

THE STARS AND STRIPES

MEDITERRANEAN

Vol. 2, No. 7, Saturday, January 22, 1944

For U.S. Armed Forces

TWO FRANCS

Russians Press New Phase Of Leningrad Push

Captors Of Novgorod Sweeping Toward Staraya Russa

LONDON—Armies of the Soviet Union turned their full fury on the frozen northern front this week, opening a great offensive against the German line at Leningrad, which had remained within the range of Nazi guns despite the lifting of the siege a year ago.

By Friday night, the Red Army was rapidly developing the second phase of its drive against the enemy in this sector. Already it had shattered both flanks of the German front line, while the jaws of the Russian pincers from Oranienbaum on the Gulf of Kronstadt to the shores of Lake Ilmen had closed like a vise around the foe. Leningrad at the week's end had before it a belt of liberated territory from 15 to 25 miles deep.

Southwest of Oranienbaum, where the Nazis were still offering stubborn resistance, Russian warships and coastal batteries had joined in the fight.

All along the front, Radio Moscow reported, the Germans were signaling trapped units to "hold on" with exhortations to fight and promises of help—help which seemed unlikely to come.

Less than an hour's train ride from Leningrad, Nazi units were reported fighting their "last hours," and Soviets claimed that the slaughter of trapped Germans already had resulted in more than 44,000 dead.

There were three major threats to the Germans, their communications and their men. One Soviet advance was on Kasnogvardeisk, 25 miles southwest of Leningrad, where Red Army units from the Oranienbaum and Pulkova sectors had joined additional forces under General Govorov, and were smashing southeastward in an attempt

(Continued on Page 16)

RAF Resumes Battle Of Berlin

LONDON, Jan. 21—A heavy-bomber attack on Berlin last night marked the resumption of the Allies' all-out assault on the German capital. Bombers of both the RAF and RCAF were used on the raid, the eleventh full-scale attack on Berlin in little more than two months.

An Air Ministry communique announced that "large fires were left burning, with smoke rising to a great height." Thirty-five Allied aircraft reported missing.

Berlin was silent today on the details of the raid. The German Overseas News Agency confined itself to calling the attack a "terror raid" and saying that many bombers had participated. London said that 2,300 tons of bombs were dropped on the German capital. This brought to more than 15,000 tons, the total of Allied bombs dropped on Berlin the past 60 days.

United States heavy and medium bombers and RAF medium bombers and fighters Friday attacked targets in the Pas de Calais area of France.

While a fuller report on the Berlin raid was awaited, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson disclosed in Washington that the AAF's Jan. 12 raid on Germany in which 60 of our bombers were lost and 153 German planes shot down was a greater Allied victory than was indicated at first.

Mr. Stimson said that it now appeared certain that production in the Brunswick, Oschersleben and Halberstadt aircraft assembly plants, targets of the Jan. 12 raid, had been "wiped out for months." He expressed belief that the Focke-Wulf plant at Oschersleben had been destroyed.

28,000 Men Released For Combat Service

WASHINGTON—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson announced Thursday that 28,000 officers and enlisted men had been released for combat duty from maintenance posts at Army establishments. Still others will be shifted to frontline action, Mr. Stimson added.

He said the transfers, creating roughly two additional divisions, were in line with the War Department policy to put all available fighting men into the present offensive phase of the war.

North Italy Rails Feel NAAF Lash

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 21—NAAF bombers concentrated their assaults this week on enemy rail communications north of Rome and on the Luftwaffe's fighter bases around the capital. By the week's end Rome was cut off, at least temporarily, from rail communications with northern Italy. Another proof of Allied success was that few fighters opposed the heavy bombers which cratered the airfields around Rome yesterday.

For the second successive day, B-17 Flying Fortresses of the 15th AAF blasted the fields at Centocelle and Ciampino, just northeast of Rome. B-24 Liberators of the 15th also attacked Guidonia airfield, 15 miles northeast of the capital. In all these attacks, which were made with moderately large forces, high explosives ploughed up runways and fragmentation bombs landed among dispersal areas.

Continuing their attacks on other airfields, B-26 Marauders of the 12th AAF slugged the airfield at Viterbo, 40 miles northwest of Rome. A-36 Invaders also attacked the railroad yards there.

With the railway lines leading into Rome from the north knocked out, RAF Wellingtons took up the attack at another point. Last night they bombed the west coast line between Leghorn and San Vincenzo. The main point of attack was north and south of the important railway bridge at Cecina.

Lighter craft continued throughout the week supporting ground forces. Most of their targets were ahead of the 5th Army front and included communications, supply points, troop concentrations and gun positions. B-26s are believed to have destroyed yesterday the bridge at Pontecorvo, just west of Cassino. A-20 Bostons successfully attacked Mt. Scauri, a Nazi strong point in the 5th Army area.

Congress To Vote Soon On Discharge Pay Plan

By Sgt. DAVE GOLDING
(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

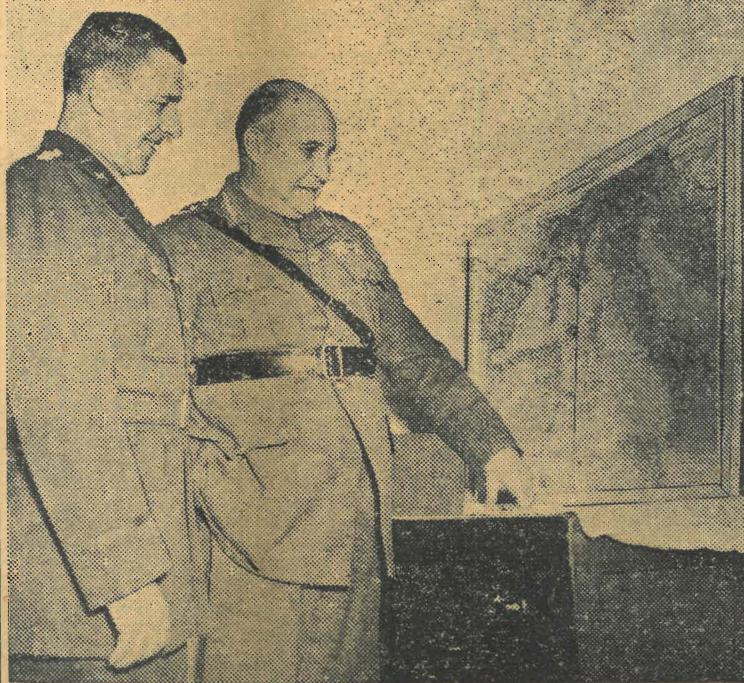
WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Final Congressional agreement on the scale of mustering-out pay for discharged service men and women is expected shortly now that an amended pay bill, passed unanimously by the House this week, is under consideration in joint conference with the Senate.

The House bill provides payment of 300 dollars for personnel who served longer than 60 days. It applies to all service men and women up to the rank of captain except those over 38 who applied for discharge to return to essential war industries and reservists whose full duty was passed in special school training. The 300 dollars would be paid in three installments. A payment of 100 dollars is stipulated for those serving 60 days or less.

The House members taking part in the joint conference are weighing the Senate bill which grants mustering-out pay up to the rank of colonel at the rate of 200 dollars

5th Captures Minturno, Smashes At Gustav Line

Mediterranean Chiefs



NEW ALLIED COMMANDERS in this theater discussed their plans in Allied Force Headquarters this week. Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commanding the American forces in the Mediterranean sector, looks on while General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, supreme Allied commander, marks the battleline on a map of Italy. (Staff Photo by Sgt. Grayson B. Tewksbury)

Committees Iron Edges From Key Legislation

By Sgt. JOHN M. WILLIG
(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Congress did most of its work this week around mahogany tables in the Capitol's committee rooms, rounding into shape a half-dozen legislative items expected to go before the full memberships for final action within the next ten days.

The Senate had all but completed approval of the pending tax bill by Friday, with only provisions dealing with war contracts to be straightened out. Sen. Walter F. George (D., Ga.), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said his group may drop eight amendments to the war contract renegotiation law if agreement can be reached on the time limit when renegotiation on contracts shall stop.

The committee's proposed amendments are contained in a new tax bill, which has been attacked by the administration as lifting the lid on war profits. However, Sen. David Walsh (D., Mass.), a member of the subcommittee attempting to reach a compromise on the renegotiation angle of the bill, said Thursday that he believed agreement was in sight and that the bill would be taken to the floor for final discussion before the weekend.

Earlier, the Senate defeated two floor amendments to the tax measure—one designed to repeal the present tax on oleomargarine, the other providing payment by the Federal government of poll taxes for soldiers in states where such a tax is a requisite to vote. The Senate voted to keep in the bill a House provision requiring labor unions and farm co-operatives to file financial reports on income even though they are exempt from income tax payments.

On the subject of national service legislation, Congress generally remained unenthusiastic even after Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson's appearance before the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Mr. Stimson, endorsing the pending Austin-Wadsworth bill to conscript home front workers for non-combat service, told the committee that the armed forces were in favor of such legislation, that the public wanted it, and that only Congress remained to be convinced of its need.

While most of the committee agreed that soldiers and civilians were resentful of strikes and threats of strikes, they disagreed that labor conscription provided the answer.

Approval of the House bill came

(Continued on Page 16)

Allied Jabs Gain In Hill Barrier To Cassino

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 21—Heavily fortified Minturno fell yesterday in bitter street fighting to British infantrymen of Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's 5th Army, which this week has battered out gains all along the 30-mile hill barrier guarding the Cassino Corridor.

The day's other gains included a French crossing of the Rapido River, a deepening of British bridgeheads across the Garigliano and the weakening of German defenses around Cassino by American patrol actions.

At the same time it was revealed that Allied assaults on the Nazis' Gustav Line had been aided earlier in the week by British cruisers and destroyers which shelled German shore positions near the mouth of the Garigliano.

Outstanding among these gains was the capture of Minturno, two miles inland from the Tyrrhenian Sea. The British had previously

WASHINGTON—The War Department this week added 1,091 casualties—all in the Italian theater—to its list. The additions brought the total number of U.S. service men killed, wounded or missing in action since Dec. 7, 1941, to 141,577.

threatened it with the capture of two nearby towns—Argento and Tufo. Argento had been taken by infantrymen who skirted the mouth of the Garigliano to establish the beachhead on the coast.

North of Minturno the British observed a German concentration of infantry and tanks getting ready to counter-attack. Allied

(Continued on Page 15)

Navy Bombers Strike Carolines

PEARL HARBOR—For the first time in the Pacific war, the Allies this week struck at the strategic Caroline Islands, heart of Japanese naval and air strength in the central Pacific.

In a daring surprise blow U.S. naval bombers smashed at Kusaie Island, lying at the eastern end of the long Caroline string.

No details of the raid were given beyond the bare announcement that the small force of raiders had returned safely to its undisclosed home base. Some observers believed that the naval bombers were based in the Gilbert Islands, perhaps at Tarawa, 875 miles east of Kusaie.

The blow at Kusaie was seen as the possible forerunner of an Allied aerial offensive to "neutralize" Truk, 780 miles west of Kusaie and Japan's mightiest bastion in the central Pacific. Truk, which supplies the Japs' strongpoints at Rabaul, New Britain, and Kavieng, New Ireland, lies 1,000 miles north of Allied southwest Pacific bases.

In the eastcentral Pacific, Gilbert-based American heavy bombers stepped-up their assaults against the important Japanese-held Marshall atolls, winging their way north day after day to smash at shore installations, harbor shipping and airdrome objectives.

Southwest Pacific Allied bombers this week continued to deliver crushing raids against Rabaul, the big Japanese fortress on the northern tip of New Britain. In a raid late in the week, General Douglas MacArthur's flyers destroyed three enemy merchant ships, fired two more and damaged another three at Simpson Harbor, near Rabaul.

Chairman Robert Reynolds (D.,

(Continued on Page 16)

It Happened At Home

"Scratch Artists" . . .

Money counterfeiters are disappearing, but in their place has appeared an army of "scratch artists" who steal and cash about 1,500 government checks each month, the Secret Service has revealed. . . . Army and Navy allotments, social security benefits, bond redemptions, agricultural subsidies and salary checks are the favorite loot. The thieves, officials say, often trail the postman and snatch checks from rooming-house hallways, apartment building lobbies or rural mailboxes. In some cases the "scratch artists" work in gangs, but most of them are lone wolves. In St. Louis, two sisters, 13 and 15, were found filching government checks from hallway chutes and turning them over to their mother, who cashed them. In Texas, two juveniles were picked up with three adult "Fagins" who had enlisted their aid in getting checks cashed. Of those tried for the novel crime, 98 percent have been convicted. The maximum penalty is 15 years imprisonment and 5,000 dollars fine.

Main Street . . .

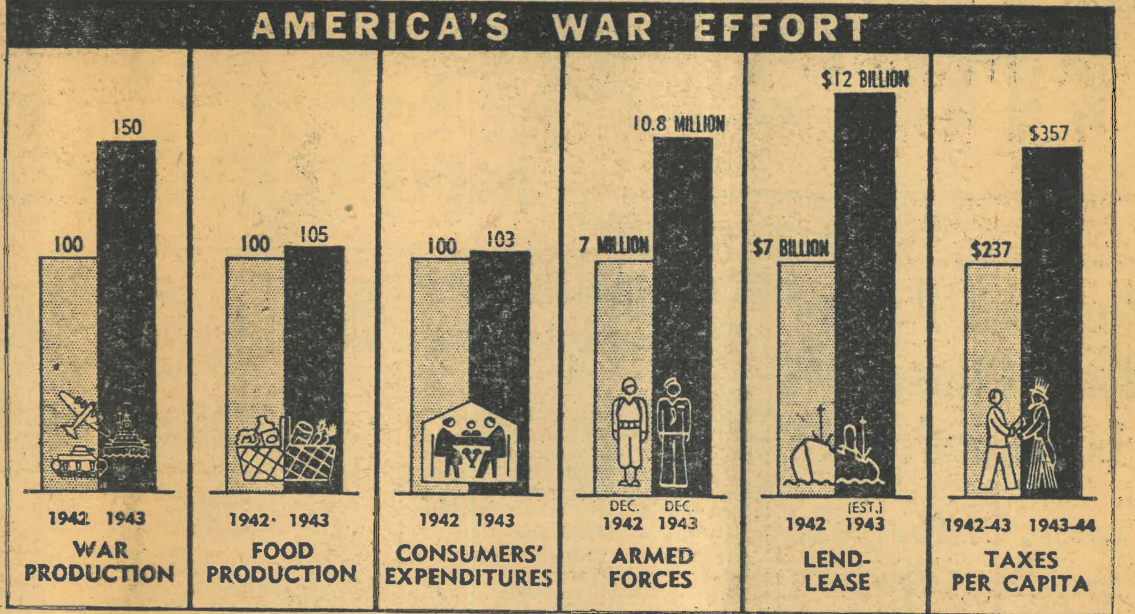
The Newark Evening News, largest daily newspaper in New Jersey failed to appear on the newsstands for three days running last week, as the result of a dispute with the Newark Typographical Union. . . . Capt. Meyer Friedenson, New York, of the Army Medical Corps, was named winner in a contest to prophesy Adolf Hitler's doom. The captain suggested that Hitler is a man from Mars who, failing to conquer the earth, "is taken back to Mars and sentenced to die in exile on a barren asteroid, one mile in diameter, listening to seratey recordings of all the speeches he made on earth." . . . The nation's traffic death toll for 1943 was estimated at 23,000 by the National Safety Council, a drop of 20 percent from 1942 and 40 percent from 1941. . . . A minor New York mystery has been cleared up. Recently, two marines, retired after 30 years in the service, bought a small saloon, which they closed temporarily for painting and repairs. After several days, the neighbors gathered and knocked on the door. One of the old salts came to the door and asked what they wanted. A spokesman said: "We want to know when you will open; we'd like to patronize your place." The marine scowled and said: "Open up? We bought this saloon for ourselves." . . . Construction of a new 20,000-foot levee along the west bank of the Ocmulgee River, at the cost of 335,000 dollars, has been declared a feasible postwar project for Macon, Ga. . . . Those old and twisted toothpaste and shaving cream tubes have done their share in the war effort, the National Wholesale Druggist Association announced this week. More than 2,500,000 tons of tin, lead, and other metals have been salvaged from the tubes since the drive started. . . . In Boston at 7:30 one evening recently Harry Stevenson, manager of a Hub Hotel, was approached by a man who said he had wired for a reservation. Stevenson couldn't find the telegram. "But," yelled the man, "I sent it just an hour and a half ago from the Western Union desk in your lobby. I had an appointment and I figured a telegram was the quickest way to reach you." Stevenson checked up to see if such a wire had been sent. "Yes," replied the Western Union girl, "but it was sent as a night-letter. You'll get it tomorrow morning." Stevenson gave the guy a room.

She Stoops To Conquer . . .

Here's a picture of the average woman war worker, as released by the National Metal Trades Association, whose members include more than 1,000 war plants. She ranges between 28 and 30 years of age, and is probably the wife of a service man. She likes a uniform, and wants hers to be the same color as that of the men workers, but she won't wear a cap, preferring a bandana. If she's young, she likes the 7 AM shift. If she has small children, she prefers the 11 PM shift. But if her husband works in the same plant, she wants the same hours. Once her hours are set, she doesn't like to have them changed. She prefers to work under a man supervisor, and she excels on light machines, on small assembly and inspection work.

From Broadway To Hollywood . . .

Here are the winners of the 1944 All-American Jazz Band Poll conducted by Esquire Magazine who gave a jam concert in the Metropolitan Opera House on Jan. 18 in connection with the opening of the 4th War Bond Drive: Trumpets, Louis Armstrong and Cootie Williams; Clarinets, Benny Goodman and Barney Bigard; pianos, Art Tatum and Earl Hines; trombones, Jack Teagarden and Lawrence Brown; saxophones, Coleman Hawkins and Johnny Hodges; guitars, Al Casey and Oscar Moore; drums, Sidney Catlett and Cozy Cole; bass totals. Oscar Pettiford, Milton Hinton and Al Morgan, the last two winding up in a tie; odd instruments, a tie between Red Norvo and Lionel Hampton; female vocalists, Mildred Bailey and Billie Holiday; male vocalists, Louis Armstrong and Leo Watson; armed forces favorites, Artie Shaw, Wilkie Smith and Dave Tough. . . . When Bing Crosby and Bob Hope finish "The Road to Utopia," they will start off on "The Road to Glory." . . . Gary Cooper, on his return to Hollywood from a South Pacific tour, walked into Paramount's accounting department, asked for Lucille Richardson, bent down and kissed her smack on the lips. "That's for Cpl. John Richardson," the star explained to the startled girl. "He asked me to deliver it in person."



