The war’s over and well deserved R&R is in order. Very few can boast skiing in the Austrian Alps down an Olympic ski run.
Bolzano, Italy is near the point where the U.S. 7th Army driving south from the Brenner Pass linked up with the U.S. 5th Army coming up from Central Italy. This linkup completed the Italian Campaign.
More photos from Bolzano, Italy and surrounding areas. This is the southern most point of advance for the 103d Infantry Division (Cactus).
Helmet lavatory with a canteen cup water supply at Reims, France tent city.

On the trip from the beautiful Alps to the Point of Departure in Le Havre, France, there was nothing but “Deluxe Accommodations” for the 103d Infantry Division here at Reims, France tent city. From Tent City at Reims it was on to ship out for the long trip to Japan.
Relaxing at Tent City in Reims.

Reims Cathedral where the famous stained glass window was covered for protection.
LT Flynn in front of SS Headquarters in Paris.

Before shipping off to Japan and the South Pacific, there was just enough time for a short trip to Paris.

Art stalls along the Seine River in Paris.

LT Flynn at the Eiffel Tower
Champs Elysees

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Eternal Flame & Wreath, which lies beneath the Arch de Triomphe

Monuments in Paris
Dijon Cathedral

Luneville Cathedral
Eiffel Tower with a U.S. bomber parked beneath.
The low point was when the men of the 409th Infantry were transferred from the 103d Infantry Division to the 45th Infantry Division for shipment from Le Havre to Bornmouth, England. From there they would go on to the Pacific and Japan. V-J Day came after the ship was loaded so the men sailed from Southampton to Camp Shanks, NY. From there it was a troop train to San Francisco, via Canada, for the first big Army parade after V-J Day. After San Francisco, it was on to Fort Lewis, Washington to occupy a recently vacated German POW base where the barbed wire fences and concertina wire were still around the barracks. After Fort Lewis it was back to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio to process for discharge.
Aboard the R.M.S. Aquatania, a British ship pressed into service as a troop ship in November, 1939. These are happy soldiers – the war is over and they are heading home!