

Thoroughness of German G-2 Told by Former Prisoner of War

Lt. Amon G. Carter, Jr., Son of Fort Worth Publisher, Gives 'Name, Rank, Serial Number' Only— But Germanes Furnish Rest

Knowledge by the Germans of American troop movements — and German intelligence in general— during the North African campaign was devilishly thorough, 2nd Lt. Amon G. Carter, Jr., said Tuesday at Company 1. Lt. Carter, a former prisoner of war, is awaiting reassignment at the station after being held captive by the Germans for 29 months. He was liberated by the Russians.

On Wednesday Lt. Carter was presented the Bronze Star Medal at post headquarters by Brig. Gen. Charles K. Nulsen, commanding general of Fort Sam Houston.

Two days after he was captured, at Faid Pass in Feb., 1943, early in the Tunisian campaign, a German interrogator asked him questions of a tactical nature. Lt. Carter, objecting to this type of questioning, stated that, as a prisoner of war, and under the terms of the Geneva Convention, he was obliged to give only his name, rank and serial number.

"Very well, then," said the interrogator, in effect, "that is all I need at the moment." Using his name as a starting point, the interrogator proceeded to give Lt. Carter the name of every officer in his battery, when his unit, the 1st Armored Division, left Fort Benning, Ga., for overseas movement, the name of the ship that transported the division overseas, when and where the ship arrived in North Africa, and other pertinent information.

"You seem to know more than I do," Lt. Carter told the interrogator. "I have a friend with the 27th Field Artillery Battalion—can you tell me where he is at the moment?"

"Your friend is about fifty miles north of here," was the casual answer.

Captured By Arabs

Lt. Carter, son of Amon G. Carter, owner and publisher of the Fort Worth, Tex., Star-Telegram, was a student at the University of Texas before entering the service in July, 1941. He was not captured by the Germans, but by a band of Arabs while he and some companions lay asleep in the desert. The Americans were beaten

and bound hand and foot before being turned over to the Germans.

"I felt a shotgun in my back as I lay asleep," Lt. Carter recalls, "and, looking up, saw this Arab."



Rude awakening in the desert.

From Tunis he was flown to Palermo, Sicily, then to Capua in Italy. In Capua a German officer told him that the further away from German combat troops he was removed, the worse his treatment would become.

"The officer's prediction was true," Lt. Carter admits. "He said German quartermaster troops would give us rougher handling than the front-line soldiers; that's the way it turned out."

Mistreated By Italians

Often, in Italy, the Italians were responsible for more shameful treatment of American prisoners than the Germans.

"They spat on us, threw rocks, and overturned our stretchers that had wounded on them," Lt. Carter stated. "Now they're our Allies."

Following internment at Capua, Lt. Carter was transferred to Offlag 7A, near Kassel in Germany. Four months later he was taken to 9AZ, then to Offlag 64, 100 miles from Warsaw, where he remained 19 months. He was at Stalag 3A near Luckenwalde, 25 miles south of Berlin, when he was liberated by the Russians April 22

tion of 5,500,000 men in the next 12 months.

The general said that the present plan is to leave about 400,000 troops as occupational forces in Europe with the remainder to be returned as speedily as possible. The size of the occupational army in Japan and the Pacific islands has not as yet been revealed, but some sources place the figure at 1,000,000 men.

New Jeep Boasts Added Features

Closely resembling the military jeep, the peacetime civilian version retains the four-wheel drive and the wartime power plant. Major changes are a special power take-off which can be used for direct power or with belt and pulley to transmit up to thirty horsepower to a buzz saw or a thresher, and changed gear ratios in the transmission, transfer case and axles.

The new gear ratios are designed to provide a maximum efficiency at a farm speed of 3 to 7.5 miles an hour. Another gear ratio gives road speeds up to sixty miles an hour.

Willys-Overland, producers of the postwar jeep, said the vehicle could make up to twenty miles for each gallon of gas on the highway and could pull a trailer load of 5,500 pounds.

of this year.

Lt. Carter says the Russians wanted to remove him to their own country for repatriation and processing, but when American trucks came for the prisoners on May 5, he hopped into one of the trucks and rode off with the Yanks.

Shortly after his liberation Lt. Carter visited Luckenwalde. He chatted with civilians, sounding them out on various topics. Some Germans at a railroad station said they were sincerely sorry about President Roosevelt's death.

"We," they added, "never were Nazis. We were forced to submit to the dictates of the Party."

Several German soldiers with whom Lt. Carter had come in contact said they had lived in the United States. One 67-year-old sergeant confessed he was once a dining car steward on a Eastern railroad. Another, known among the Yanks as "Chicago Joe," said he was formerly a policeman in Chicago.

"Another guy, the Gestapo chief of a camp I was in, said he ran an ice-cream parlor in Brooklyn," Lt. Carter said. —J. D.