French Discuss Provisional Rule

Debate on the establishment of an interim government in France during the period intervening between her liberation and the holding of national elections opened late this week in the French Provisional Consultative Assembly in Algiers.

Several plans have been proposed, one by the French Committee of National Liberation, a second by the Socialist party and a third by the Communist party. The Assembly committee for State and Legislative Reform is expected to present a compromise plan which will embody ideas from each of the other three.

All plans are based on the establishment of a parliament, which would accept the resignations of the Committee of Liberation and the present Consultative Assembly. The Parliament would then select a premier, who would in turn appoint a ministry. If this ministry should be satisfactory to the parliament, it would continue in power and arrange for formal national elections.

The delegates to the Consultative Assembly are agreed upon the necessity of planning an interim government for France, a spokesman for the Committee of Liberation said. The principal topic of the debate, he added, would be the method of establishing the provisional parliament.

Tito Holds 15 Divisions

LONDON—Marshal Tito's Partisans are estimated to be keeping at least 15 German divisions occupied in Yugoslavia. A communique from Marshal Tito's headquarters this week declared that 1,000 Germans have been killed in the recent hard fighting in the provinces of Slovenia, Herzegovina and Croatia.

Allies Await Moscow Answer In Border Case

LONDON—The British and American capitals this weekend anxiously awaited word from Moscow which might point the way to solution of the Russo-Polish border dispute—considered by many observers to be the thorniest diplomatic problem to confront the Allies since the days of the "second-front" agitation.

In London Prime Minister Winston Churchill, just back from North Africa after recovering from his recent attack of pneumonia, conferred with Polish Prime Minister Stanislaw Mikolajczyk and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden at No. 10 Downing Street. Official announcement of the conference gave no inklings of what decisions, if any, were taken.

Some observers believed that Britain would make no move until Moscow replied to the American offer, made earlier in the week by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, to mediate between the Russians and the Poles. The American offer was taken as a gauge of the seriousness with which the Allies regard the Russo-Polish dispute.

The U.S. offer, to which the Russians up till Friday had made no reply, followed a Polish request for Anglo-American help to bring about better relations between Poland and the Soviet Union. That request, in turn, came after the Soviet press had accused the Polish government-in-exile in London of not wanting Russia's friendship. For many months there have been no diplomatic relations between Russia and the Polish group in London, and the Russians have so far left the conduct of the present dispute entirely to their press.

The Soviet press has been in angry mood. Since the Red Army crossed the prewar Polish frontier, it has not only accused the Poles of bad intentions but has strongly hinted that the question of the Russo-Polish border was exclusive-

ly one for the Russians to decide. The Poles have avoided a direct statement as to where they believe a new frontier should be established. Instead they have asked Britain and the United States to help them settle their differences with the Russians.

Some observers in London and New York incline to the view that the Russians at the moment are mainly interested in the removal of allegedly anti-Soviet "elements" in the Polish government. In this view, settlement of the border issue will not be possible until and unless the make-up of the Polish group is altered.

Others believe that despite the tone taken by the Russian press, Moscow does not wish to endanger Anglo-American-Soviet cooperation and in the long run will not permit the Polish issue to get completely out of hand. In this view, the Russians see the Polish question solely in terms of military security and feel that Poland should be willing to yield to Russia's demand for "safe" frontiers in the west in possible exchange for German territory.

Whatever the final outcome, the dispute has undeniably stirred up the Allied diplomatic waters, and the American and British as well as the Russian press have had a field day of rumor and speculation. And still undecided at the week's end was the question of whether the Russo-Polish border problem was one for Russia alone or for the Allies as a group to untangle.

New Quakes Halt Work In Ruined Andean City

BUENOS AIRES—The ruins of San Juan, the Andean city where approximately 4,000 were killed by three violent earthquakes last Saturday, were rocked again by a new tremor on Wednesday.

The new quake brought added havoc to the provincial capital, halted the search by Argentine troops and rescue parties for additional victims among the debris, and speeded the evacuation by air and sea of the city's 50,000 survivors. At least 4,000 of the survivors are injured seriously, while another 5,000 are suffering from shock and minor wounds.

The Argentine government announced this week that a complete new city would be built on the site, with dynamite finishing the job of destroying the few buildings which were not totally wrecked by the quakes. The new city will be of ultra-modern design.

Roosevelt Begins Last Year Of Third Term

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—President Roosevelt observed the third anniversary of his third inauguration as President of the United States yesterday by working as usual.

The President conferred with President Isaias Medina Angarita of Venezuela, in whose honor he gave a state dinner Wednesday night. He also saw Carter Goodrich, special assistant to Ambassador John G. Winant and chairman of the governing board of the International Labor Office, who has just returned from London. Mariner Eccles, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, was a White House luncheon guest.



French Protect Art Treasures From Germans

LONDON—Three of the world's greatest art treasures—the Mona Lisa, the Winged Victory and the Venus di Milo—are safe from the Germans because only a handful of men know their hiding places.

Commander Claude Scheffer, curator of the French National Museums, who is now in London, recently expressed his conviction that these and other works of art will never be turned over to the Nazis since the secret of where they are hidden is so well-guarded. Authorities of the Louvre and other French museums worked for years before the war on plans to remove the most valuable paintings, statues and archeological pieces. First the treasures were protected from bombing and then from the German invasion. Leonardo's Mona Lisa was, for a time, concealed in Paris and later was taken to a secret place miles from any town or village.

It may be years, Commander Scheffer predicted, before art objects from French private collections and smaller museums, which have been looted by the enemy, can be recovered. Art authorities here say that France will rely on the Allies to force the Germans to trace such articles or surrender others of equivalent value from their own museums. An Allied commission, established to plan the restoration of European museums, has indicated that it may follow such a procedure.

NAZIS ADD PROBLEMS

Wealthy German officials have further complicated the problem by buying old masters for cash. Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels and Marshal Hermann Goering, a Prussian art expert who recently arrived in Stockholm said, have invested heavily in paintings, most of which have been shipped to Switzerland for safekeeping.

Dr. Goebbels was said to have paid 90,000 dollars for an El Greco. Goering, reports say, has specialized in Picasso canvases, buying all of them available on the French market. The Luftwaffe chief recently was the victim of one of the many forgeries which abound on the Paris market, the expert revealed. Goering ordered the arrest of a dealer for selling him a spurious Picasso, but the dealer fled to Spain.

Although the Nazis have stolen many valuable objects from France, observers here believe that Poland will prove a bigger problem to any commission attempting to restore art treasures to their owners. There the Germans have not only looted but destroyed archives so completely that even the authorities will be unable to trace the property.

Some of the less famous European paintings, Mr. Scheffer believes, may now be in America, sold by the Germans to Swiss or Spanish dealers and resold to private collectors. No American museum would purchase a famous work of art because their curators would know their rightful owners (art treasures are thoroughly catalogued) and would realize that the objects had been stolen by the Germans.

Minority Perils Chinese Efforts

NEW YORK—A small but powerful feudal minority threatens the success of the overwhelming democratic majority of the Chinese nation, Polish-born author Ilena Ralf Sues, who worked with Madame Chiang Kai-shek in Chungking, reported this week.

The author, whose book, "Shark's Fins Millet" was published Wednesday, said that the Chinese majority favored a united front program, war to the finish against Japan, complete collaboration with the United Nations and establishment of a constitutional government with democratic reforms. This group, she said, includes most of the Chinese laboring classes, all liberal democratic and progressive elements, most of the Army and most of the Kuomintang (the party governing China at the present).

Opposing these aims, she declared, is the feudal camp, "generally known to favor an 'honorable peace' with Japan." Hostile to the United Nations, this group is engaged in profiteering and speculation, she added, on a scale "so stupendous that it threatens an economic collapse and further slackening of China's war effort."

A Long, Cold Winter Front



FROM THE UKRAINIAN STEPPES through the ice-covered Pripet Marshes to the frozen forests of the north, the Red Army rolled over the Germans this week. New offensives developed with a frequency which startled the outside world and disconcerted the Wehrmacht High Command. The latest drive captured Novgorod and threatened to roll back the Nazi forces still besieging Leningrad from the west and south.

Japanese Dictate Asiatic Cultures

WASHINGTON—The Japanese have intensified their campaign to destroy the independent cultures of occupied Asiatic nations and to impose the Japanese language and customs upon them, observers here said this week after studying recent radio and news agency reports from Tokio.

Schools in occupied countries, Tokio reported, will soon be using new textbooks which teach history in a way that "clarifies the position of Japan as the leader of Asia." Japanese literature will also be introduced.

Apparently forsaking their original declarations that each national group in Asia would be permitted to develop its own culture, the conquerors have instituted a "Japanese Language Day" once a week in South Borneo (Netherlands East Indies). Only Japanese, Domei, the official Japanese news agency, said, will be spoken throughout the day.

Refugees who have recently escaped to Free China from enemy-held North China described the educational changes instituted by the Japs. All schools above the elementary level must have a Japanese supervisor who has dictatorial powers over all affairs of the school. At Peiping University, world-famous in other years, all students wear the uniform of Japanese students and are mostly under imported instructors. Chinese holidays may no longer be celebrated and Japanese fetes have been substituted, the refugees said.

The same devices are being used by the Japanese in Korea, occupied since 1910. The teaching of Korean has been forbidden in the schools, and no newspaper may be published except in Japanese. Shintoism, the national religion, of Japan, has been forced on the people in place of the outlawed native Korean religion.

Kiev Begins Rebuilding Of 'Saddest' Soviet City

MOSCOW—The retreating Germans have left many sad towns in their wake but shattered Kiev is the saddest of all, Maurice Hindus, New York Herald Tribune correspondent, reported after a recent visit to the capital of the Ukraine.

Kiev's streets were still a mass of rubble weeks after the Soviets forced the Nazis out. Office buildings, homes and factories are only piles of shattered brick, broken glass and twisted girders, Hindus said. Kiev's most famous residential district now is a ghost town. The section was burned over until only walls and roofs remained of the apartment houses and the beautiful homes dating to the czarist regime.

Ruins of the city's largest hotels smoldered for weeks, smelling of burned bricks and scorched wood, the correspondent wrote. The University of Kiev, built in 1834-37, an architectural landmark and one of the most distinguished institutions of learning under the czars as well as since World War I, was mined from end to end.

Most of the city was thoroughly covered with delayed-action mines which exploded for days after the Germans left. Building after building crumbled even when the Soviets held Kiev. Nothing remains of the Uspensky Cathedral, built in the 12th century, but bits of walls and, "here and there, a gleaming fresco or cracked, battered piece of statuary."

The looting of valuable rugs, paintings, furniture and the burning or stealing of 6,000,000 books have only made the people pledge to rebuild Kiev into a more beautiful city, an elderly professor told Hindus, but the scores of thousands of people murdered by the Germans can never be brought to life. The massacre at Babii Yar, on the outskirts of Kiev, was de-

scribed as the worst in Russia's long history, exceeding in brutality even the Tartar slaughters. One official estimated that at least 63,000 Jews and 25,000 war prisoners were killed in a series of murders in and around Kiev.

Eyewitnesses who escaped told Hindus that thousands of Jews were assembled on Sept. 28, 1941, soon after the Germans entered Kiev, and were led to Babii Yar, a network of sandy ravines covering about three or four acres.

They were ordered to undress and kneel down and then were shot with automatic rifles and machine guns. Their food, money and other possessions, including clothes, were confiscated by the Nazis. The bodies were buried deep in the sand.

In August, 1943, when the Red Army was sweeping westward, and the Germans were uncertain whether they could hold Kiev, Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler ordered the authorities to burn the bodies and destroy all evidence of the massacre.

Army Of Reporters Ready For Invasion

LONDON—A second American invasion army is assembling in Britain, ready to go into Europe with the military forces of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. This force is composed of the 160 U.S. reporters who will make the invasion of western Europe the most thoroughly reported military campaign in history—provided Army censors agree.

One year ago 50 American newspaper, magazine and radio reporters kept the United States informed of activities in the British Isles.

Allied Air Blows Strain German Industrial Effort

PHILADELPHIA—The Allied air offensive against Europe, in addition to directly reducing the enemy's industrial potential, is also indirectly placing a severe strain on the Nazi war effort, General Henry H. Arnold, commander of the U.S. Army Air Forces, told the Poor Richard Club here this week after receiving its gold medal for achievement in 1943.

Factories which are leveled require vast amounts of material for rebuilding, the air chief said. The reconstruction ties up machines, transportation facilities and a huge crew of workers and requires the replacement of precision machinery most difficult to get.

"Preparations must also be made against future attacks," General Arnold pointed out, "and the enemy never knows where those attacks will be delivered nor what particular factory will be hit."

General Arnold said he would not predict how much bombing Germany can take until "Germany has stopped taking it." But he promised an unrelenting air battering of Europe which would give the enemy no breathing spell.

He quoted Poor Richard (Benjamin Franklin) as saying: "Do not squander time, for that's the stuff life is made of."

NO TIME WASTED

General Arnold declared, "We are not wasting a minute."

Describing this as a scientists' war, the general said that the United States has the advantage in that "our men are at work without the fear of death-dealing bombs."

The Allies, so far, have been able to meet the Nazis' new developments with "very effective" counter-measures, he continued. "May God grant that we will be able to outguess them in the future, for thousands of lives are at stake in this aerial warfare which requires us to be always ahead of our enemies."

Since Germany's only hope is to fight "so well and so fiercely that she can salvage something," General Arnold warned of a last-ditch fight.

Turning to the war against Japan, he explained the different problems facing Allied airmen in "this trans-oceanic war."

The Japanese reaction to Allied aerial spearheads, he said, has been highly erratic. "They have made strong bids to break our supremacy of the skies followed by periods of complete inaction," he observed.

The Japs counter-attack haphazardly as if they sensed that nothing they can do can stop the increasing penetration of our aircraft, General Arnold declared, adding:

"And I'll let you in on a secret—nothing can."

Enemy Strength Seen Increasing

NEW YORK—More than 60 new divisions were formed and equipped by the Germans last year, Col. Theodore D. Q. Palmer, deputy director of the Army specialized training program, revealed in a speech here this week. Each division has approximately 600 machine guns and 300 heavier weapons, he said describing the enemy as still extremely strong.

Warning against the belief that the war would soon be over, Col. Palmer said that the Japanese still have about 2,000,000 eligible men not yet conscripted.

The Japs have gained strength in the air despite severe losses in the Southwest Pacific, he declared. They have not only replaced the planes lost in combat but have improved their air force numerically as well as qualitatively. Col. Palmer added. The other Axis partner, he pointed out, also is far from beaten in the air, quoting a statement by Maj. Gen. G. V. Strong, chief of Army military intelligence, that the German air force is larger now than in 1939.

The Army's specialized training program, Col. Palmer said, includes more than 140,000 soldiers enrolled in more than 220 universities and colleges.

Officer candidate schools now have comparatively few openings, the director explained, because combat casualties have been lighter than expected and a record crop of officers was turned out in the early days of training.

They Still Talk About It Back Home



THE WEATHER is always a good topic of conversation at home. The picture at left shows what happened when the ocean didn't stay 'way from homes at Long Beach, L. I., N. Y. High running seas washed ten blocks of two-family houses and summer bungalows into the ocean. And in the Big Town, two New Yorkers jump from the curb at 43rd Street and Broadway in an attempt to cross the stream of slush. New York's heaviest snowfall of the winter, followed by rain, turned streets into slushy rivers. (Acme Photos)

Airlines Helped To Win Aleutians

WASHINGTON—Civilian airlines, doing twice the job they did in peace time, are helping to win the war in spite of losing half their planes and a third of their men to the armed forces, the Office of War Information reported recently.

Eighteen domestic and three international airlines are carrying twice as much cargo and airmail as before and are flying more passenger miles as part of their "highly strategic war roles," OWI added.

Private lines, supplementing military facilities, hastened the recapture of Attu and Kiska in the Aleutian Islands by flying in special troops and military equipment "quickly and in great quantity." At the same time, the government agency disclosed a hitherto secret chapter in the battle of the Aleutians, telling how the men and planes of ten commercial lines rushed troops, supplies and planes to save Dutch Harbor from the Japanese.

SAME TIME AS MIDWAY

Five waves of enemy planes launched from carriers on June 3, 1942, bombed the naval base at Dutch Harbor and nearby Fort Mears. The attack was synchronized with the much bigger thrust made toward Hawaii, which was turned back with disastrous loss to the Japs in the Battle of Midway.

In that early stage of the Pacific war, OWI said, Alaskan defenses were rudimentary and the attack made the quick transfer of reinforcements and supplies imperative.

Planes were flown into Alaska by Pan American, United, American, Northwest, Pennsylvania-Central, TWA, Chicago and Southern, Western, Braniff and Panagra.

The Naval Air Transport Service, in which civilian pilots operate planes for the service, flew personnel and material into Alaskan and Aleutian bases in squadrons of three planes each—utilizing one pilot familiar with the territory, the two other pilots flying in formation.

LANDED DURING RAID

"Even as the Japanese were attacking Dutch Harbor," the report said, "airliners were coming in at the airport with war materials."

The Alaskan operations were described as one of the most difficult of all the war activities of the airlines. The transportation of 1,200-gallon gasoline trucks for the Alaskan highway was cited as an example. The trucks were disassembled into three parts, loaded into planes and welded together when they reached their destination.

The job of operating what OWI called "the airline to anywhere" is being done, it was revealed, with fewer than half the 434 planes the airlines were flying before Pearl Harbor. The Army and Navy have taken 244, including some small and outmoded craft.

Airborne express cargo exceeded 28,000,000 pounds in the first half of 1943, against 7,800,000 pounds in the same period of 1941.

Huge War Demands Face Auto Factories

DETROIT—After turning out almost nine billion dollars worth of war materiel in 1943, the automobile industry still must meet a backlog of orders totaling more than 14 billion dollars, it was announced here this week.

Aircraft, tanks, military vehicles, guns, shells, marine equipment and other materials were produced in 1,038 principal war plants and hundreds of smaller factories, according to the Automotive Council for War Production.

The constantly moving battle strategy of the Allied High Command has forced the industry to alter its plans somewhat, necessitating the layoff of some workers, transfer of others to plants building newer types of arms and cancellation of some contracts.

While assembly lines are bringing forth the arms for military campaigns, the industry's designers and engineers are perfecting plans for a quick changeover to automobile production, to go into effect as soon as war needs permit. Some observers believe that the industry can build cars again within 90 days after it receives the go-ahead signal from the government.

