

The Stars and Stripes

May 30, 1919

Moccasins Replace Hobnails

It is true that those in the 1st Division on one occasion nearly drove the supply sergeants to stronger drink by throwing away their hobs when moccasins were issued, but they were all fighters, aggressive and resourceful, and there's not a doughboy in the Army who, having seen them in action, doesn't look upon them with a friendly, comradely eye.

An American officer, captured by the Germans in the battle of St. Mihiel, was surprised to find himself interrogated not on his division's movements or objectives, nor yet on its strength, but on how many Indians there were in the units opposing the Boches in that sector.

This, and another incident in which it became known that an extra force of snipers had been put into the lines to cope with the American aborigines, showed to what extent the Indians were feared by the Germans.