

THE QUESTION TODAY:

## Why Did American Soldier Yield to Impulse to Machinegun Nazi Prisoners?

### GI Under Observation at Utah Camp Mental Ward as Probe Continues

FORT DOUGLAS, Utah, July 10 (AP)—Why an American soldier yielded to an impulse—which an army officer said he admitted often had tempted him—to spray a German prisoner of war camp with machinegun bullets was the question before investigating authorities today.

The soldier was Pvt. Clarence V. Bertucci, 23, of New Orleans, La., named by Col. Arthur J. Ericsson as the slayer of eight Germans at the Salina, Utah, war prisoner camp. Twenty others were wounded.

Bertucci was under observation in a hospital mental ward here. A summary of his condition will be studied along with a transcript of testimony heard in an inquiry at the camp before Col. C. K. Wing, Ninth service command security and intelligence director, issues his report.

The New Orleans private, a guard at the Salina camp, will be held in custody until the report is complete.

Ericsson, commander of the Ogden, Utah, war prisoner camp, of which the Salina camp is a branch, said Bertucci expressed no regret at the shooting early Sunday.

The soldier acknowledged, Ericsson said, that he often had been tempted to turn his guard tower machinegun on the Germans.

The .30 caliber weapon pumped approximately 250 bullets into the area in which the prisoners were sleeping, sending bullets into 30 of the 43 tents. Men in 11 tents were killed or wounded.



**VICTORY IN 1946**—Vice Adm. Daniel E. Barbay, USN, above, at a press conference in San Francisco yesterday predicted victory over Japan by the summer of 1946, and said "Whenever we choose to land, we can land anywhere on Japan or China."—AP WIREPHOTO.