Oil Flow Delayed By Flaws In Line

WASHINGTON — The flow of gasoline and fuel oil from Texas fields to the Atlantic seaboard through the Little Inch pipeline has been delayed at least two months by a series of 60 to 70 breaks in the pipe, officials announced last week.

The 1,476-mile line was scheduled to begin operation Dec. 1 as a 20-inch companion to the 24-inch Big Inch line, which carries crude petroleum. Built at a cost of about 75,000,000 dollars, the Little Inch was constructed of welded pipe, made from steel sheets rolled and welded at the seams. The Big Inch was built mostly of seamless pipe, but later extensions made of welded pipe have broken in several places.

If no further breaks occur, a government official said, Little Inch should be ready for operation some time in February. It is scheduled to carry 235,000 barrels daily from Baytown to Beaumont, Texas, thence to Norris City, Ill., and on to New York and Philadelphia.

Interviewed about the pipeline's difficulty, Harold L. Ickes, petroleum administrator, said "my understanding is that the pipe furnished by Youngstown caused the trouble and the delays which have resulted."

The welded pipe, manufactured by the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, received rigid inspection at their mills and withstood all tests, it was reported in Cincinnati by an official of the War Emergency Pipelines, Inc., a private agency financed by the government. "It looks as if the Youngstown company just had a lot of bad luck," he added.

Anglo-U.S. Patent Exchange Hailed

WASHINGTON—The Allied war effort has been advanced considerably by the British-American Patent Interchange Agreement, the Army and Navy announced this week in calling attention to the two-year-old exchange pact.

A free flow of patent rights and scientific and technical information has resulted from the agreement, the joint U.S. military statement said. Aircraft, radio and ordnance, particularly, have benefited by this united effort, it added. Among the advantages listed as accruing from the exchange were the great savings in time and money made through having specialists in their fields contribute their talents and inventions in solving problems which demanded "speedy solution in the stress of war."

The agreement, which is to be in force for the duration, makes it possible for American manufacturers to produce war goods licensed under British-owned U.S. patents and vice versa. The exchange of licenses is free, officials said, and patent rights revert to their owners after the war.

Among the items described as being manufactured on both sides of the Atlantic under the agreement were a kite, launched by rocket-pistol, for carrying an aerial aloft to aid in sending emergency distress signals by radio; air compressors, range finders, illuminated gun sights, turrets, fuses, incendiary bombs, air-borne lifeboats, lathes, bomb releases, catalysts (agents which speed up chemical reaction), torpedoes, condenser tubes, warship propellers, periscopes, bearings and lacquers.

Many other products are still on the secret or confidential list and will be made public only after the war, officials said.

Yeast Not A Cure-All, FTC Tells Standard

WASHINGTON — Fleischmann's yeast won't cure severe colds, poor digestion, fatigue or premature senility, the Federal Trade Commission charged this week in branding fallacious the advertising claims made by Standard Brands, Inc., makers of the yeast.

An FTC complaint also called false the company's claims that its product, together with raw liver, constitutes the only abundant natural source of vitamin B complex, that many Americans suffer from malnutrition and that many city workers received insufficient quantities of vitamin B-1 in their daily diets.

The FTC said that the vitamin is easily obtainable in cereals, bread, meats, vegetables, nuts, cooked liver and milk and charged that ten cakes of yeast would be needed daily to provide the minimum requirements of riboflavin, instead of two cakes as claimed by the company.

Standard Brands was allowed 20 days to answer the complaints.

Wilson Peace 'Blunders' Explained By Historian

NEW YORK—Woodrow Wilson's assumption that mankind could attain a "kind of international millennium" at one bound was the most tragic of 22 "peacemaking blunders" made by the World War I president, Prof. Thomas A. Bailey, Stanford University historian, asserted recently at a meeting of the American Historical Association.

Declaring that President Wilson's errors resulted in the "most far-reaching consequences," Prof. Bailey said he listed them as danger signs to avoid in the "peacemaking to come."

Mr. Wilson confused the task of making peace with Germany, which was an immediate need, with that of remaking the world, which was the long-range need, the historian said. "The resulting treaty failed of both objectives."

The American wartime leader, Prof. Bailey said, had the "vision of a reformer and the zeal of a crusader, but he did not have the patience to recognize that human nature, if it changes at all, changes with geological slowness."

Even worse, perhaps, was President Wilson's action in forcing the full text of the League of Nations Covenant into the Treaty of Versailles, Prof. Bailey declared, for Article X of the Covenant (obligating each member to protect other members against aggression) was the rock upon which the ratification finally foundered.

Separating the League from the Treaty, he added, would have insured ratification of the latter and the framing of a covenant in a less hurried fashion and in a saner atmosphere. "A League brought into being under these conditions, and after the election of 1920, might well have been approved by the Senate," he said.

Other blunders attributed to President Wilson by Dr. Bailey in-

cluded his enunciation of his war aims in the Fourteen Points; his failure to educate American public opinion in advance of its responsibilities in the new postwar world; the premature forcing of a republic on Germany instead of imposing the treaty upon the kaiser and his regime; his appeal to the country in October, 1918, for a Democratic Congress, stating that defeat would mean repudiation; his appointment of only one Republican to his peace commission of five; his "snubbing" of the Senate; his "inept" handling of publicity; his failure to do anything about the secret treaties; his failure to make public his ideas about the League prior to going to Paris, and, "one of the most costly blunders of all, his sabotaging the whole idea of a preliminary treaty."

Army Orders Escorts For Debutantes' Ball

NEW YORK—The Army taketh away and the Army returneth, debts learned this season.

For the past seven years New York's eligible young women have been making their formal bows to society at the Debutante Cotillion. At this year's ball, most of the hundred-odd subdebs were worried about escorts. The eligible young men were dancing to more martial music.

Lt. Gen. George Grunert, commanding general of the Eastern Defense Command, as honorary chairman of the floor committee, assigned his aide to handle the problem. So young officers in the command were ordered to go to rehearsals with the girls and be letter-perfect in cotillion choreography.

U.S. Unit Works To Eliminate Typhus

By Pfc. EDGAR E. CLARK
(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

NAPLES—United States troops who invaded Hitler's Fortress Europe by way of the Italian peninsula have met two foes of the American way of life—the Nazi and disease. Without the quiet, grim struggle for health fought in the hospitals and laboratories behind the front, the battle of shot and shell, which draws the headlines, might never be won.

Typhus fever, which first appeared in Naples last March, now threatens, according to a recent official announcement, to grow to epidemic proportions unless the city's 1,000,000 inhabitants cooperate with military authorities.

A vigorous search for cases early this month disclosed 464 typhus patients in Italy, with 30-40 civilians added to the list every day. No cases have been discovered in the Army, officials emphasized.

The louse-borne disease thrives on the trinity of war, famine and cold. It had an ideal breeding ground in this metropolis of southern Italy, sapped of its strength by Fascism and equipped with second-rate sanitation and housing standards even in peacetime.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Typhus fever has played a dominant role in military annals as the strategy of Caesar and Napoleon. It was responsible for much of the Franco-British fiasco in the Crimea in 1853-56 and was virulent in World War I when a populace greater than that of Naples died of the disease in Russia and Poland.

Fully aware of the medical and military significance of the Naples epidemic, the American High Command declared war on the pestilence. Their interest is motivated by the absolute necessity of keeping the disease from the troops and by the almost equally important fact that Naples is a vital supply and administration center for the battles now raging in the Apennines.

The American shock unit for this herculean task is the United States Typhus Commission.

FASCIST 'GIFT'

The job tackled by the commission is the after-birth of the scourge Nazism and its lesser mate, Fascism, caused in Europe. Typhus fever did not come to Naples by accident. Its presence in this Italian city, probably only the prelude to other pestilence in the rest of the German-occupied continent, came about most logically. The epidemic is the result of "guns instead of butter," barracks instead of homes, demolition instead of



BRIEFINGS ON THE CAMPAIGN to rid Naples of typhus are held daily by Brig. Gen. Leon A. Fox (at desk), Birmingham, Ala., field director of the U.S. Typhus Commission, for his staff. The high strategy of the battle against the plague is developed by General Fox and his executive, Col. Harry A. Bishop (at far right), Washington, D. C., both of whom are veterans of earlier successful campaigns against typhus in the Middle East. Their staff of experts, from left to right: Capt. Robert Ecker, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Maj. John C. Snyder, New York City; Maj. Robert P. Rogers, Greenwich, Conn.; 2nd Lt. Nathan Nathenson, New York City; Maj. Charles M. Wheeler, Berkeley, Calif.; and Dr. Fred Soper, New York City, representing the Rockefeller Foundation's international health division. (All photos on this page by Stars and Stripes Staff Photographer Sgt. Max Montgomery)

construction, the whole Nazi philosophy of total war.

The long-range Army medical program, with its familiar features of immunizations, mosquito bars and nets, atabrine, insecticides and high military sanitation requirements, has practically insured American soldiers against any form of plague or epidemic, not only in Naples, but the world over.

Although the GI may have grown blasé about them, typhus immunizations, generally considered one of the least attractive features of American Army life, are today more highly prized than food or money by the Neapolitans who have seen families and friends die of the disease.

Hundreds of civilian assistants, enlisted for the duration of the epidemic, wait in long lines in all kinds of weather to get their anti-typhus inoculations at the municipal health building or other dispensing centers. Practically all these people are paid employees,

since volunteer work is too expensive a luxury for present-day Naples.

Those civilians employed in the campaign against the fever receive priority on inoculations because they come in daily contact with infected persons and breeding places of the disease in the course of their work. After this group has been immunized, other civilians in establishments frequented by the military and those working for the Allies on military installations are scheduled to get their shots.

Familiar enough to the American, the actual process of being immunized fascinates the Neapolitans, many of whom have never before had even elementary medical attention. Feeling the temporary soreness from the inoculations, some of the people who have received the shots try to convey the fact to passing soldiers by sign language to indicate that they are now truly comrades-in-arms.

YANKS INTERESTED

The epidemic has caused a slight upsurge in the dispensing of shots in the arm to American troops in the area, with many soldiers showing renewed interest in their immunization records and the advisability of getting booster inoculations. Immunization alone, medical authorities said, will not prevent a person from contracting the fever but will make the case much less severe.

Exact personal hygiene, liberal use of the louse powder and avoidance of crowds and congested areas are musts for those who wish to remain healthy during the epidemic. Medical authorities stated that the manner in which properly protected American troops withstand the plague will constitute a milestone in the long fight against the disease.

Speedy isolation of typhus cases as they occur is the one sure way to check the spread of the fever. The commission met this demand with the organization of case-hunting crews, generally made up of Army doctors, Italian Red Cross nurses and Italian civilians, many of whom have been drawn from various medical schools in the area.

MEDICS EXAMINE

The military doctors make medical examinations of the patients, the Red Cross women function both as nurses and social workers, while the Italian civilians powder the ill persons, other members of the household and all clothing and bedclothing.

Many of the Army doctors on this work speak Italian fluently. They are doing yeoman work in both the social and medical fields in this epidemic. The Italians regard them as saviors and old people and children gather about,

telling tales of illness and trouble, as these units make their way through the tenement districts.

With very few exceptions, the people are glad to see the crews. If it is found that a member of a family has the disease, they welcome all the assistance they can get.

The dusting done by the doctors' helpers is just the beginning of the delousing program. Within a few hours after a case-hunting crew has left the home of a new typhus victim, mobile dusting units visit the house, powder all the rooms and even cover adjoining residences if conditions warrant.

CLEANLINESS EMPHASIZED

Before leaving on their daily trips, personnel of the case-hunting groups thoroughly dust themselves with the same louse-killing powder that they use on others. On their return, no amount of washing, bathing or change of clothes seems satisfactory to them. They know the score, for they have seen typhus at its worst.

Sometime later in the day, an Army ambulance will call at the home of the typhus patient and take him away to a contagious-disease hospital. The soldier-drivers of these vehicles are among the few GIs who realize the seriousness of typhus. They use the louse powder lavishly and are probably the cleanest soldiers in the city since they shower and change uniforms as often as possible.

Besides their awareness of the significance of typhus, these GI ambulance drivers have also gained an intimate knowledge of the wake of misery and suffering left behind the Nazi retreat up the Italian boot.

TYPICAL CASES

Among one typical ambulance load of six victims was an old woman so starved that her legs and arms were more tendon than flesh, her stomach puffed out with long hunger. She was hardly conscious as her stretcher was slid into the vehicle, yet her thin, claw-like hands kept a tight grip on a little tangerine which someone, somewhere, had given her.

At the receiving rooms of the hospitals, operated by Allied medical personnel, all typhus patients are shaved and deloused. Many of the patients arrive in a rather serious condition because it takes ten days for the fever to appear after infection and another two weeks for the crisis to be reached. If they are well into this fortnight period, typhus sufferers have become half conscious and have to be force-fed liquids to survive. The length of convalescence is proportionate to the age of the patients. Those over 40 may either die or require months to recover, while children and young people general-

ly improve very rapidly, once proper care is given them.

A great part of the work performed by the U.S. commission consists of blocking the disease at its source—the breeding place of the louse, in the crowded homes, the air raid shelters and other congestion centers of the city. Mobile dusting crews tour the shelters by night, and permanent dusting stations, located in the trouble sectors, are open to the public throughout the day.

NO SIGNS NEEDED

One of the more interesting features of the public dusting stations is that they have no signs to advertise their presence. Signs are just not needed, for to people who really know the full implications of typhus fever, elaborate encouragement and instructions regarding prevention are superfluous. Neighbor tells neighbor, family passes the word on to family, and almost as soon as a station has been set up, it is taxed to capacity. As many as 70,000 persons have been treated in a single day at these stations.

These stations are operated by civilians, employed by our government and working under the supervision of Army medical officers. Energetic and blessed with the sunny dispositions that Neapolitans never lose, they bring but one bad habit to their jobs. When the inspecting officers call to check the hourly tallies at the stations, the figures furnished are rarely accurate but have been exaggerated to the many hundreds, the many thousands.

When the mobile dusting crews, assigned to nightly tours of air raid shelters, were first put on the job, they visited only the regular structures established by municipal and military authorities. They soon found, however, that great numbers of people, who had lost their homes in bombings and demolitions, were spending the nights in all types of improvised passages and caves for shelter from the cold as well as enemy planes. Personnel of the crews are among the few persons in Naples who know no curfew, for they often spend entire nights in their delousing work.

DUSTERS WELCOMED

The receptions given these units at the shelters are but another proof of the people's appreciation of the work being done by the Allies. One evening, children waited along the scores of steps leading down to Naples' deepest shelter and as the first of the dusters arrived, word was passed down the stairways to the chambers below. There, the smaller tots were clustered in the first vault. As the crew entered this room, the waiting children swarmed around opening their little coats and jackets and saying "phew, phew phew" to the dusters with their spray guns.

What may be a game to the children is a serious business to the older people. Heads of families waited at the doors of their subterranean homes to catch the dusters as they passed by to make sure that they would eventually get their powder.

Most of these shelters present sanitation as well as delousing problems. The filth found in some is indescribable. Physicians accompany the dusting crews, examine the sick and recommend necessary removals to hospitals and check sanitation conditions.

UNDERGROUND HOMES

Many of the caves now in use have records longer than know history and have been the home in ages past of the poor and destitute of the city. In Naples' biggest underground shelter of this type at the bottom of 142 time-worn steps, live the aged to whom the trip down was a one-way affair for the duration of the war at least, because they no longer have the strength to make the arduous descent and ascent during successive air raids.

Against odds like these, the United States Typhus Commission is winning the battle with the plague. But, relatively, it is only a skirmish in the European rehabilitation struggle which will face the Allies after peace has been won again.



AFTER WAITING IN A LINE of more than 500 people during one of the coldest mornings of winter, a grandmother and her daughter's child have their hair and clothing treated with the same louse-repellant that American soldiers get in the little gray cans.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Weekly newspaper of the U. S. Armed Forces published in the North African Theater of Operations

Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice of New York, N. Y., under Act of March 8, 1897.

Contents passed by the U. S. Army Censors

Main Office 12 Blvd. Baudin, Algiers

Publications Officer, Lt. Col. Egbert White; Editor, Capt. Robert Neville; Business Manager, Capt. Robert J. Christenson.

Circulation Offices: Algiers, 12 Blvd. Baudin; Casablanca, rue Georges Mercie; Oran, 6 rue Hotel de Ville; Bizerta, Special Service, EBS; Constantine, Stivala Joseph, ave. Liagre; Tunis, 20 Bis rue de Paris; Palermo, Giornale di Sicilia; Naples, 7 Angiporto Galleria.

Annual subscription rate to U.S.: Two dollars (100 francs, 200 lire). Subscriptions may be left at any circulation office or mailed to The Stars and Stripes, rue Georges Mercie, Casablanca.

Vol. 2, No. 7 Saturday, January 22, 1944

Sgt. Hilary H. Lyons Managing Editor
Sgt. Al Kohn News Editor
Cpl. Bill Gilham Sports Editor
Sgt. Cyril Hopper Art Editor

Staff: Lt. (j.g.) F. R. Kent, Sgts. David Golding, John M. Willig, Milton Lehman, Ralph G. Martin, Jack Foisie, Richard Bruner, Ray Reynolds, Gregor Duncan, Cpl. Wade H. Jones.

DEMOCRACY REKINDLED

Reborn Italian Unions Lead European Labor

(By a Staff Correspondent)

NAPLES—The rebirth of a free labor movement almost extinguished by 20 years of Fascism, is taking place in southern Italy with the Allied Military Government functioning as doctor, nurse and midwife.

Unions, muzzled by the ten state-controlled Fascist syndicates devised by Mussolini to strangle the democratic influence of organized working groups, are once more functioning in mutilated Italy.

Though their scope and membership is still limited—representing only 50 trades with an approximate enrollment of 300,000 workers—it represents a fair start on the part of the United Nations in bringing the democratic freedoms to liberated Europe.

Before Il Duce's March on Rome, unionism in Italy was in a somewhat chaotic state with three federations of labor bidding for control of Italian workers. Politics has always been an integral part in European labor setups, and already the resurgence of federations of Italian labor has begun to assume the political tinge of old pre-Fascist organizations.

Followers of labor matters in the United States are familiar with the history of the American Federation of Labor, the newer Congress of Industrial Organization and the arguments as to the relative merits of horizontal (AFL) and vertical (CIO) unions.

