

'Water Rats' Catches On as Nickname For Canadian Third Division in Holland

By ROSS MUNRO

With the 1st Canadian Army in Northern Holland, April 5 (CP).—

"Water rats" seems to be catching on as a nickname for the 3rd Division, Canada's No. 1 formation in amphibious warfare.

Outside the Rhine east bank ferry town of Emmerich, captured by the 3rd, there is a sign: "Come on in and see around. The water rats have cleared the town."

In every town north of Emmerich through which the formation passed two-foot-high, light blue battle patches of the division are painted on walls with the words "Water Rats" in black above.

The 3rd Division claims the nickname for the Normandy seaborne assault, the battle of the English Channel ports, the Scheldt polder (reclaimed land) fighting over flooded country, attacks over inun-

dated land between the Reichwald and the Rhine and the crossing of the Rhine itself.

126-022-059

149
WAR
EUROPEAN
1939
EUROPE
INVASION
GERMANY
CANADA
ARMY
HOLLAND