The press has already reported that Negro and white infantrymen are now fighting side by side in Germany. In France I visited one of the Negro platoons before they left for the front and talked with the non-white soldiers at the Reinforcement Training Center. What I saw and heard was evidence that the Supreme Command in SHAEF was following in racial matters what must be the basic policy of our army.

In our war, wisely, that of utilizing most efficiently all available resources of men and material to defeat the enemy.

Such a policy is working. At the Training Center a white non-commissioned veteran, who was assisting in the training program, said graphically, if uncompromisingly, about the Negro troopers: "Sure they'll get along just right. It don't matter when firing next to you when you're both firing fullest. The black-skinned, battle-weary, non-commissioned officer of the Center was confident that the troopers, all of whom volunteered for the training course with all noncommissioned officers taking a reduction to the grade of privates, would do as well in combat. So did.

These men will fight because they have been trained and treated just like the other soldiers here and they know they are going to be used in the same way.

They went to fight. When the first group went out we had only two cases of AMS among all the Negro soldiers in the Center, where the two men were the only men on the front line, Division Commander informing us that they had reported to him to fight."

The attitude of this officer has been confirmed by the report of an official observer who spent time with one of the platoons in the fighting around Rouen, where the first of the units was committed to combat. He reported that the Negro soldiers fought as well as any others and that the distances they noted were the same as those noted by other troops leading battle companies.

This policy of making the best use of all soldiers is further evidenced in the excellent performance of the Service of Supply troops throughout the theater. These troops, a large percentage of whom are Negroes, regard themselves as soldiers, performing skilled jobs. They led a very real identification with the fighting front.

In the Quartermaster Corps, headed by Negro personnel, the first sergeant was questioned as to why the men were working voluntarily round the clock, repliing: "We have got to keep the supplies moving and all of us want to do our part. The officers in this unit were white and we call them all white only because their uniforms are white and because that is the way we identified them in the United States because they used to call us the 'Bucko's.'"

In the European Theater of Operations are the first units of Negro nurses and surgeons. The nurses, stationed at a hospital in the north of Belgium, are being trained American soldiers who have been wounded in action. They are supervised by their commanding officers as being the women professionally the best

The entire European Theater of Operations. Their effectiveness has been reported directly from the Commanding Officer of the United States Army Forces. They have acquitted themselves well in the short time they have been exposed to their work and the community to which they are attached.

Generally, on both the Continent and in England, it was evident that the attitudes of the Negro soldier were those toward all units of the same rank and favor the same degree of uniformity against any racial differences. The Negro units are those that have courted most all of the men of the foreign, non-commissioned ranks that have been reported by the soldiers as being individual in nature. As a result of our trips to the Mediterranean and European theaters I had impressed that such differences as exist between soldiers, are not due to racial characteristics but to such factors as the tone of the various combat units.

The fact that the Negro will fight is evidenced by the American Negro soldier's ready to any charge that Negro troops will not fight.

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