The return labor organizations in Italy are taking on both the horizontal and vertical forms. In large plants and factories, the vertical type of union is favored, while in smaller organizations employing craftsmen in different trades, the unions are horizontal.

REPRESENTATIVE GROUPS

The 50 unions so far re-established of the hundreds abolished by Fascism include representative groups from the railroad workers, gas, water and other utilities employees, telephone operators and building tradesmen as well as many white-collar workers, who are included in the vertical organizations.

During Il Duce's regime, small cells of formerly free labor groups continued underground activities in spite of repressive measures. It was these people who last year organized the paralyzing strikes against Fascism which culminated in Mussolini's resignation. It is those people who are developing free unionism in Italy once more.

These union leaders now broadcast nightly over southern Italian radio stations, telling their Axis-dominated fellows in northern Italy of their new-found liberty and asking the northern workers to hinder the Germans whenever and wherever possible. Typical radioed suggestions are to throw literal monkey wrenches in Axis machinery, to wreck trains, to blast factories, and to work when work can't be avoided, as slowly and inefficiently as possible.

Various labor groups in America have voted large amounts of money to assist the reorganization of Italian labor. The British trades unions already have a representative of the International Transport Workers Federation in Italy, and it is expected that delegates from American unionism will shortly arrive here to advise the Italians in their problems of readjustment.

The initial resurgence of Italian labor was marked by several at-

tempts to "muscle into" control of the unions, but these tries were quickly and firmly balked by AMG authorities. Recently, Allied officials were interviewing representatives of a Building Trades Union. As the delegates were introduced they were asked to identify themselves. One was a lawyer, another a doctor and the other two were also professional men. They were excused with the advice that they would be accepted as bona fide representatives of lawyers or doctors' unions, but that since they were not bricklayers, carpenters or plasterers, they could not qualify as representatives of building trades.

STRIKES BARRED

Since liberated Italy is under Allied military control, strikes and lockouts are barred for the duration. Mediation of any disputes which may arise comes under a State Labor Office, operated by Italians with the advice and assistance, when needed, of AMG. Similar to the U.S. Labor Office, the Italian counterpart conducts an employment service, pursues economic studies and records collective contracts between management and labor.

In getting the Italian economic and industrial life reestablished after the Axis retreat, the Allies have been greatly assisted by the labor unions. They not only advised in the weeding out of Fascist management, but were able to supply some of the key men to get industries, utilities and communications operating again. A short time ago military authorities were hard pressed to get an important installation back into service. Unions connected with this work heard of the difficulty, furnished cost estimates, engineering surveys and time and material studies, and the job was quickly completed.

Another aftermath of the abolition of the Fascist syndicates is the re-appearance of organizations among managers as well as workers. Infant Chambers of Commerce are now beginning to operate in southern Italian cities and there are many associations of grocers, furniture dealers, clothing sales concerns and manufacturers.

They Say...

HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR., Secretary of the Treasury, in opening the Fourth War Loan Drive: "We are going to make sure this time that the enemy lays down his ideas as well as his arms."

GENERAL SIR BERNARD L. MONTGOMERY, in his farewell to his troops in Italy: "Since I have commanded this Army, I have never issued a written order to my subordinate generals about operations. Command must be personal and it must be verbal; otherwise it will have no success, because it is wrapped up in the human factor."

GEORGE W. HEALY, JR., new director of domestic operations for OWI: "I believe the American people have strong eyes and ears and can see news straight without 'folding up.' Also the American people are not color-blind. If you try to color news, they'll spot it."

RAF BOMBER PILOT, after a raid on Berlin: "The flak was so thick we could have stuck our wheels down and ridden on it."

Of All Things

A Hero And More, Modern Escapism, Easy Road Back

Double-Dyed Hero

A hero is a sometime thing, according to Marine Pfc. John Trasher, Detroit, whose story rouses up a nice point of gallantry which may go down in history as forming a precedent. Trasher was wounded by shrapnel in the fight for the Solomons and lost his memory on the battlefield. He "woke up" later in a New Zealand hospital, being applauded on all sides for heroic feats which he had performed three months before. Trasher, 20 years old, stuck to his ethical guns, and said he didn't deserve either the Purple Heart or the Presidential citation he had received, because he didn't remember doing anything to deserve them. Home on a 30-day furlough, he told friends and relatives he had never worn his decorations and never would.

In addition to the points that: (1) Pfc. Trasher possibly rates a special decoration for his modesty; (2) the movies have a terrific angle in his story, (3) just how will Pfc. Trasher answer his grandchildren when they climb on his knee and say, "Granddad, what did you do in the war?"

Confidentially . . .

There are many ways to forget the war, but it is doubted whether anyone has tried this one yet. You just pick up a magazine and read the perfume advertisements—read 'em, and swoon . . .

Dunhill suggests you try "Escape" — "the sudden imperious spring of a lock—a vista of skies immense and free—a new perfume that defies imprisonment . . . if she is waiting for a magic hour of unfettered joy, this scent is for her!" The war may last long enough to change "Escape" to "AWOL No. 5," but let's hope not.

Choubigant comes up with "Hantilly" — "fragrance for a woman beloved . . . to make your heart . . . and his . . . beat faster . . . a precious perfume, stimulating, slightly spicy . . . delightfully feminine . . . a fragrance never to be forgotten . . . intoxicating as a kiss."

Jean Patou insists that his "Moment Supreme" is "such stuff as dreams are made on." This means nothing to Ciro, who warns that his whiffer "New Horizons" "carries you on . . . and on!"

"Perhaps" is a coy job put out by Ann Haviland, who modestly calls it "a perfume of subtle distinction, wonderful as a promise, maddening as a hope, but rare and glorious as a mink."

But the last wov is reserved for Dana, who sells "Tabu, the forbidden perfume—the sophisticated scent of the century . . . to make moments in blackest black become colossal hours."

Which reminds us—we must change our socks.

Getting Away From It All

The actual process of discharging a man from the Army doesn't enter the minds of any overseas GIs, as far as we know. But the Army has been very busy trying to make it comparatively easy for us to get off the boat and into the icebox in the shortest possible time. Until a few days ago, for instance, a discharged soldier had to gnaw a pencil through seven forms and five letters before they clapped him on the back and squeezed a last salute out of him. Now they've jammed all the information they want into a single form, executed in sextuplicate.

Copies of the new form go to the soldier, the Veterans' Administration, the State Director of Selective Service for the information of the local draft board, the reemployment committee of the local board, the United States Employment Service, and the Adjutant General's office. The form probably unfolds like an accordion. However, the average soldier has had enough experience with Socony road maps to know that the best thing to do with the form is to unfold the whole thing, iron it carefully, and then use it as wall paper. Then, if someone doubts any of your stories, all you have to do is invite him in to see the pantry wall. There's where you captured 46 Nazis—right above the paprika. —R. R.



"It's from my Cousin Edwin at Fort Dix. He sent me all the latest war jokes."

Ciano Execution Warns Future Nazi 'Deserters'

There are mixed elements of horror and relief in the democratic reaction to the trial and execution of Count Galeazzo Ciano as told by the German press.

Count Ciano was a young opportunist to whom, as to numerous other members of his generation in Italy, Fascism for a time offered unique chances for getting ahead. He was well-born and, through his father, knew the high Fascists. He had ambition and energy, a certain amount of brains and no discernible moral code. He was personable. This made him a perfect husband for Edga Mussolini, As propaganda minister and, later, foreign minister, Count Ciano served his master and father-in-law, Benito Mussolini, pretty well. He got on famously with the Nazi chieftains and apparently had a real hand in forging the Axis bonds. He appeared a model Fascist, even to his eye for graft and his taste for a good time.

In July, however, he made his fatal error. Italy was falling apart at the seams, and Ciano and a majority of the Fascist Grand Council decided that if the Italian fabric was to be saved at all, Mussolini would have to go. It is doubtful that this decision was in any way influenced by love for Italy. Ciano and others on the Grand Council were probably chiefly interested in saving their own skins. And though they wanted their old boss out of the way, they were apparently still loyal enough not to "purge" him. Not, at least, right away. This, as it turned out, was their mistake. It was a halfway measure not in keeping with the Fascist pattern of action.

FASCIST METHOD

The real Fascist way of doing things was demonstrated at Ciano's trial at Verona. A court set up by Mussolini's puppet government in northern Italy tried and condemned Ciano for treason and had him shot within 24 hours after sentence was passed.

Ciano's act of treason—the vote he cast against Mussolini at the Grand Council meeting—had been committed about six months before. So there was no sudden blazing anger in Il Duce's condemnation of his son-in-law to death. It was a perfectly cold and deliberate act, and the fact that Ciano was the father of Mussolini's grandchildren was plainly considered no reason for mercy.

The Germans reported the trial and execution in considerable detail and with considerable relish, thereby indicating their approval of the melodramatic proceedings. Although Ciano had once been useful to the Wilhelmstrasse, the Nazi leadership had reason for wanting him dead. His execution, after all, was a warning to all

possible Axis "traitors" that they too, would be shot if they tried to desert.

Ciano was a made-to-order victim. His execution demonstrated that no one—not even a nobleman tied to the highest Axis leadership by marriage—could expect to defy the Hitler-Mussolini set-up and live. Harried statesmen in the Balkan satellite states must have shuddered as they read accounts of the trial. There may even have been a little uneasiness among the less enthusiastic Nazis.

Judged by democratic standards of public morality, the whole business was shocking, and yet it is almost impossible not to feel a certain relief in face of this Fascist willingness to dispose of its own leaders.

If Count Ciano, instead of trying to make his way to Switzerland and had fled southward and thrown himself on the Allies' mercy, he almost certainly would still be alive—probably as a prisoner awaiting a "war guilt" trial such as was promised in a Churchill-Roosevelt-Stalin statement at the time of the Moscow conference.

EMBARRASSMENT

Those trials, though they may prove of inestimable value as a symbol of democratic determination to punish those who sin against humanity, may also turn out to be something of an embarrassment. The war will be over before the leading criminals can be tried, and all sorts of not irrelevant legal and moral scruples are apt to come to the fore.

The Russians, who are in some ways more direct than ourselves, are trying war criminals as they catch them, and the Kharkov trials doubtless satisfied a need for revenge that a brutally put-upon people feels. And yet it is possible that the Verona trial did the world a greater service than the Kharkov trials.

Repellant as the proceedings at Verona were, they did offer the spectacle of evil destroying evil. They demonstrated just how brutal Fascists happen to be, and they probably set the pattern for similar spectacles to come. For as the Allied cause progresses, there may be other Cianos who will try to save their skins (though the Verona trial was obviously intended to discourage political desertions) and other Fascist firing squads to punish them.

By the time the war ends there may not be very many major war criminals left to try. By then the major criminals will probably have succeeded in killing one another off. Not many persons in the Allied countries will consider that a reason for regret. The ends of justice will be reasonably well served if their own followers dispose of the Axis leaders. —H.H.L.

MAIL CALL

SEQUEL

Dear Editor:

The claimants for Mr. Levin's 100 smackers offered to the first Rochester, N.Y., soldier to land on Sicily will be squaring off for the next 50 years.

The letter which you ran in Mail Call on Oct. 23 did the trick. First the replies trickled in. And on the basis of an affidavit attested by an officer, an American Legion committee awarded the dough to a paratrooper by the name of Richard Knopf. The paratrooper quickly chuted to earth, tossing the mazuma in for an engagement ring for a girl from Philly.

Then the letters began to pour in. And that should be a convincer to your advertisers (if you had 'em) what a great medium the Mediterranean edition really is. Levin and the American Legion committee are in a quandary. I keep tossing the letters at them and they keep mulling over them. That latest batch sent was the clincher. One of the committee members is willing to shoot me.

So far, no decision on reconsideration.

But, more is in store for Mr. Levin. In making his original offer of 100 dollars, for the first Rochesterian to land on Italian soil, he added a postscript—100 bucks for the first one to land on German soil and another century for the first one to land on Japan. Headaches galore in store for him. Another guy raised the ante to 200 bucks for the first to land in the Balkans.

—Abe M. Miller, City Editor, Rochester Times-Union

HEADS IT IS

Dear Editor:

I think that one of the most significant factors in American democracy is the consideration which special causes ask and receive. We have examined the totalitarian approach and have found it wanting. We have the patience to look deep into the individual's problems and idiosyncrasies.

I represent (and am current president of) The League of Red Headed Men. We feel that we have many reasons to deserve special consideration when the matter of bonuses is taken up by Congress.

First, many of us have been sent

to tropical and sub-tropical climates. To dark complexioned men, this is no hardship, but it certainly is to us redheads. Being of fair skin, we suffer constantly from sunburn. Truly, we are on duty 24 hours a day. During the hot days, we fry and crackle like ducks on a splint and at night, we toss and pitch suffering excruciating pain. Naturally, the brunettes sleep on in comfort, taking advantage of the rest we too should be enjoying.

Do our sergeants show us any special consideration? Do we get inside jobs (KP excluded) to avoid the withering sun? Do we get night duty? No! If anyone has earned extra benefit payments, we have.

Furthermore, red-headed men sent to tropical climes are social outcasts. To the prevailing brunettes, whether Arabic or Francaise, we may be interesting freaks for a date or two, but really who wants to be seen very frequently with one of les tres blondes. Our woes are unending.

This letter does not attempt to exhaust the burdens of this group of patriotic (our hair is as red as the stripes of the flag!) men but merely to call the matter to your attention, to cite a couple of specific illustrations and to encourage all others of a similar head to rally to the common color.

—T-5 R. L. Baker

PURPLE HEART

Dear Editor:

I am a British soldier who has fought over a year with the Americans both in North Africa and in Italy. Up until now, I was fortunate enough to get by without being wounded; however, my luck played out and I am now recuperating in a hospital.

The fellows who came here with me from the American 5th Army immediately received the Order of the Purple Heart for their sacrifice. Naturally, it made us Tommies feel rather badly because we had been fighting right beside these same fellows and got nothing.

Is there any possibility of British soldiers receiving this distinguished medal? Or could you be instrumental in helping us obtain one like it from our own Army?

—Private from 5th Army

The Order of the Purple Heart is awarded to American soldiers wounded in combat. There are no provisions for awarding this medal to Allied troops.—Editor.

Puption Poets

MERCHANT MARINE

We leave the States with our hatches full,
Well aware of dangers of the pull,
For North Atlantic winds howl with a smirk,
While under us the dreaded U-boats lurk.
In the freezing night a ship goes down—
Some men freeze to death . . . others—down.
Never are we safe, even close to land,
New dangers lurk, one on every hand—
Out of the clouds a bomber will arise
To rain destruction from the skies.
A hit means death to men quite brave.
Who fight like hell from day to day
To deliver safe a cargo laden
With food, clothing for the army's fight.
Cigarettes and candy to give the boys delight.
To your brothers and sons who fight over there
For freedom at home and peace everywhere,
Give them all credit for the battles they fought
With the packs, stocks and booty we brought.
In each soldier's heart will live this sign:
The Merchant Marine was our lifeline.
—Woodrow W. Perkins
Merchant Marine

FAITH

Long days have gone and still
No word from you—not until
The last bit of hope disappears
Will I think I'll never hear
Of you again, although you said:
"This be the end; there is no more."
I refuse to accept it: I adore
Our fragile love which bloomed
In the snadows of my quiet room.
—F-O Dough Wallace

VISION ON THE FRONT

Your love was as a purple passage
to the sun,
Each silver second with golden
laughter spun,
Each hour spent once amid civilian
liberty,
Still throbs . . . still rings . . . it will
not set me free.
The yellow leaves may fall, the
night grow dull,
Yet do I hear your voice beyond
the other hill.
Through twilight thicket I grope
my weary way,
Still do I hear those vows made
yesterday.
Who knows? After the silent empti-
ness of years
When Mars no longer throws red
shadows, hidden fears,
And other lovers have no need for
weeping,
Theirs is the time for living, ours
for eternal sleeping.
After the silent emptiness of many
years,
When Mars no longer throws his
myriad fears,
And other lovers share a love un-
dying,
Theirs is the time for living, ours
for dying.
—Pvt. S. G. Sampas

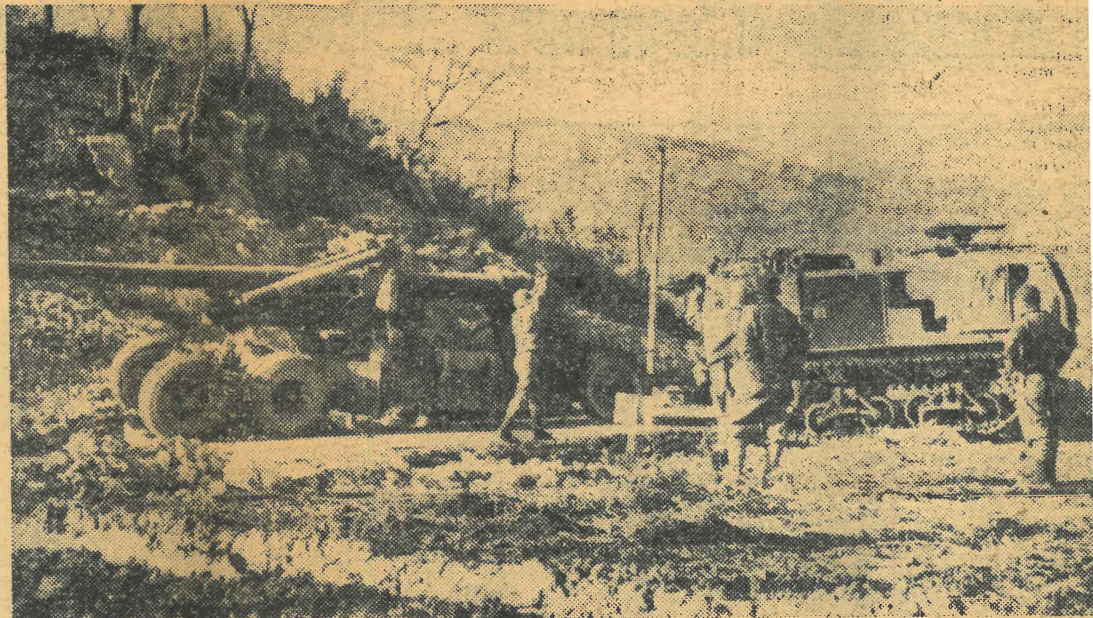
RAIN-SOAKED

Rain-soaked . . . my bed and my
baggage,
It's happened before, or I'd cry:
But I think maybe it's worth it
For I feel so damn good when I
dry.
—Lt. Rose C. Craig, ANC

PREMONITION

Let me live today in the glory
Which shall be memories tomorrow,
Each pleasant day a complete story
With many happy hours I can
borrow.
When the days yet born are black
And I find, darling, I want you
back.
—F-O Doug Wallace

The Allies' Haymaker



MOVING INTO POSITION in Italy, this 155 mm. 'Long Tom' will soon be hurling shells across to mountains at the Nazis. (Photo by Army Pictorial Service)

Army Warns Soldiers Against Political Abuse

(Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau)

WASHINGTON — A new War Department guidebook issued for officers and other personnel in charge of information and orientation courses for soldiers wants the men counseled against the undemocratic notion of the Army coming home some day to run the country.

