

Capt. Dunkelberg Comes Back From Prison Camps

Has 60-Day Leave Before He Reports For Reassignment

Recently returned to the campus from a German prison camp is Capt. George H. Dunkelberg, former professor of Agricultural Engineering. Capt. Dunkelberg came to Clemson in Sept. 1938 and went on active duty as a 1st Lt. in March, 1942. After serving at Camp Claybourne, La., he transferred to the now famous 101st Airborne Infantry and went to England in Sept. 1943. On D-Day plus one he landed in Normandy and fought through the entire summer before his capture in Sept.

While participating in airborne operations against the enemy, the plane towing Capt. Dunkelberg's glider was shot down, thus forcing the glider to land in enemy territory. The glider was immediately surrounded by German troops and the entire crew was taken prisoners.

Capt. Dunkelberg, being the only officer in the group, was separated immediately from his men and sent to an interrogation camp where he was held in solitary confinement for five days for questioning. He was then sent to Camp Limburg for a short time and from there to Oflag 64, a permanent prison camp in Poland.

When asked about prison life, Capt. Dunkelberg stated that the food and heat, rather than the lack thereof, were the worst things he had to contend with. A day's menu consisted of one-



CAPT. DUNKELBERG

sixth loaf bread, two bowls of sugar beat soup, and a cup of ersatz coffee. This food was supplemented, however, with Red Cross packages including generous supplies of cigarettes.

To pass the time in prison the

(Continued On Page Four)

Capt. Dunkelberg

(Continued from Page One)

"Kriegies" (as the prisoners called themselves) participated in various sports and organized a swing band with instruments furnished by the Y. M. C. A. They also started a school which offered courses in everything from agriculture to law. Capt. Dunkelberg taught courses in agriculture and plain geometry. One officer actually received his high school diploma while a prisoner. The camp also boasted of a monthly newspaper, of which Wright Bryan '26, was a staff member. A 7000 volume library was also furnished by the "Y".

In addition to Wright Bryan, Capt. Dunkelberg remembers having seen the following Clemson men: Hervey H. Robinson, T. E. '41, J. N. Harris, T. C. '36, and R. N. Glenson, Ag. Eg. '42.

When the Russians began their mid-winter advance on Poland, the Germans began to march the 1400 prisoners from Oflag 64 toward Germany. Having no food on the march, Capt. Dunkelberg and two fellow officers broke out of the column and entered a Polish house in search of food. When the German guards came in search of them, Capt. Dunkelberg hid in a shock of wheat, thus eluding his pursuers. After the column had marched on, he and his companions hid out with a Polish family for five days until the Russian advance caught up with them.

Capt. Dunkelberg served in the front lines with a Russian Company for three days and found the Russians to be splendid soldiers. The captain then made contact with the American authorities in Odessa and was eventually returned to the U. S. Since liberating himself, Capt. Dunkelberg has gained 30 lbs.

After spending a 60 day leave with his family, he will report to Miami Beach, Fla. for reassignment. The captain's wife and three boys have made their home in Clemson since he went on active duty.