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COURAGEOUS COLUMBIAN BN. MARKS SECOND YEAR IN KOREA

By 1st Lt. Thomas A. M. Fernandez

On June 16, 1951, the Columbian Battalion disembarked from the USNS Aiknen Victory at Pusan, Korea. In command was Lt. Col. Jamie Polancia. His command consisted of 43 officers and 1,015 men.

Columbia is the only country in South America that is represented in the United Nations action in Korea. The battalion has become a valorous and efficient part of the Eighth Army of the United States in the carrying out of its assigned mission in Korea.

The battalion went into a training program to familiarize the men with the customs of the American Army. This lasted six weeks. In August, 1951, they received their baptism of fire. The action took place on Hill 561. They gave Spanish names to the hill mass; Don Polo, El Chermizo, and La Teta, to mention but a few.

The Columbian's first assignment was to work with the 24th Division, and here they proved themselves to be able and courageous fighters. They were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for the action on Hill 561.

When the 24th went to Japan, the battalion became a member of 31st Regiment. They proved themselves again during the attack on Hill 180. From there they manned positions on "Old Baldy." It was here that they received the brunt of one of the most furious attacks of the Korean conflict, and again were a credit to the country they represent.

In April of this year, the outfit became a part of the 17th Infantry "Buffalo" Regiment. During the 24 months of service performed by the Columbian Battalion, they have inflicted many casualties on the enemy, demonstrating their effectiveness as a combat unit.

GEN. TAYLOR WARNS EIGHTH ARMY

Lt. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor has warned his Eighth Army in Korea that an armistice is a near no-man's-land between war and peace.

He told them to be on the alert if a truce is signed, and be ready to start fighting again at a moment's notice. The Commander stressed that a truce is just a suspension of hostilities—which may or may not lead to permanent peace.

Staff officers working in secret at Panmunjom were making steady progress for putting the armistice document in final shape for a formal signing.

While here, the Battalion has had such distinguished visitors as Gen. Clark, Gen. Van Fleet, and Gen. Taylor. From Columbia have come Lt. General Gustavo Rojas Pinilla, Commander of the Columbian military forces; and Lt. Gen. Regulo Gaitan Petino, Inspector General of the Columbian military forces.

The commanders of the battalion, during the time it has been over here, have been Lt. Col. Jaime Polancia, who has been awarded the Silver Star for Valor, and Lt. Col. Alberto Ruiz Novua. He, too, has been awarded an American decoration; the Bronze Star with V device. The Columbian Battalion now awaits Lt. Col. Carlos Ortiz, who is to take command when Lt. Col. Ruiz rotates.

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Sports

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

American League:

The New York Yankees made it 18 straight wins and extended their American League lead to a whopping 10½ games yesterday.

The Yanks virtually erased the Cleveland Indians and everyone else from the race as they beat the Tribe in a doubleheader, 6-2, and 3-0, before 74,000 fans at Municipal Stadium, the largest crowd of the season.

The 18 straight wins are one short of the American League record of 19 set in 1906 by the White Sox and equaled by the 1947 Yankees. The Yankees thus completed a 14 game grand slam of the West.

Billy Pierce checked the Boston Red Sox with two hits to pitch the Chicago White Sox to a 6-0 victory yesterday in the first game of their double day affair.

In the second game Sandy Consuegra out pitched Mel Parnell to lead the Chisox over the Bosox, 1-0.

Harry Byrd, bearing down with men on base, pitched the Philadelphia Athletics to a 4-1 win over the St. Louis Browns in the first game. The Browns copped the second game, 3-1.

In a single game, the Washington Senators defeated the Detroit Tigers, 6-1, behind Frank Shea.

National League:

Don Liddle and Bob Bual, a pair of rookie pitchers, turned stingy with their hits yesterday and the rampaging Milwaukee Braves clubbed the Pittsburgh Pirates

in both ends of a doubleheader, 7-3 and 8-0, to remain atop the National League.

First Game

TEAM	R	H	E
Milwaukee	7	9	1
Pittsburgh	3	5	1
WP: Liddle	LP: Hall		

Second Game

TEAM	R	H	E
Milwaukee	8	17	0
Pittsburgh	0	2	1
WP: Bual	LP: Bowman		
HR: B- Gordon			

Rookie Harvey Haddix bested veteran Sal Maglie in a pitching duel yesterday as the St. Louis Cardinals nipped the New York Giants, 1-0, in the first game.

Wilmer Mizell hurled the St. Louis Cardinals to a 9-4 win in the second game.

The Brooklyn Dodgers beat the Chicago Cubs, 6-3, in the opener, but the second game ended in a six to six tie when Ralph Kiner hit a grand slam homer in the top of the sixth.

The game was called at the end of the sixth because of darkness.

The Philadelphia Phillies beat the Cincinnati Redlegs, 4-1, after the Redlegs had edged Robin Roberts, 2-1, in the opener.

USO SHOW

The Dick Contino USO Show will stage three performances at the "Buffalo" CP on June 17th and 18th. On the 17th there will be two showings, one at 1000 hours and the other at 1400 hours. On the 18th there will be only one performance, 1000 hours.

The show at 1000 on June 17th is only for the following units: 1st Battalion and Heavy Mortar Company; the performance in the afternoon at 1400 is for the 2nd Battalion, Medical Company, Headquarters Company and Tank Company. The only showing on the 18th is for the 3rd Battalion 707th Ordnance and Service Company. It has been requested that the individual units send men, to only the performances specified above.

The "Buffalo" baseball team will play the Polar Bears today at the Diverdy field. Starting time is 1400 hours.

Security is everybody's business.