"The men and women of the armed forces of the United States are citizens of a democracy. They, like the government, are the servants of the people. Were they to become its masters, democracy would perish," the guide warns.

"In time the majority will be returned to civil life and will have the same privileges and duties as other citizens. They will exert political force according to the validity and vigor of their political ideas.

"Hence, irresponsible talk about the political implications of the growing strength of the armed forces epitomized by such phrases as 'This army will return some day to run the country' is only for those who have not yet taken accurate measure of their wartime responsibility.

NO DOMINATION

"The Army is serving the people without expecting to dominate them," the guide declared.

According to the Army, there are two main tasks making up the big job of keeping the soldier informed—to tell him of the war including its causes, issues and progress, and to tell him about the happenings on the home front, and what he'll run into when he returns.

Most soldiers going overseas tend to carry with them a frozen picture in their mind of the civil world at home and expect to come back to that same arrested picture, the guide says, adding: "But something he doesn't consciously count on is happening at home—the heavy demands of war on the civilian front are changing many of the faces and conditions of life there. These changes seem natural to those at home whom they currently affect. Without preparation for them, however, they'll seem abrupt and bewildering to the returned soldier. Army information services should be alive to the evolutions and new ways on the home front and share them with the armed forces."

INTEREST IN LABOR

The guide believes it is reasonable to assume that the troops are interested in labor news including strikes, if they are of such magnitude as to warrant attention. Also such home-front problems as rationing, increased taxes, longer hours, etc., are believed to be "of especial interest to the man in the service and provide uplift to his own feelings about the war rather than otherwise."

The guide also contains advice on the attitude to be displayed toward our Allies. Taking the view that the Allied cause "would be weaker" now if Russia hadn't attacked Finland in 1939 and overrun the Baltic states, the guide comments:

"It is not necessary or desirable

U.S. 'Long Tom' Hits Axis Headquarters

PHILADELPHIA — From the snow-capped peaks of Italy to lush, tropical jungles of Guinea, the "Long Tom" 155 mm gun has proved a hard-punching deadly weapon, the U.S. Army Ordnance Depot here reported last week.

The powerful long-range gun received its first real battle test blasting Marshal Erwin Rommel from North Africa and combined with the Air Forces to pound Axis from Tunis and Bizerte. "Long Toms" composed much of the power which drove the enemy from Sicily in 28 days, and one of the 155 mm. guns hurled the first projectile from Messina to the Italian mainland.

The 155 isn't Army property exclusively, officials pointed out. Days after the Marines landed Rendova Island in the Solomon Islands a row of them were pouring steady stream of fire into the Japanese on Munda, 11 miles away.

In the battle for Naples, in heavy artillery duel for the Volturno River line and in the fiercest mountain fighting since then, according to Col. D. N. Hausen, commander of the Philadelphia Ordnance District, the 155 mm guns were more than a match for the best German field artillery. American artillery, pouring a murderous fire into the Nazi defenses, wiped out German bomb fighters and gun emplacements least 15 miles away, he said.

Mounted on a split-trail carriage the 155 mm. gun has a 65-degree elevation and 60-degree traverse. The carriage's six pneumatic tires and air brakes make it highly mobile behind a fast moving truck trailer. The gun weighs 15 tons.

The "Long Tom" fires a two-foot 95-pound shell with a mechanical nose-fuse set for delayed or super-quick action. After the projectile is rammed into place, 30 pounds of smokeless powder, in cloth bags thrust into the breech. The breech is closed, primer inserted and gun is fired by a quick snap of lanyard.

A well-trained 155 mm. gun crew, Col. Hausen said, can load a shell, lock the breech, insert a primer and fire the gun every seconds. That's four smash blows at the enemy every minute. In addition to its field uses, "Long Tom" is also a major coastal defense weapon.

The Song For The Week

THEY'RE EITHER TOO YOUNG OR TOO OLD

They're either too young or too old,
They're either too gray or too grassy green,
The pickin's are poor and the crop is lean,
What's good is in the Army, what's left will never harm me.
They're either too old or too young,
So darling you'll never get stung,
Tomorrow I'll go hiking with that Eagle Scout unless
I get a call from grandpa for a snappy game of chess.
I'm finding it easy to stay good as gold
They're either too young or too old.

Second Verse

They're either too warm or too cold,
They're either too fast or too fast asleep,
So, darling, believe me, I'm yours to keep,
There isn't any gravy, The gravy's in the Navy.
They're either too fresh or too stale,
There is no available male.
I will confess to one romance I'm sure you will allow,
He tries to serenade me but his voice is changing now.
I'm finding it easy to keep things controlled.
They're either too young or too old.
I'll never, never fail ya, while you are in Australia,
Or out in the Aleutians, Or off among the Rooshians
And flying over Egypt, Your heart will never be gypped,
And when you get to India, I'll still be what I've been to ya.
I've looked the field over, and lo, and behold!
They're either too young or too old.

One Question Leads To Another, GI Finds

WITH THE 12TH AIR SUPPORT PORT COMMAND—Pfc. Frank Snyder just can't stop sweating out. Looking up from a V-mail letter the other day, he shouted, "Got it."

"Got what?" his friends asked. "My baby—my wife's had a baby," he replied.

After congratulating the La wood, Ohio, clerk, his friends naturally asked the next question: "Boy or girl?"

"Why . . . why," Snyder stammered, then reread the letter from father-in-law. It said that his wife and baby were doing fine but that was not a hint as to the child's sex.

So Snyder is still waiting for next letter.

Tank Crews Polish And Test In Italy

By Sgt. RALPH G. MARTIN
(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

SOMEWHERE ON THE ITALIAN FRONT—There has been little use for tanks in the Italian campaign so far.

You can't use tanks in thick, sticky, knee-deep mud and you can't use tanks in a terrain of high-clustered hills and jagged, snow-covered mountain peaks and swollen streams and rivers.

Some tanks have seen action on the Salerno beachhead, on the long, level, narrow strips along the Adriatic and Mediterranean coastlines, on the occasional soft slopes separating the mountain masses.

But all this has been on a small scale. There can be no big show of the full force of tank strength in this campaign until the 5th Army infantry sweeps farther north where the hills are low and rolling, where there are longer stretches of flat ground.

Tank Tactics

The pattern of tank warfare has changed considerably since the beginning of this war and since the Louisiana maneuvers. No longer does a general throw in a whole battalion of tanks in a rushing, smashing drive, to break through firmly-entrenched enemy positions. That is sheer suicide for the tanks. As soon as tanks get within accurate gun range, the anti-tank guns blast loose with their withering concentrated crossfire, and the field is soon littered with burning tanks and dead tankmen. That kind of action has been found too expensive.

Now things are done differently. Small, carefully-scattered tank patrols are sent out to sneak around the hills and hug the culverts trying to pick out the enemy gun positions. If they can't spot the enemy, they try to smell them out. As soon as the Nazi gun opens up, all the tanks zero in on the discovered gun emplacement and pour a continuous fire until they knock

it out. Then they all move up farther forward, still more slowly, and repeat the smelling-out procedure.

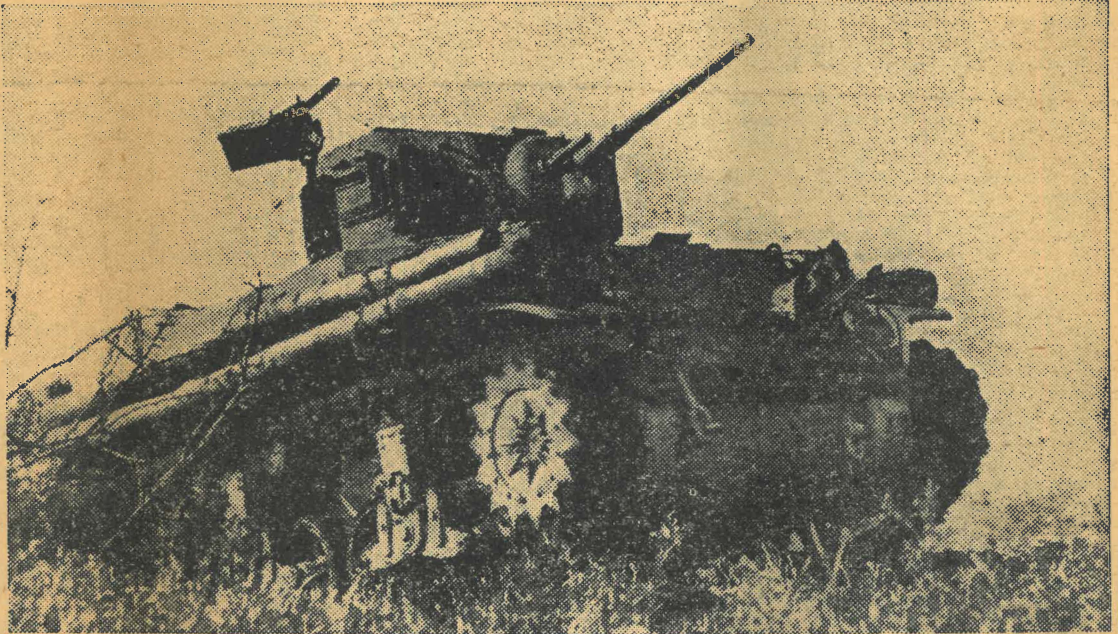
After the tank command is fully satisfied that most of the enemy guns in a particular area have been wiped out, then, and then only, will they throw in a strong tank force to go places and do things in a hurry.

The best example of such a breakthrough was the 15-tank attack in the Beja area during the initial phase of the Tunisian show. After the 15 tanks (three platoons) cleaned out the Nazi gun positions in the sector, they smashed forward, shooting up three German recon cars plus troop concentrations, until they finally reached Djeida airfield. There, they swept onto the field, quickly destroyed some 40 German planes and a great deal of ammunition and supply stores and then swiftly scooted out before the Nazi gunners knew what was happening.

But that doesn't usually happen. Much more often, you will see a single tank going out by itself. At first glance, the tank will seem to be standing absolutely still. But if you keep looking at it through a pair of high-powered field glasses, you can see it moving, almost imperceptibly. Sometimes it moves just a few feet at a time, sometimes it remains in one spot for hours.

That's the typical tank tactic of today's campaign—small patrols, careful maneuvering, slow-motion reconnaissance.

"We used to think that tank war would be like a soccer game. Now we know that it's more like a chess game," commented Lt. Col. Henry E. Gardiner, Chicago. Col. Gardiner has been blasted out of three tanks and has received the DSC, Silver Star and Purple Heart with Clusters and the Croix de Guerre. He has seen most of the tank actions in this war theater.



The light tank is heavier than you think.

History

There's nothing basically new about the tank. The Assyrian war chariot of 3500 B.C. operated on the same principles of movement and shock power. And so did the Chinese armored "war carts."

It was several thousand years later that Leonardo da Vinci conceived the idea of "building secure and covered chariots which are invulnerable; and when they advance with their guns into the midst of the foe, even the largest masses must retreat; and behind them the infantry can follow in safety and without opposition."

That was in 1400. In 1769, a

Frenchman invented a mechanical monstrosity which could race along at two miles an hour but had to stop every 20 minutes for a 15-minute rest to build up sufficient steam pressure to go on again. The first modern forerunner of today's tank was suggested in 1915 by Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, who recommended "a number of steam tractors with small armored shelters in which men and machine guns could be placed, which would be bullet proof and maintain an average speed of two and a half miles an hour."

The "Little Willies," the first such tanks, were built the following year. They weighed eight tons. By September, 1916, 16 improved "Big Willies," had been shipped to France for their first baptism of fire in the Battle of the Somme. These were all British. American tank units saw their initial action in the Battle of St. Mihiel on Sept. 12, 1918.

Allied World War I tanks were crude and slow but they were effective, mainly because the Ger-

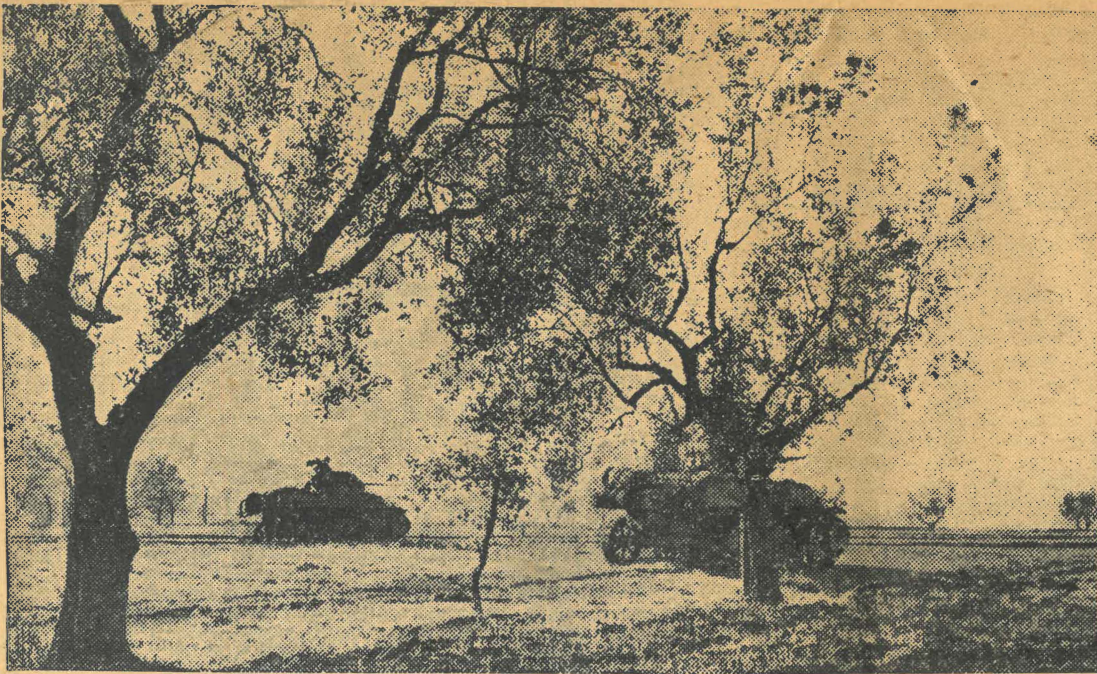
mans were caught flat-footed without any tanks.

Today's Tanks

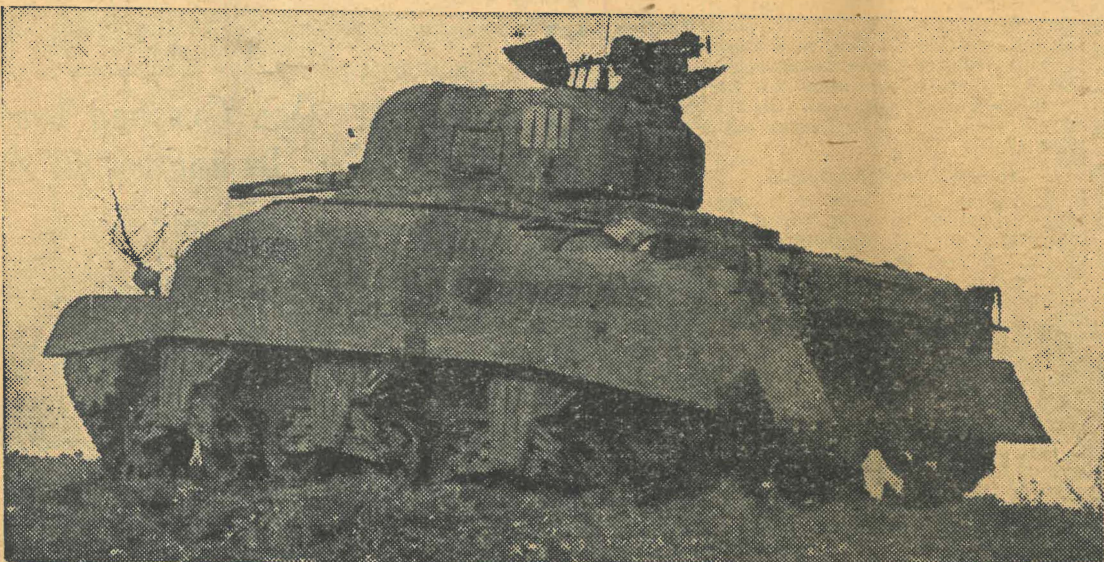
In Tunisia, in Sicily and here in Italy the American Army has been using predominantly, two types of tanks—the M-5, or light tank, and the M-4, or Sherman medium tank.

The light tank is an 18-ton job, used mostly for reinforced recon patrols, for close infantry support and for flank protection of the Shermans in any strong attack. In addition to a 37 mm. gun, the M-5 has two machine guns, one in the bow and another acting together with the 37. Like all tanks, the M-5 is loaded with hand grenades, which the tankmen like to drop into German foxholes and gun positions as they drive by.

There are four men in the crew, each able to do the other men's jobs. Tank boss is usually the gunner. Then there's the driver, who sits in the tank's so-called berth; the assistant driver who can take over at any time from a duplicate set of controls and who also operates the bow machine gun; and



They are waiting for the "go signal."



A "mobile pillbox" doesn't depend on speed.



Sgt. Cleatus Catrell is their boss. What he says goes.

Waiting For Chance To See Action

finally, the assistant gunner who sits on the right of the tank commander and also acts as loader.

With the 37 mm. as its biggest gun, the light tank is strictly limited in the things it can do. For example, the M-5 could scarcely hope to get close enough to a German Mark VI to damage it seriously.

But light tanks have knocked out the heavily-armored Mark IVs with direct hits on the side-wall from 1,000 yards. In any frontal attack, however, the M-5 wouldn't stand a chance, since its 37 is a popgun compared to the Mark IV's steady 75 mm.

Nine Mark IVs

Nevertheless, light tanks have scored several signal successes against Mark IVs, the most spectacular being a surprise attack on a dozen Mark IVs in Happy Valley, south of Mat-sur. Nine German tanks were knocked out. Light tanks are equipped for surprise thrusts because of their extreme maneuverability and their speed (up to 60 m.p.h.)

To the almost-twice heavier Sherman tank (30 tons), the speed factor is unimportant. The Sherman depends on its thick welded (or casted) armor plate and its guns—a 75, two 30s and a 50 calibre machine gun. With its 75 and synchronized 30, the gunner can fire in any direction—a complete 360 degree traverse, made possible by



LT. COL. HENRY E. GARDINER
... tank war is like chess

The circular motion of the whole gun turret which is independent of the tank itself.

The "big baby" Sherman, often referred to as a mobile pillbox, is so heavily armored that during night air raids, the men just crawl into it and pull down the turret covers and go to sleep.

Hazards

Neither the light nor the medium tanks have to worry about bombs or artillery or mortar fire. It would take a direct hit to knock them



PFC. EDISON BROTHERS
... the assistant driver

out. And a direct hit is hard to get on a moving tank. Nor are tankmen worried about mines. The most a mine can do to a tank is knock out the treads or bogie wheels and shake up the crew a bit. Machine gun fire or shrapnel or hand grenades simply bounce off the armor plate, or at most, make a dent.

But all tankmen are considerably concerned with direct fire from anti-tank guns shooting armor piercing shells. These anti-tank guns, 75s and 88s, are more responsible than anything else, for blunting the tank blitz.

Something new in tank warfare is the magnetic hand grenade. The grenade is magnetic enough so that it attaches itself automatically to the side of the tank, and it's powerful enough to rip open the entire tank-side. The one catch—the factor which makes it largely ineffective—is that the German soldier has to walk over to the tank and personally attack it. One Jerry tried to do just that to an immobilized tank but unfortunately for him, the crew was still inside. T-4 Robert Cooper, Sherman, Tex., stopped him short with a machine gun burst.

No Shift Desired

From a bystander's point of view, there are all kinds of disadvantages to being cooped up in a space-limited tank, bouncing uncomfortably over changing terrain. But despite these admitted facts, few tankmen would willingly transfer to any other branch of the service.

The closing of the turret is apt

to produce claustrophobia. It gives many men a "trapped" feeling—the same feeling a soldier gets in the hold of a troopship when all the hatches are shut during an alert. That's the main reason why tank turrets are seldom closed, even during a battle.

Hundreds of tank crews have lived to fight again simply because they were able to get out of burning tanks in time. That's the case with a crew called the "Kentucky Hillbillies," who are now fighting in their fourth tank. A Nazi anti-tank gun scored four direct hits on their first tank, wounding everybody. The men all managed to get out before the tank started blazing and the six of them (it was a Sherman tank) helped one another crawl across the field.

Five hundred yards away, the tank commander, S-Sgt. Hewerl Cordell, Searns, Ky., spotted an empty tank. He got in, tested it, made a few adjustments (all under intense shelling) then helped the other wounded onto the rear deck (top of the back of the tank) and drove off to the nearest first aid station.

Next morning, he was back in the battle again with another tank and new crew replacements, fighting again. He got the Silver Star for that.

Bossing Fourth Tank

Another tank commander who got the Silver Star, Sgt. Cleatus Catrell, Hood River, Ore., is a light tankman, also bossing his fourth tank. Catrell doesn't like to talk about his Silver Star, but he's always ready to talk long and loud about the "Torrid Zombie," and his crew of three—T-5 Petty Cater, Union, Miss., his driver; Pfc. Edison Brothers, Harrisville, N. Y., his assistant driver, and Pfc. Merle Bottomley, Mt. Vernon, Ind., his assistant gunner.

"We feel about the 'Zombie' almost like we used to feel about a pet dog or a horse back home," Catrell said. "I wouldn't trade it for any other tank in the Army. As for the guys, well, I guess we're just like a little family now."

Few families are as constantly together as these four. On the battlefield, their whole day-and-night living revolves around their tank. They fight in it, eat in it, sleep in it. Together, they sweat out the same shells, the same air raids. And they are too tightly



The loader and assistant gunner is Pfc. Merle Bottomley.

squeezed together in their "Zombie" to argue or quibble about things. Catrell is their boss and what he says, goes.

Even when they get behind the war for a while, the tank is still the center of their lives. They still heat their C rations on the tank transformer; they still sleep next to their tank, bunching their blankets together for common warmth; they still spend several hours every day just cleaning and polishing and testing to make sure that "Zombie" is in first-class condition.

One For All

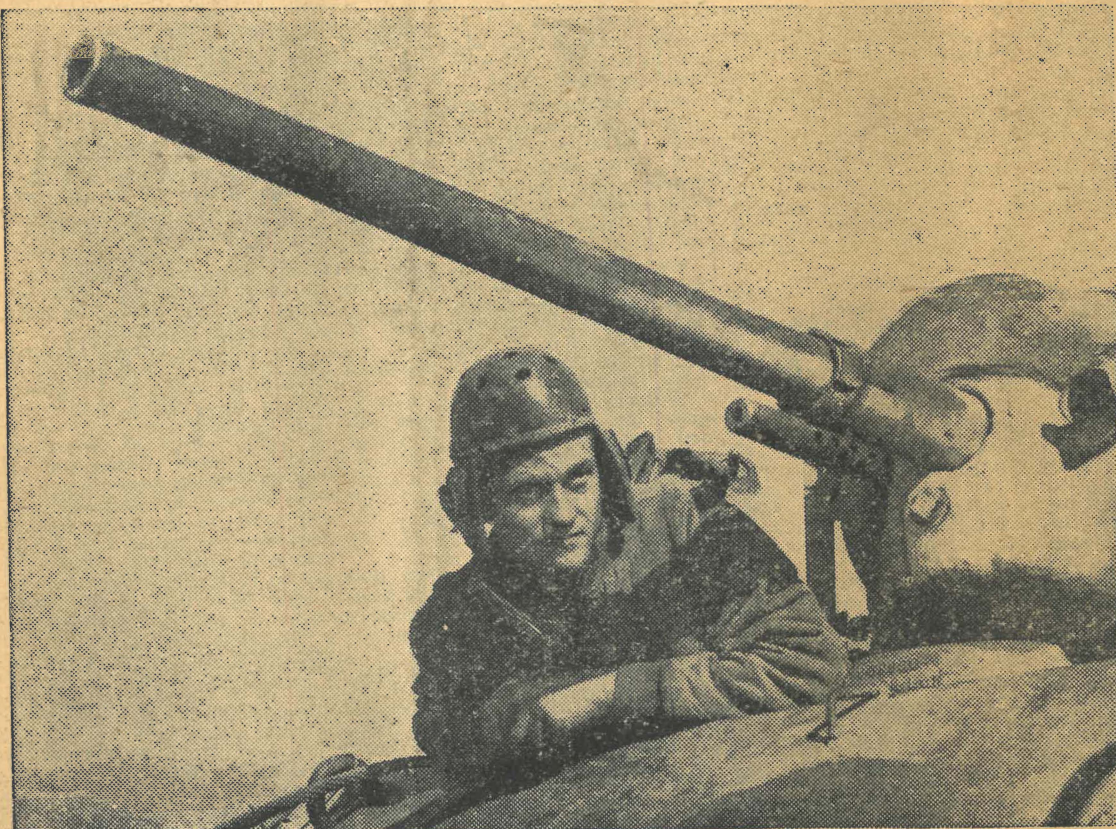
If one of them gets a package from home, they all eat. If one of them scrounges a single bottle of vino, they all drink. If one of them has money, they all have

money. And if one of them gets a letter, they all read it.

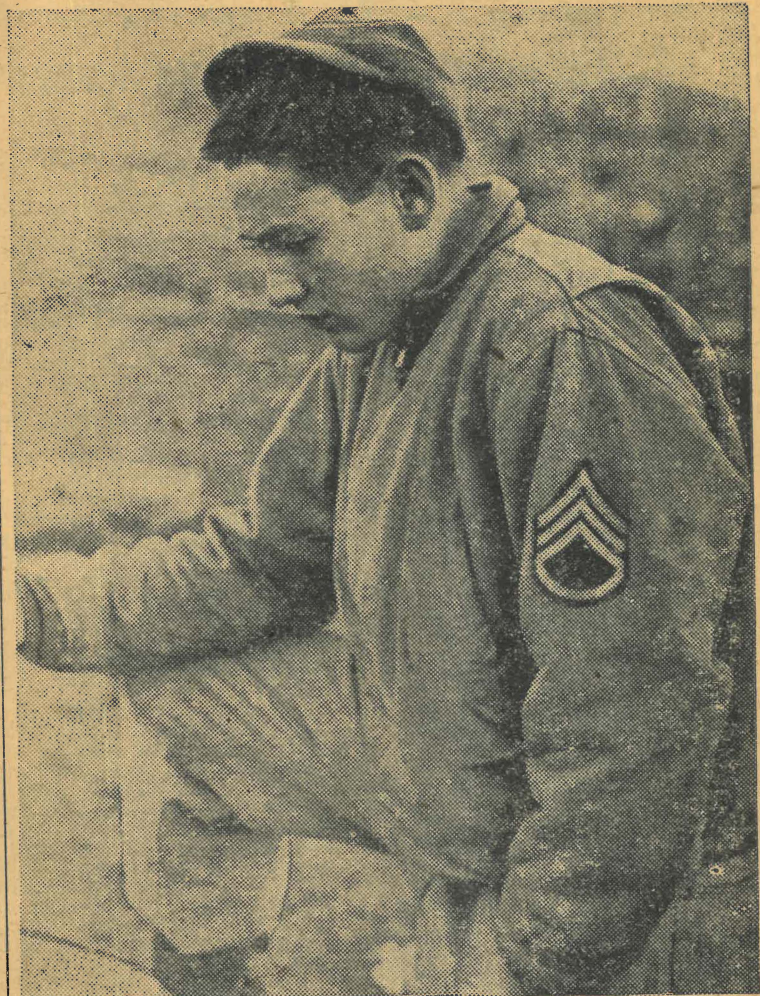
Each knows all about the other three—the past history in detail, the worries and problems and hopes and dreams. Mississippi-born Cater now knows all about Harrisville, N. Y., and "Indiana" Bottomley knows exactly what the town of Hood River, Oregon looks like and in what house of what street the Catrells live. When you have four men in a tank, then Hood River and Harrisville and Union and Mt. Vernon are closer together than the geography books show.

As for the "Torrid Zombie," there are four tankmen who claim that it's the best damn tank in the best company in the best regiment in the best division in the whole damn Army.

(Photos on these pages by The Stars and Stripes staff photographer Pfc. Martin Harris.)



T-5 Petty Cater Drives the "Torrid Zombie."

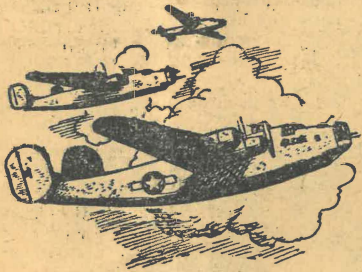


There have been four "Kentucky Hillbillies" and Sgt. Hewerl Cordell has been blasted out of three of them.

Elsie's Ground Crew Sweats Out Completion Of Liberator Mission

By Sgt. VICTOR SHERRY
(Special To The Stars and Stripes)

A 15th AAF BASE—Just call us "The Crew of 48." "Forty-eight," better known as Elsie, is an AAF B-24 Liberator, and we're the ground crew, or the mechanics, or



the grease monkeys as many individuals choose to call us.

We're not "glamor boys," by any means. Just the guys that try to keep these kites flying.

We sweat it out along with the combat crew every minute that Elsie is on a mission. Sure, it's the same war, the same Army, and every B-24 that comes off the production line is like her sister before her. We'll work on other ships in an emergency, but Elsie is our baby.

We were assigned to Elsie on her arrival from the United States—brand and sparkling new. Proud? Just like new fathers! Each of us on the crew got an engine to care for and we proceeded to name each after a wife or sweetheart. We ripped the cowling off Elsie and checked and rechecked her safeties, leaks, loose nuts and bolts. We gloated over the "new this-and-that" which had been added and which older planes didn't have.

For her first mission, Elsie was the lead ship in the element, with the commanding officer of the squadron flying her.

"How will she behave on take-off, on flight, with her first load of bombs?"

A thousand thoughts raced through our minds at the last moment.

"Sambo, did you check this? Ollie, did you safety that? Are you sure? Who's nervous? You're crazy as hell!"

Then the take-off. With a roar from the sweetest-sounding engines on the field, she's going down the runway! Give her the gun; lots of room yet. That's it, up with the nose wheel now! Faster! Pick her up now—now! Damn

it! What the hell's the matter? Pick her up! There's hardly any runway left! Look, she's up! Whew, man! For a minute there . . . no . . . we didn't either because we knew that she'd make it fine. Look at Elsie go!

Plenty of planes up there and maybe they all look alike—but look! Up there, the one in the middle—that's Elsie. And only when the formation is out of sight and hearing, do we bring our eyes out of the sky.

It was an eight hour mission. Plenty of time to go to town or go over to another squadron to see a buddy from the home town. But where do we go? Back to our tents to lie on our bunks. We don't sleep. We've been up since long before dawn and could well use some shut-eye. We just half doze off. With any sound remotely like that of an airplane, we're on our feet, out of the tent and scanning the sky. Is Elsie back? Any one of a million things could have gone wrong. And so it goes until the group returns. In and out of our tents maybe a dozen times, watching and waiting.

The planes come back. We race out to the field to see our baby land. A buzz job is performed by one of the pilots to show us the mission was a success. Here she comes—the one on the left. We wave excitedly. They can't see us from the planes, but the salute is more for Elsie than for anyone else. And it's a sort of release for our feelings. We knew she would make it, but—and that "but" can mean so many things. Maybe she's had some kind of mechanical trouble. Or maybe she's been attacked by fighters, or ack-ack has hit her.

Then the landing. Practically everyone on the field holds his breath as each plane is brought in. "Easy now—steady—steady—bring it down—that's it." And Elsie is rolling down the runway, home again. She taxis back to her spot on the field and we greet the combat crew.

"How'd it go? Many fighters? Ack-Ack? Did you hit the target? Anyone hurt?"

We're interested, certainly. These boys are our buddies. We know them all. We have seen some go—and not come back, and a cold chill passed through us and we swallowed hard. The combat crews have one tough job and we all know it. But you can understand, too, why we ask the pilot and engineer: "How did she behave?"

And you can understand, too, why we feel so good when the answer is "OK."

Then to work on her again, to ready her for the next mission. Perhaps just a matter of a few hours, perhaps far into the night, and these nights are really cold. Numb fingers, dropped tools, skinned knuckles, cuss words that crackle against the cold wind. But she's our baby.

Elsie is not as new as some of her younger sisters on the field. If anything, our love for her has grown and we work on her harder to show these maiden ships that, though she may be old and battle-scarred, Elsie is as trustworthy as ever. The miniature bombs under



her pilot's window, which designate each mission are increasing in numbers. Some of them have swastikas painted inside of them to show enemy fighters shot down. That's our Elsie.

Yanks Contribute To Aid Pilots' Kin

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS—American troops traveling recently in a Mediterranean convoy were so grateful for the air cover given them by the Coastal Air Force that they collected a purse of 1,000 pounds for the families of flyers who may have been injured in the two attacks on the convoy.

Since British, American and French pilots shared equally in the protection of the convoy, Air Vice Marshal Sir Hugh Pughe Lloyd, commander of the CAF, directed that the purse be divided equally among the benevolent funds of the air forces of the three nations.

The purse, at the current rate of exchange, is equivalent to 4,000 dollars.

The troops in the convoy saw only one of the attacks, in which nine enemy aircraft were shot down and others damaged. The other raid was intercepted long before the enemy planes reached the ships and was repulsed as the convoy steamed on, unaware of the threat.

In a more recent Nazi attempt to attack a convoy, two CAF Beaufighters intercepted nine torpedo-carrying JU-88s 130 miles from the ships they intended to hit. The Beaufighters destroyed two of the Junkers, severely damaged another, and forced the remainder to jettison their torpedoes and hightail home.

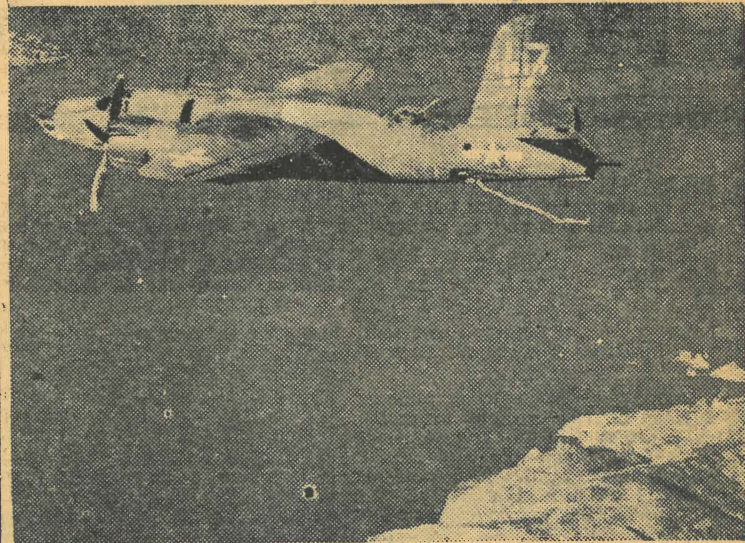
New Mustang Covers U.S. Raids On Reich

LONDON—The new long-range fighter plane which has been covering United States bombers deep into Europe is the American Mustang P-51 B, powered by a 1,500-horsepower Rolls Royce engine, the 8th U.S. Air Force revealed this week.

Carrying 500 pounds of bombs under each wing and armament of four .50 caliber machine guns, the new Mustang has a speed of more than 400 miles an hour with a combat radius of more than 450 miles. On one of its 15 missions in little more than a month, the Mustang fighter group penetrated nearly as far as Berlin.

The group has shot down 41 enemy planes, the announcement said, and has established a 6-1 superiority over all German fighters.

Staggering Home



CARTRIDGE BELTS and ammunition tracks are being thrown overboard to lighten the load of "Uden Uden's Oil Burner," a B-26 Marauder which was brought home from a mission on only one engine. Below the bomber are the Ponziene Islands off the west coast of Italy. (USAAF Photo)

Instructor's Memory Helps To Save B-26

AT A 15TH AIR FORCE BOMBER BASE—A couple of second lieutenants who remembered their flight instructor brought "his" ship back safely the other day, although their B-26 Marauder was flying on only one engine.

Just before they took off on the ship's maiden mission, Lt. R. R. Bennett, Toledo, Ohio, and Lt. Tilman Beardon, Texarkana, Texas, named their plane "Uden Uden's Oil Burner," and thereby hangs a tale. The ship was christened in memory of their Barksdale Field, La., instructor, Lt. James Aden, Longview, Texas. He had taught them how to fly the sturdy Marauder medium bombers just before he was killed in a crash during an instruction trip last July.

Lt. Aden had had hopes of getting into combat service, and had planned to name his plane "Oil Burner" in honor of his wife, Iryl Verna Aden, Kilgore, Texas, because that was his pet name for her. So the plane piloted by Lt. Bennett was named "Uden Uden's Oil Burner," the Uden Uden part being the nickname given to Lt. Aden by his home town friends.

The Marauder received a hot welcome on its baptismal flight. The target was a vital highway bridge over a tributary of the Gar-

igliano River, just ahead of the 5th Army front in Italy.

The target was heavily protected by mobile 88 mm. guns. As the formation came in for the bomb run, flak bursts peppered the attacking B-26s. A direct hit put the left engine of the newly-named ship out of commission.

When one engine of a two-motored bomber is out, experienced bomber pilots say, chances for a safe landing are slim. The best chance is a crash landing, but that means almost certain destruction of the ship.

Lt. Bennett thought of his new Marauder and he thought, too, of the instruction he had received from Lt. Aden, whose memory was carried in that same B-26. "I didn't want to fall out of formation until I had to," Lt. Bennett explained later. So he and Lt. Beardon threw the guns, ammunition and "everything else that was loose overboard so they could keep the plane going on one engine."

"She flew like a dream, even on one engine," the airman exclaimed after landing safely.

"Uden Uden's Oil Burner," in good shape again after a thorough renovating, will fly again in combat to carry on the name of the flight instructor who wanted to fight the enemy.

57th Ends Third Year With Party, Memories

By Cpl. WADE JONES
(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

A 12TH AIR FORCE BASE IN ITALY—The German forces in Italy would probably have liked nothing better in the world than to have thrown a high explosive monkey wrench into the party which the 57th Fighter Group threw for itself the other night.

The slicked-up young pilots, dancing with nurses and Red Cross girls, were ostensibly celebrating the third anniversary of their group's activation. But most of their talk was of battle experiences in the nearly 16 months of chasing the Germans from Egypt to Italy.

The 57th was the first American fighter plane group to arrive in this theater and began its aerial odyssey against the Germans in September, 1942, in support of the British 8th Army's drive westward from El Alamein.

Without previous combat experience, the pilots learned their lessons the hard way in daily combat with a battlewise enemy. As members of the only American fighter outfit with the 8th, the flyers of the 57th had no tradition to live up to so they set about making one. They made a good one.

Between October 12, 1942, and December 31, 1943, they flew 1,219 missions, shot down 189 aircraft and sank or damaged approximately 65 enemy vessels.

Primarily a fighter-bomber force, which means they usually fight only when attacked, the 57th took the offensive on Palm Sunday, 1943, to score the greatest aerial victory of the war by an American fighter group. They shot down 78 enemy fighters and transport planes over the Cape Bon peninsula and damaged 30 more.

Their recent attacks on German

targets in Yugoslavia have brought special notes of thanks from Partisan leaders, who addressed the messages specifically to the 57th through the 8th Army.

If the 57th needed any further claim to fame it could mention the fact that Lt. Col. Philip Cochran (Flip Corkin in the comic strip) once commanded one of their squadrons, the Fighting Cocks.

Col. Cochran, who has returned to the States after distinguished action in the Tunisian campaign, was prevented by illness from coming overseas originally with the group. Fighting with another outfit later, he was in action only a short distance from the 57th in the Mareth Line battle.

The present Group commander, Col. Arthur G. Salisbury, Sedalia, Mo., (Capt. Art Solitary in the Flip Corkin strip) was a close friend of Col. Cochran and took his place as commander of the Fighting Cocks squadron, when Col. Cochran was hospitalized in the States.

So rare is it that a 57th pilot will agree to leave the outfit and go home—no matter how many ailments he may have—that the occasion is usually celebrated.

One pilot had to go back because of physical disability. The other pilots plied him with spirits and while he was in a completely irresponsible frame of mind put him in a coffin and started off down the street in a full-dress funeral procession.

Eighth Army soldiers, who thought the procession was the real thing and stood at rigid attention, were considerably unmoved when the lid of the coffin popped open and the corpse, wine bottle in hand, reared up and yelled "Whoopee!"

Willkie Pins Reward Chaplains' 'Patrons'

(Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The "Willkie Button Mystery"—the strange story of supposed political carryings-on among the Marines which had the nation's politicians agog for two months and the Navy Department sitting up nights—has finally been solved. It all turned out to be a gag, with no discernible political implications.

It began last fall when the family of Marine Pfc. Edward Meyerson in Montclair, N.J., received a letter from their son in the South Pacific. "Would you," Pfc. Meyerson wrote, "dig around in the attic and send over some of those 1940 Willkie campaign buttons?" Mrs. Meyerson, a bit puzzled but obliging, sent her son 500 buttons.

The family got a reply a few weeks later:

"I guess," their son wrote, "I'll have to give you an explanation for wanting those buttons . . . and that's the reason I wanted them."

Mrs. Meyerson blinked and looked again. The reason had been carefully deleted by the censor.

A Montclair newspaper printed the item as an odd bit of home town gossip. Then the storm broke. Press associations picked the story up and made it a front-page item across the country. Politicians conferred and reperussed. Chairman Harrison Spangler of the GOP National Committee demanded a fuller explanation from the Navy Department of how a censor could censor the exchange of political opinions between the members of a family.

The Navy Department worriedly replied to both Mr. Spangler and Mrs. Meyerson explaining that there was no way they could find out what the censor had scissored.

Anyhow, the Navy said politely, the Marines aren't allowed to wear political campaign buttons, so why the fuss?

The tempest calmed down and about the time everybody began relaxing came another letter from the South Pacific, on Jan. 11. Pfc. Meyerson, apparently having done what he did with the buttons, blithely requested 500 more, adding: "We are having quite a time with them."

The Meyersons threw up their hands.

"We are going crazy," Mr. Meyerson told the nation at large.

"He can't be wearing them, and I'm sure he wouldn't specify Willkie buttons to be used as tiddly-winks or poker chips," Mr. Meyerson went on wearily. His once well-ordered home had been snowed under with buttons since the furor began.

"All kinds of buttons—Landon, Al Smith, Roosevelt, even Taft," he said.

This week, from NBC's Washington correspondent Robert McCormick, came the denouement.

The Marines, said McCormick, are pinning old Willkie buttons on chronic grouchers in a strange ritual. When a Marine starts yelping and complaining, he is presented a grouching slip by his buddies, entitling him to cry on the chaplain's shoulder. When the groucher has collected 10 slips, he turns them in and is presented the Order of the Willkie Button.

The politicians called off their conferences. The Navy Department closed its file on "Willkie Buttons." The Meyersons wearily began picking up the simple routine they had lived before the great button mystery rose to haunt them.

5th Army Learns True Meaning Of Internationalism

By Sgt. JACK FOISIE
(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

"In Unity There Is Strength."

The 5th Army, through the unpredictable currents of circumstance, has become a true "United Nations" legion, with American, British, French and Italian troops operating under a single commander in chief, Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark.

This force of fighting men, welded by a desire to defeat a common enemy, is not only unique in its composition but its coordination in strategy, operations and supply forms an important achievement in Allied progress toward victory.

How military leaders of two English-speaking nations have overcome not only their own differences in the method of waging war but have also revitalized the once-great French machine and, to a lesser extent, the fighting men of a one-time enemy power, is a fascinating story in military history.

The pattern for the development of an international army was sketched, in a general sense, at the Casablanca conference. It was there that General Henri Giraud gained the Allied promise to rear a certain number of French divisions in North Africa. French formations, almost entirely American-equipped, are now fighting in Italy as part of the 5th Army.

Prewar Cooperation

The pattern of cooperation between Britain and the United States, of course, goes back even before America's entrance into the war. Lend-lease was the beginning.

Following Pearl Harbor the military leaders met and formed an Anglo-American commission.

The arrival of an American expeditionary force in England was further training for cooperation and coordination. The joint Anglo-American planning and execution of the North African landing was proof to Hitler—and to the Allies—that they could be successful partners in war.

Unlike World War I, when America was forced to jump into battle before coordination with her Allies could be attained, this war, by its lack of a battleground in Europe for almost a year after Pearl Harbor, gave America and Britain the necessary time to "know each other as fighting men."

In Tunisia the Americans had their first chance to size up the Frenchman as an ally. They found him able and courageous; equipment was all he needed.

In March, 1943, the American 5th Army, then in training in Morocco, was handed the duty of training a certain number of French divisions which, by then, had received much of the American equipment promised them at Casablanca two months before.

"We were to train the French in the technical use of this equipment, for the French certainly need little training in how to fight," a 5th Army staff officer explained.

Trained In Schools

Training was conducted primarily by a system of schools and by a large number of traveling training teams. One motor maintenance training detachment of some 200 men, which had helped to familiarize the British with the Sherman tank, moved over from Cairo to continue its work with the new pupil. Sometimes American and French outfits trained together, as in the case of tank destroyers.

While the French were adept at "catching on" to most of the equipment they still have trouble with motor maintenance.

"You can't expect to teach in a few months what you yourself learned over many years," explained the Army spokesman.

When the Italian operation was conceived, it was decided that the American 5th Army should become an Anglo-American Army. British officers were incorporated into the staff, primarily to coordinate the planning and execution of the operations. The third big factor in any war—supply—is carried out by British forces almost entirely independently. The British, like the Yanks, are virtually self-sufficient and

their supply procedure differs greatly from the U.S. Army's.

Yet in other sections the British and Americans of the Army command have blended their systems without too much difficulty. Thousands of differences, some basic and some trivial, have been thrashed out in business-like conferences.

One of the more amusing compromises came in the terminology of petroleum products and motor vehicles. For the record, the Yanks now describe gasoline as petrol

themselves with the necessary ammunition for their own-type guns and with such items as wine and brandy. Their field rations vary slightly from American rations, although the combat rations are the same. A special porkless ration is supplied to Moslem troops.

All problems of re-equipping are referred to the joint re-armament commission in North Africa, for that group has to worry about payment for French supplies.

Just as the operations of an

However, the unit which went into the line did not do as well as had been hoped, although its artillery was deemed "excellent." The Italian leaders were the first to admit their failure and are eager for another chance.

When and where they will get it is, of course, a military secret.

Right now the Italian military machine is continuing its overhaul and replacing weak links. Strangely enough, most of the personnel comes from northern Italy. A survey of one large unit revealed that only five percent came from south of Rome. Its officers are largely professional soldiers and many of them made hair-raising escapes to join in the fight against their one-time Axis partner.

The unstable Italian political situation, though it may affect the internal makeup of the army, certainly is a hush-hush subject in general conversation. Although few of the enlisted men are volunteers, the general resentment against the Germans is apparent.

Italian soldiers are getting par-

tial GI rations plus added bread and pasta, which they supplement with vegetables and wine. Once the Italian combat soldiers received an issue of "off-brand" American cigarettes and British "V" smokes; now they are receiving the makings for "roll-your-own." Shortly they hope to be back on their Italian tobacco.

General supply of Italian rear-area troops is in the hands of the American base section.

Italian civilians employed by the Army are being fed GI rations providing they agree to accept a 30-lira (30 cent) cut in their daily pay. Most Italians consider this a tremendous bargain.

The Italian soldiers are still wearing their own uniforms, although a limited amount of Army underclothing is now being issued. The negotiations revealed an astonishing fact to Army quartermasters—that there are but three sizes in the Italian wardrobe—small, medium and large.

It has also been announced that a Brazilian military mission is in the Italian theater.



Sometimes they trained together.

and the British define their lorries as trucks.

One of the trivial differences still to be finally settled is the difference in classification of Army records. Above the heading is still the slugline: "SECRET" (equals British Most Secret.)

Perhaps the symbol of harmony throughout the Allied armies is the jeep, which is sought by everyone—Yank, Tommy, Frenchman, Italian, Indian, New Zealander, Goum, Arab, Canadian, Moroccan, South African, all.

In the exchange and coordination of information about the enemy, America's allies, who know him best, have been especially helpful. Here in the field photographic interpretation is often carried on jointly. Prisoner-of-war interrogation, patrol and reconnaissance information gained on one sector is quickly piped to the adjacent sectors through 5th Army channels. Italian military and civilian information has often been helpful.

Attachment of specialized troops of one nationality to the command of another is commonplace. In one instance, a special force of Americans and Canadians are fighting as a single unit without regard to nationality.

Both Sides Borrow

Although the American and British supply systems are independent, they often "borrow" items in an emergency. The British often request the American "D" ration for combat fighting and also use the specially-prepared food bundles for supplying troops from the air.

When the Anglo-American 5th Army became the Anglo-American-French Army a new difficulty arose—the problem of language. Interpreters have been organized into units to handle the mass of verbal and written correspondence.

Rationing and supplying of ammunition and petrol to the French troops is carried out by the 5th Army quartermaster on an account basis. The French supply

army are limited by the accessibility of supplies, so supply also has a good deal to do with determining policy.

An example of the intricacies of "United Nations" operations is a recent memo from the French requesting American rations for Italian laborers they had hired. The question was answered by a Britisher.

Another case occurred when the Italian MPs went about requisitioning equipment from Italian civilians. They were seen carting off the stuff by American MPs, who mistakenly demanded that the equipment be returned to the civilians.

Italy Comes In

It was in October that this fourth nation was added to the "International 5th Army." Italy came in, not as an ally but as a co-belligerent, in a military sense being the main difference, that an ally has the benefits of lend-lease, while a co-belligerent gets his materiel on a cash-credit basis.

When the Italians came under the province of the 5th Army, an inspection revealed that their soldiers were generally first-line troops, their weapons were fair and their transportation poor. There seemed to be a shortage of ammunition—a rather necessary item—until a scouring of southern Italy, Sardinia and Corsica revealed that enough had been hidden in caves and other places to carry on a fair-sized war.

The Allies returned some captured equipment and from other sources the Italians were able to equip a sizable force and prepare it for combat.

A field exercise carried out under 5th Army supervision revealed that the Italians, though handicapped by lack of equipment, were not short on eagerness. In this maneuver they built bridges by hand and pulled their guns into position by hand when their trucks of World War I vintage—they have only a few with four-wheel drive—bogged down.

Flashes From The Italian Front Lines

RIDING FRONTWARDS ON THE ROAD to Rome, you note that the countryside is beginning to look more and more like those "Sunny Italy" travel advertisements that we used to see in those fat Sunday papers back home. You can look beyond the bright-colored orange groves and see the snow-peaked mountain tops in the distance. And on the road itself, where Highway 6 first begins, you can see the ancient, rickety horse carts, heavy with furniture and people going back home.

BACK HERE IN THE REAR ECHELON, which the war has long ago passed by, you can find a theater which is now bossed by Cpl. Kyle Smith, Akron, Ohio. Assisted by Umberto, Armando and Ottavio Smith provides GI entertainment for the soldiers in the area—everything from Egyptian-Italian imitations to high-class opera to hot Harlem jive.

FARTHER ALONG THE ROAD, Sgt. John Tormey, Madison, Wis., also has Italian assistants, only he doesn't provide any entertainment. Tormey's in charge of a signal dump, but lately his job has included a lot of other things. "It's just because I can talk Italian," complained Tormey, trying to gulp down some warmed-over C rations. "Somebody spread the word along the line that I can speak their lingo and now whenever any Italians cause any trouble or have any problems on their mind, everybody sends them along to me. I've talked to Neapolitan sharpies trying to scrounge up food to sell on the black market and homeless, sick families hunting for shelter and I even had two refugees from a lunatic asylum wandering in merrily one day. I don't mind too much, but, hell, I've got a job to do. If this keeps up, I'll only be able to devote ten percent of my time to the Army and the other 90 percent to international affairs."

AS YOU DRIVE CLOSER TO THE FRONT, the trail of horse-carts quickly thins out and all you see anywhere is the steady stream of Army vehicles—British, French, American—jeeps, ambulances, trucks, tanks. There were five tanks in a hurry, obviously going places to do things, whose names would have made the Anti-Saloon League reach for some aspirin. The five names were: "One Star," "Two Naturals," "Three Feathers," "Four Roses" and "Five Crown." When the tanks stopped at a crossroad and one of the drivers, Sgt. Harold McAllister, Owensboro, Ky., was quizzed about it, all he had to say was: "Well, we can dream, can't we?"

SOMEBODY ELSE WHO SEEMED to be dreaming, while he was walking along the soft shoulders of the road, heading for an evac hospital not too far away, was a soldier with a single stripe on his arm. He was perfectly willing to trade a light for a crumpled-up Marvel cigarette, and pointed proudly to the pack of matches he handed over. The cover was a hand-printed job which said, "Arena Frog Farm . . . World's Biggest . . . World's Best . . . Buy one and know the rest." "Arena . . . that's me," he said. "Vince Arena, from Beaumont, Texas, owner of the largest, best frog farm in the world." "I'm going to start it up as soon as I get back," he said as he walked slowly away.

THE MOST WONDERFUL THING about driving on Highway 6 is that you don't have to worry much about chow. When chowtime comes, all you have to do is drive into a bivouac area along the road and pull out your messkit and stand in line. At one of these places, where the weenies were especially well-done, the cook turned out to be Sgt. John W. Kobernick, Round Lake, Ill. Kobernick is the same cook who went AWOL to see some action in Sicily and came back with 42 prisoners. Sure enough, Kobernick is still up to his old tricks. He was the first man, in his outfit to cross the Volturno under fire and when his section ran into a "sticky" spot with some deeply-emplaced machine guns splattering their position, he dropped his skillet, picked up a gun and helped the boys fight their way out of it. It was a little later that he spent 20 minutes under a big rock while a German sniper chipped pieces off it and into his face. "I think every cook in the Army ought to have at least four hour's up there," says Kobernick. "After you slog along day after day with those men on K rations, you swear that if you ever get back into a kitchen, you'll cook for those guys day and night."

DEATH IS COMMON on Highway 6. Dogs, sheep and people get killed. Farther up, where you can hear the shells coming as well as going, one soldier stepped on an S-mine. He was buried and people went about their business. But, somehow, the news drifted back to war-torn Venafro and the news spread around fast that "Fred was dead." Fred's outfit had been bivouacked in Venafro for a long time, and he had spent a lot of time with the townspeople, drinking vino with them, joking with the girls, sharing his cans of C rations, telling different families all about America in his chopped-up Italian, giving the kids his caramelli. Everybody in Venafro knew Fred. So when they heard about it, they all got together quietly and held a high mass especially to pray for "Signore Fred."

