

San Benitan Says Nazi Girls 'Pretty And Clean' But GI's Too Angry To Care Much

Though he describes German girls as "the prettiest and cleanest girls I have seen in Europe," Pfc. Floyd W. Gann, San Benito, writes his sister, Ruth, that during the advance toward Berlin last spring the American soldiers were "so mad at the Germans we didn't care what happened to them."

Now stationed west of Paris, the Valley soldier is able to tell that he was with the First Allied Airborne Army last September, and was surrounded by the enemy for nine days after the Sept. 17 parachute jump into Holland. The men went hungry for two or three days, he adds. He has seen service in France, Holland and Germany, and was in the latter country Dec. 18 when the Nazis started their big push.

"Things were tough and hot then," Gann writes. "We jumped from one spot to another. After

we started pushing, it wasn't so bad — except the cold; it was hell. We slept any place we could, in barns or in houses if we could find a house that was not taken by other boys or knocked down by bombs or

didn't care what happened to them. The Germans were the only ones we treated like that."

Gann is one of the many Valley boys who write home accounts of the horror camps they have visited. He describes a soap factory he saw, where the Nazis are said to have made soap out of human bodies.

"They would take all the crazy and crippled people and use them as guinea pigs for experiments," he relates. "After they killed them, they made soap out of them. What I am writing is true, Ruth, for I have seen most of it with my own eyes. The Nazis were the meanest — I have even seen or heard of.

"I suppose you read a lot about these camps where they starved the people and burned them. Well, I have seen it with my own eyes and have buried lots of them, too. Some of the people didn't even know what was going on in their own towns.

The Valley man reports that the girls in occupied Germany are most cordial to the conquering soldiers.

"They haven't had dates in a long time, and like chocolate and American cigarettes, of which GIs have plenty," Gann remarks.

The soldier is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gann of Lantana, Valleyites for the past 21 years. He has three brothers who are in the Navy in the South Pacific. They are Herman T. Gann CM 3/c,

Howard J. Gann, BM 1/c, and Robert W. Gann, S 1/c.

Keeps Busy

The war may be over, but the duties of Sgt. Jack D. Hunt of Weslaco 273rd Ordnance Service Battalion at Ashchurch, Gloucestershire, England, where he is stationed, Hunt wrote his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hunt.

"It looks like it will be our lot to clear and close this mammoth depot and I doubt if that can be done for some months yet. You can imagine the size of it when I tell you there are railroad tracks directly through all these warehouses, and the lads working in the warehouse go about their jobs on bicycles, so great is the floor space. We even have our own railroad battalions with roundhouses and all, right here, just like some middle-sized city.

"We have a lot of German POWs working in here, too, night and day which should help the clearing of it some faster."

The end of the war has brought additional duties to the men engaged in this work, Hunt adds.

"I wish you could know the work of a battalion headquarters of a strength of 1,400 men," he says, "and a general mess where 1,300 men eat three times a day. Plenty of work, but it's interesting. Never any static because of the system that's used."

Every man in his battalion is eligible for a discharge under the point system.



Gann

shells. We moved out the people and took over their beds and stoves. We were so mad then we