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TIME OFF FROM WAR.

If ever men deserved a rest, the Desert Rats in Normandy do. And this is where they get it. On arrival at a Rest Camp, run by one of the Second Army Corps, the guests are handed a ration of cigarettes and letter-cards. The soldier who wrote home "We're getting buckets of food" seems to have been stating a fact. No one's late on parade when meal-time comes round. Any complaints? No Sir! Troops of all arms are having their first rest from the Normandy Battles ... two days and three nights to do as they please. There is no Reveille'. But there's one kind of "mopping up Operation" to be attended to after every meal.

Visitors can either do nothing at all, or they can get rid of surplus energy by riding. These ponies are Russian... brought to Normandy by the Germans and left behind during a hasty retreat.

For those who prefer boating, there's water laid on - and inflatable dinghies, by kind permission of someone.

The local inhabitants are glad to lend their typical Normandy fishing-boats to any keen anglers - and the sea even provides fish.

The Camp laundry. Local hospitality lends a hand. For a few francs the washing question is solved for "los Femmies".

A French hairdresser gives the troops a change from the usual army clip. Its all part of the Service.

Here's that excruciating moment when a letter home goes before the field censor. Incidentally, a rare opportunity to see that "blue-pencil" man at work.

Recent discussion concerning beer for the troops boils down to the fact that these men are (technically speaking) drinking "reputed" pints.

An evening out. Troops in search of a bit of entertainment. Yes, its certainly good to relax and laugh and forget about fighting for a bit - except the friendly fighting of a couple of comics.

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The holiday is over now... and its time to be getting back to the war again.

Sherty runs like an animated ide-beak as the last bus out waits for him. So another batch of troops goes back to the line, refreshed by their first rest since they

landed in Normandy - - - and ready to get in again on the winning side of that argument with Jerry.