Rigid Discipline At D.T.C. Returns Prisoners To Active Army Duty

By Sgt. GEORGE M. HAKIM
(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

Along an obscure asphalt highway on the outskirts of Casablanca, French Morocco, is the NATOUSA Disciplinary Training Center, one of the most progressive military penal institutions in the world. Through the gates of its barbed wire fences military prisoners pass into the only institution of its kind in this theater.

In most penal institutions, emphasis is laid on the punishment of a prisoner, and only secondarily on his rehabilitation. Here, however, the procedure is reversed, and rehabilitation and development of the delinquent are the primary considerations.

Only a small proportion of the

prisoners burrowed a hole under the barbed wire fence. After much digging, they finally squeezed through the hole, only to find the prison officer calmly waiting for them on the other side.

On arriving at the Center, each prisoner is thoroughly processed. His money and unnecessary personal belongings are taken from him and returned on his release. His barracks bags are minutely inspected, fumigated and most of the material confiscated or turned in for credit. He receives clean clothing and equipment, gets a bath, haircut and physical examination, is fingerprinted, interviewed

projects carried on within a separate enclosure, mainly at night under lights. The work is hard and consists of various jobs like the manufacture of ammunition cases, boxes, packing cases and containers necessary for the operation of the Army in the field.

The prisoner is graded daily by his company officers and headquarters non-coms. When his work, training and attitude evidence his desire to be returned to duty, the prisoner may be made a "trustee" or made an Acting Trainee NCO. These marks of recognition do not excuse him from any duties, but they carry certain minor privileges.

CLEMENCY BOARD

A Clemency Board meets often at the DTC to consider the case of each prisoner within six months after his sentence begins and annually thereafter.

At any time, however, the board may consider the case of any outstanding prisoner for clemency upon the recommendation of the commanding officer. If the board recommends the release of a prisoner, it suggests the type of duty for which the prisoner is best suited. The man usually is assigned to combat duty with some outfit at the front. If the base commander approves the recommendation of the board, the prisoner is released to a replacement depot and assigned to duty.

An instance of the DTC's method of operation occurred in the case of seven prisoners from an infantry combat division, which, after the initial landing in North Africa, occupied a rear-line area for several months during the fighting in Tunisia. The seven soldiers grew restless, stole a military vehicle and started to the front to participate in the fighting. They were apprehended, tried by general court martial for desertion, sentenced to dishonorable discharge, total forfeiture of pay and confinement at hard labor for 20 years. After seven months of the DTC, during which their behavior was "exemplary," they were brought before the clemency board, released and sent back to combat organizations, with which they participated in the Sicilian fighting.

SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM

In general, the program has shown every evidence of success. The physical training each prisoner undergoes makes him healthier, and the intensive military training makes him a better soldier. Many former prisoners, privates previously, are now noncoms in their new organizations. In only one case has a prisoner been returned to the DTC for a second offense.

An amusing incident happened recently when a Pfc. asked the base chaplain how he could enter the DTC for 30 days' training. He said he had observed that men who came from that institution were good soldiers and soon became NCOs.



MILITARY PRISONERS at the NATOUSA Disciplinary Training Center line up for inspection in their barbed wire enclosures. (Photo by ABS Signal Photo Section)

men who find their way into this institution are deliberate wrong doers, individuals who would be criminals in civilian life. This type generally gets a dishonorable discharge and is returned to a Federal penitentiary in the United States to serve out a long-term sentence.

RESTORED TO DUTY

Prisoners who have been convicted of minor offenses and who seem to have good possibilities of rehabilitation are retained at the DTC. These men may be restored to duty with their sentences and dishonorable discharge suspended until they have proven definitely that they deserve to have their sentences remitted.

But while the authorities aim to give an individual the opportunity to redeem himself, they do not pamper or cajole him or extend to him any of the privileges and pleasures given to soldiers on the outside. Generally, the prisoners work and train 14 hours a day, 7 days a week. It's probably the toughest 14-hour day any of them ever put in. If the training were easy and routine, the center might become a haven for those on the outside wanting to escape work or danger.

The Disciplinary Training Center consists of a barbed wire stockade 300 yards square, subdivided into 10 separate enclosures, each of which is in turn surrounded by high barbed wire. Within the stockade are located a large dental and medical dispensary, kitchen, mess halls, personnel office, barber shop, laundry and latrines. The prisoners are housed in pup tents, two men to a tent, except for Trainee Acting NCOs, selected among the prisoners. These men are housed in a separate enclosure within the stockade and occupy individual tents.

CONSTANT GUARD

At each corner of the stockade are located guard towers, with armed guards on duty day and night. Powerful searchlights, located on each guard tower as well as on all sides of the stockade, continually illuminate the barbed wire fence.

Foot and motorized patrols guard the space between the towers. Despite its imposing appearance, the stockade is by no means escape-proof. There have been few attempts at escape, however. Recapture is too certain and severe penalties await those who make the attempt.

The last attempted escape was back in October, when two prison-

ers were assigned to a company and a tent.

The prisoner also gets a copy of the trainee's handbook, which outlines his duties and the schedule he will follow. It outlines a normal seven-day schedule of operations, which begins each day at 6:05 AM and ends at 10 PM, except for breaks for meals. Each prisoner must lay out his complete equipment each morning for full field inspection. For the slightest infraction, such as unshined shoes or a misplaced article, he is punished. Minor infractions, which would be passed over lightly on the outside, are the cause of immediate action, since the strictest discipline is considered important in the prisoner's rehabilitation.

The prisoner always receives more than 60 hours a week of basic infantry drill and training alone, regardless of the branch of service from which he came.

In addition to military instruction, each prisoner engages in work

* Roll Of Honor *

The War Department has awarded battle honors for "extraordinary heroism" to the Second Battalion of the 60th U.S. Infantry Regiment for its part in the Tunisian victory last year.

The battalion seized an important position not included in its first objective and held it in the face of severe counterattacks by a superior German force, the citation said.

The unit, supported by two other battalions of the 60th Regiment, had taken its first objective, Djebel Mrata, only to find that a higher ridge, Djebel Dardys, completely dominated the position. The second ridge was taken by the battalion despite heavy counterattacks by German infantry and artillery.

★ ★ ★

M-Sgt. William H. Bohon, 24, Roanoke, Va., has received the Legion of Merit for outstanding performance of duty as line chief mechanic with a B-17 Flying Fortress bombardment squadron of the 15th AAF.

From September, 1942, to August, 1943, Sgt. Bohon serviced his squadron's ships for combat duty with the assistance of only one other mechanic, the citation said. He also helped repair other planes in his Fortress group.

"His proficiency and leadership,"

the citation continued, "earned for him an appointment as flight chief and later as line chief and enabled his squadron to establish an outstanding combat record."

★ ★ ★

For "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in North Africa from Dec. 23, 1942 to April 25, 1943," T-Sgt. Joseph E. Duprey, who entered the Army at Woonsocket, R. I., has received the Legion of Merit medal.

"As a noncommissioned officer in charge of vertical control in a field artillery battalion fire direction center," the official citation said, "he distinguished himself by his rare ability, versatility, and accuracy."

"His constantly superior performance not only contributed substantially to the destruction of many enemy positions, but by his unflinching solicitude for others, he inspired both the enlisted men and officers to extend their efforts to the maximum of endurance."

★ ★ ★

Other recent recipients of the Legion of Merit medal include: Brig. Gen. Patrick W. Timberlake, Col. Harold G. Hayes, Cpl. Edward C. Weber, Cpl. Fernando E. Calero, Sgt. Joseph T. Beckett, T-3 Myron F. Ihrke, S-Sgt. Gordon H. Hunt and S-Sgt. Peter A. Carozza.

Escape From Yugoslavia



AFTER SPENDING nearly three weeks with the Partisan forces in Yugoslavia, Lt. Richard K. Chapman, P-40 pilot of the 12th AAF, stands beside a jeep at his base in Italy. He is wearing the green Italian forage cap with red star on the front which is the mark of the Partisan soldiers. (AAF Photo)

Pilot Finds Partisans Hold Country At Night

A 12TH AAF BASE—German troops hold much of Yugoslavia in the daytime, but Partisan guerrillas hold most of it at night, according to a 20-year-old American fighter pilot who recently escaped from that country.

"The Jerries seldom stay in the towns and cities at night," reported 2nd Lt. Richard K. Chapman, P-40 pilot from Arlington, Va.

"They withdraw to a camp in the outskirts or to a barracks at night, and the Partisans pretty much take over the town. The Germans are afraid of what will happen to them if they wander around the streets at night—and with good reason."

FORCED LANDING

Lt. Chapman made a forced landing in Yugoslavia, when his engine quit during an offensive sweep over that area. He spent nearly three weeks in that country before he escaped.

Several times Lt. Chapman traveled through German-occupied towns at night, and once he spent the night and part of the next day in the home of a Partisan sympathizer in one of these cities.

Lt. Chapman's plane landed near a house whose occupants first tried to ignore him but later took him in and gave him a glass of whiskey.

"Within a few minutes a Partisan soldier arrived and motioned me to follow him. We picked up three other soldiers and an officer, who escorted me to a village, where I was given some food and wine," he related.

"Then my Yugoslav travels really started. I went to the next village by motorcycle, but most of my travels were on foot. It got mighty tiring, especially as I couldn't eat much of the food they gave me."

STARVATION DIET

"Their main food was a greasy meat broth in which they put lumps of uncooked dough. I just couldn't eat it, and I never did like fish, which was another staple of their diet. I stayed alive on what milk and fruit I could get."

In one city, Lt. Chapman met some Italian soldiers who told him they had just deserted from a German army garrison following a heavy bombing of the city by Allied planes.

Although never captured by the Germans, Lt. Chapman had several narrow escapes during strafing raids by German planes. During one of these raids, he emptied a tommy gun at a low-flying Messerschmitt. The German plane

pulled up abruptly and flew away. Lt. Chapman was impressed with the strength and courage of the Yugoslav women, who, he said, fight alongside the men.

"I even saw several women officers," he declared.

A graduate of Western High School in Washington, D.C., Lt. Chapman has been in the Army two years. He was an enlisted man in the Coast Artillery before applying for aviation cadet training.

He is a member of a famous fighter-bomber group of the 12th AAF, which has flown close support missions for the British 8th Army since El Alamein. Lt. Chapman joined the group in Sicily last July and has had 42 missions.

Pilot Learns Of Casino Streets

WITH THE 12TH AIR SUPPORT COMMAND—The streets of Cassino are an "old story" to Lt. Glenn E. Stewart, Newcastle, Col., who didn't learn about them on a patrol through the enemy lines but as a P-40 pilot operating under the 12th Air Support Command.

Just as Lt. Stewart and six other Warhawkers finished a dive bomb run on a Nazi road junction near Cassino, they ran into a dozen or more FW-190s, a welcome sight to American pilots who have been crying about the lack of aerial opposition over the Italian front lines. Like most Luftwaffe components in this sector, these Focke Wulfs refused to "play" and broke sharply to the north, running home before the Yank airmen could get a crack at them.

But Lt. Stewart spied one FW lagging behind its formation, so he took out after the Nazi plane. The German ship streaked for Cassino, where it began a sharp, twisting, perilous flight just above the streets, in an effort to shake off the P-40 which followed close on its tail.

"We must have flown up and down Main Street three or four times," Lt. Stewart related. "The son of a gun got away before I could get him in clinch. But one thing is sure. He's one Heine who got himself a ride he won't forget in a long, long time."

Kisters Earns Top U.S. Military Honor

The Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest distinction for military service, has been awarded to S-Sgt. Gerry H. Kisters for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity" in capturing an enemy gun emplacement during the Sicilian campaign.

Evacuated to the States to convalesce from wounds in both legs and his right arm, Kisters also holds the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action" in Tunisia and is the first man to earn the two most coveted U.S. Army decorations in this theater.

Sgt. Kisters was a member of a cavalry reconnaissance detachment of one officer and nine enlisted men which on July 31 advanced ahead of the leading elements of U.S. troops to fill a large crater in the only vehicle route through Gagliano, the Medal of Honor citation said.

Caught in the fire of two enemy machine guns, Sgt. Kisters and the officer, unaided and in the face of intense small arms fire, advanced on the nearest emplacement and captured the gun and its crew of four.

"Although the greater part of the remaining small arms fire was now directed on the captured machine gun emplacement," the citation continued, "Sgt. Kisters, leaving the officer to guard the prisoners, voluntarily advanced alone toward the second gun emplacement."

Five times enemy bullets entered his body, but Kisters continued forward and, killing three of the crew and forcing the fourth to flee, captured the second gun.

"With such heroic actions as an

inspiration, his detachment filled the crater, making it possible for combat vehicles to continue their advance. His cool courage and unhesitating willingness to sacrifice



S-SGT GERRY H. KISTERS

his life, if necessary, to enable the further advancement of our forces is an inspiration to all," the citation concluded.

Sgt. Kisters, whose home is in Bloomington, Ind., was recommended for a battlefield appointment as a second lieutenant, but was evacuated before the necessary papers could be signed.

He received the Distinguished Service Cross for making several individual reconnaissance missions near the end of the Tunisian campaign. During one mission, he wiped out the entire crew of an enemy artillery piece which had been firing on Allied forces.

LOST AND FOUND

The photograph of the little girl pictured this week was found in a foxhole on the 5th Army's front in Italy. She made her way back to us, and we are holding her picture until someone claims it.

We have on hand a set of photos for a soldier named Owen. The pictures were made at the Rigaud Studios, Constantine. Anybody know the owner?

"On December 31, after spending several hectic days in a nearby replacement battalion, I hailed a vagrant jeep and along with several other escape artists started back to my unit. A yardbird driver alleged that he tied my musette bag to the top brace of the jeep and I, being a not-too-distant relative of Pvt. Sad Sack, did not check it.

"Somewhere between Naples and Aversa, the bag disappeared. It contained about everything of any value or importance to me. After a man has been in the field with the Infantry for ten months, a musette bag is ample to hold all remaining essential belongings. My bag contained, among other things, my personnel 201 file, a pair of field glasses, a camera, a stethoscope (which I had since my sophomore days in med school) my address book and my compass.

"This bag had my name, James C. Drye, Capt., M.C., stamped in large letters across the back. Any help you can give me in getting this bag and contents back will be greatly appreciated. That's putting it mildly, I will also give 50 bucks to the finder. Signed: Capt. James C. Drye."

OPEN LETTER

Open letter to Pvt. Edwin C. Kennel, from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer C. Kennel, 1148 Cleveland St., Salem, Ohio: "Dearest Edwin: We get all your mail and write you every couple of days. We are all well and hope you are coming along O.K. We sent you several Christmas boxes, also a cablegram. Let us hear from you. Mom and Dad."

Pvt. Charles L. Waters, Co. C, 3rd Med. Bn., asks that his former mail clerks please note his new address and forward three month's mail to him, pronto.

If you found an Emerson portable radio, combination electric-battery set, airplane luggage case, with blue and white stripes on the beaches of Italy in October, chances are the instrument belongs to Sgt. G. J. Anselmo, Hq. PBS, Postal Division. The Sergeant removed the batteries and in their place, substituted some undeveloped films. Towels and handkerchiefs protected the tubes. Naturally, the radio isn't much use to anyone who found it; and the films are valuable only to the sergeant, for they were exposed.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS ON FILE

T-Sgt. Harvey N. Hepler; S-Sgt. H. W. Kohnke; Lt. Gino Mercuriali; Wac Alice Peebles; Pvt. Glenn W. Reinhard; Pvt. Henry Soltysik; and Cpl. John M. Williams.



Back From Italy

Brothers looking for brothers this week are: Graydon J. Canders, U.S. Navy, Lt. Robert Canders; Sgt. William W. Morgan, George L. Morgan; Pvt. Henry Leo Cada, Pfc. Harvey Edward Cada; Pvt. James E. Devine, Pfc. John E. Devine, Pvt. Peter D. Spolar, T-Sgt. Jasper J. Spolar; and Pvt. Simon A. La Palme is looking for his brother.

Cousins seeking cousins are: Driver Alfred Ryan, Albert Knowles; Pvt. Leonard Q. Batton, Sgt. B. B. Morgan; and Pvt. I. Bonios, Sammy Littman.

Friends being sought are listed alphabetically: Pvt. George D. Blue, Pvt. Londo K. Humble; Sgt. Horace E. Clark, Lt. J. P. Steen; Maj. Cy Clements, Pvt. W. W. Purviance; Pvt. Gerald A. Cook, Cpl. Leo P. Connally; William Craig, Wac Sgt. Micheline Van Biesbrack; Pvt. Charles E. Denney, Pvt. Gordon K. Dillon, Cpl. Leo P. Connelly; Ned Gaston, Lt. Lewis T. Lee, Jr.; Pvt.

Melvin Goodner, Cpl. Leo P. Connelly; Lt. Gabrielle Giroux, Pfc. Ernest T. Bernier; Clifford Graves; Spr. F. Mallon; Sgt. Jack Goldman, Maj. Joseph I. Gurfein.

MORE FRIENDS

S-Sgt. Peter Haas, Pvt. Harry S. Bing; Dick Hague, Lt. Lewis T. Lee, Jr.; Pvt. John H. Huff, Cpl. Henry Kawd; Lt. Thomas Keena, T-4 Ray Reynolds; Capt. J. C. Lyons, and Pfc. Joseph W. McGrath, Capt. Joseph Hardin; Cpl. Charles Mesko, Cpl. Carl Fell; Pvt. Linden Morse, Pvt. Harry L. Gregory; Joe Mosior, Cpl. Henry Kawd; Lt. Melvyn Mossberger, Cpl. Johnny Dorich; Bill Minger, S-Sgt. Lewis R. Moore; Pvt. Henry Movawski, and Pvt. George R. Muschkat, Pvt. Robert J. Mills; Sgt. Gerald Noble, Mlle. Denise Aiena, 62 Briery, Casablanca.

Elmer Paul, Pvt. Thomas S. McLendon; Pvt. Price, Martinsburg, W. Va., T-5 Clarence E. Shuyler; Adrien J. Proos, Floyd R. Owne; "Tubbah" Renna, Lt. R. E. Carlz; Vito Romano, Pvt. John Mishalanie; Pfc. Charles E. Shodlowski, Sgt. Eugene Fortney; