

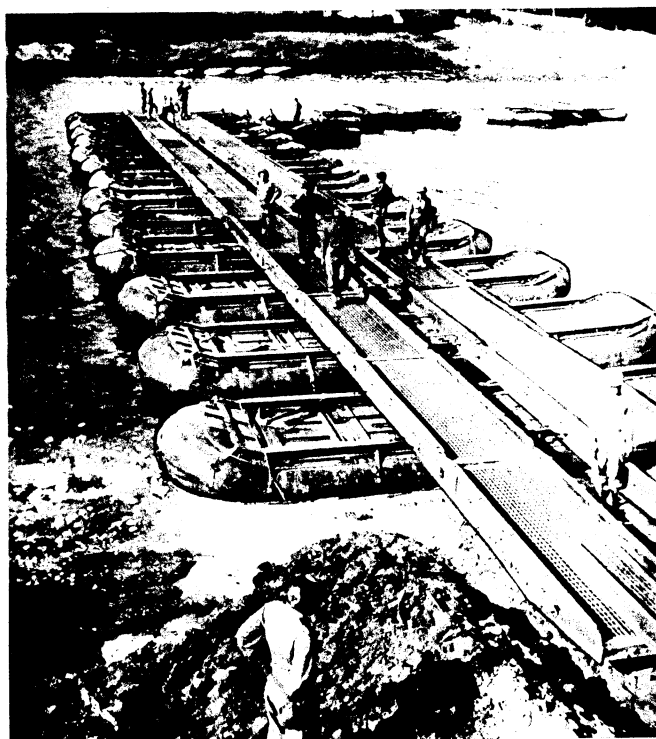
he said, "C'est la guerre", and dragged out the cognac to give refreshment to the men who had wreaked havoc on his property.

C'EST LA GUERRE!



By 2200 that night the bridges were finished. We were all rather tired, but very proud of ourselves. For weeks afterwards engineer outfits were writing to the "Stars and Stripes" telling how they had built the biggest bridge across the Seine. One outfit said that they had built biggest, and they had Dinah Shore there to inspire them. Phooey. All we had at our bridge was Lt. Col. Carter, who wasn't exactly there for inspiration. Our bridge was bigger than any of their's!!!

Finishing the bridges wasn't the end of the job. The rain started to fall and the river rose two and a half feet, threatening the abutments. Extra equipment stood by, trestles were installed around the abutments, and we awaited eventualities. But the bridge held, and the 82nd Engineers took over the job of maintenance. The battalion got together again near Noailles.



BRIDGING THE SEINE AT MEZIERES, FRANCE. AUGUST 1944

On September First, we went into support of the 79th Division. It was the beginning of another race for us. In one day we moved 65 miles to Don-pierre, and the next day we went another 65 miles to Sameon on the Belgian border. Prisoners were picked up all along the route. While on security patrol, Sgt. McGinley and Lt. Duge of Company C had a scrap with three kraut paratroopers. "C" Company came out on top. S/Sgt. Barriault, whose job is looking after the chow for Company C, got his combat experience guarding the jeep while the fight went on.