriously ill and has to be fed by the nurse.



This one is improving rapidly, but still needs plenty of attention.





Nobody likes injections. But they are necessary, to prevent the spread of disease—especially with germ warfare being waged by the U.S. forces.

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I had never heard of this operation until I arrived here. I think it's a wonderful discovery for mankind. I have personally seen it make a big change in several patients. As I was an aid man before my capture, I took lots of interest in the operations and treatment given to us G.I.'s who are here in the hospital.

The doctors and nurses are very strict in sterilizing instruments and bandages and you can see the Chinese Volunteers are doing everything in their power. They are doing a wonderful job and smiling all the time. We are provided with plenty of reading material, which consists of some very interesting books and novels. We also have games to play. We have cards and Chinese checkers which the patients really enjoy playing.

We get plenty of tobacco. At arrival at hospital we were given towels, soap, tooth brush, tooth paste and nice uniforms. All these things we were in great need of and greatly appreciate.

The nurses are always busy. If they are not busy with some patient, they are sweeping the room

or spraying with disinfectant, or putting DDT powder on our clothing and bedding. They wash the patients who are not able to help themselves and bring them medicine or shots all through the day and night. We have hot water to drink and wash in. Every day we have a fire under our rooms to keep us warm.

Sometimes I sit and think of how scared I was of the Chinese Volunteers when I was first captured. I figured I would be killed or tortured, but instead they have gained my health back for me and are trying to keep me healthy. Our morale here at the hospital is very high. You can always hear someone singing or humming a song. Some days we have a victrola and some nice records to listen to.

The real big surprise to me was Xmas cards to send to our loved ones. We also wrote letters to our homes. Thanks to the Chinese Volunteers and their Lenient Policy.

I want to thank the Chinese Volunteers and the hospital staff for their care and treatment.

Thousands of Chinese doctors and nurses volunteered for service in Korea. This team was assigned to work in a P.O.W. camp. And they do it with devotion and efficiency.



"THANKS, DOC!"

Cpl. O. J. Cline of Lumber Bridge, North Carolina, U.S.A.

WE have one doctor, one pharmacist and two aid men to attend to three companies. This is an extremely difficult job. There is sick call to be held for each company. This takes up about six days every week. Besides this, he has to take care of emergency cases which come up at all hours of the day and night.

But somehow the doctor always finds time to visit each company at least once a week. He talks with the men, listens to their minor complaints and suggestions on sanitation. He always seems interested in each individual case. For everyone he sees he has a smile and a kind word. This is one characteristic that everyone likes. He has many friends throughout the company.

Cleaning a field surgical kit.



Camp hospitals laboratories are adequately equipped. The doctor here is examining a specimen taken from a patient.





Convalescing patients sit in the sun on the steps of the hospital.



—or play cards, or other games in the courtyard. The man at the back is getting a shave.

Convalescence

Cpl. Vernon L. Warren, St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.

AS time went by I could gradually feel and see improvement from the doctor's work. I was then allowed to do exercises in the morning, but not too much. The doctor's requirement was rest. The weather is much warmer now and my strength steadily returning, but still I was not allowed to do too much. The interpreter would bring books and magazines for us to read, and when we were not allowed to read he would read to us. If there was

anything we needed, all we had to do was ask for it.

Finally the time came when the doctor gave us permission to walk around as we wished. This was one enjoyable moment. This was in the summer now. Every morning the comrade would come for us early. We would stroll along the banks of the Yalu River enjoying the beautiful scenery it had to offer.

"I was a T.B. Case"

Cpl. Kenyon Wagner, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.

CAPTURED in May 1951, I was removed to a hospital in the rear. After a thorough examination by several Chinese doctors my case was diagnosed as tuberculosis. The interest and concern expressed for my welfare contrasted sharply with the treatment my own people had given me.

Besides the many powders, liquids and tablet medicines whose names I am not familiar with, we received innumerable injections of PAS, Penicillin and streptomycin. I had two fluoroscopic examinations and one X-Ray picture taken of my chest. The hospital surgeon made several taps of my lung cavity collecting fluid for laboratory examination. Frequent blood counts, urinalysis, sputum exams and other lab tests were done.

Rest, fresh air, and quiet are essential prerequisites for recovering from this disease. I and

several other G.I.'s suffering from the same ailment were confined to our beds, but when the weather permitted we were moved outside under a tall, twisted cedar tree with plenty of blankets to keep us warm. A Chinese comrade spent almost entire days with us—relieving the boredom of sickness with conversation, amusing anecdotes and readings from interesting books.

Prior to entering the hospital and receiving medical treatment, death was a constant specter clouding my mind; my body was reduced to skeleton proportions. However, after entering the hospital I began to pick up weight. It was exciting to watch the numbers on the scale gradually increasing from 95 pounds to 130 pounds at present. Today I am not only in better physical condition than ever before but happier in spirit.

"TO ALL DOCTORS AND NURSES"

Here is one of many letters of appreciation sent in by prisoners after leaving the hospital. This one was signed by Cpl. Manual Silva of East Providence, Rhode Island, and eight other prisoners. It reads:

*To Main Hospital
Pyuktong, North Korea*

*To all doctors & nurses,
We the former patients of your hospital in the
town of Pyuktong, wish to write this letter to you to
express our gratitude and deep feelings to what you
have done for us. We thank you for all the hard*
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To all Doctors and Nurses,

We, the former patients of your hospital in the town of Pyuktong, wish to write this letter to you to express our gratitude and deep feeling for what you have done for us. We thank you for all the hard work you have done for us even though there were a great many difficulties that all of you had to overcome to give us the treatment that made us all well.

All of us are in the very best of health and pretty strong. We also have all our weight back plus more. We are being treated very well here back in our company and we don't think we will ever again be sick while we are prisoners of war.

The food and medical care that we have in our company is very good and we also have sick call every day.

When we were first captured by the Chinese People's Volunteers we did not know what was meant by the Lenient Policy, but after our stay at the hospital we understand very well what the Lenient Policy means. We were not treated as enemies but as good friends, and we were treated at the hospital as if we were your own relations.

We all thank you from our hearts for what all of you have done for us and we will never forget you.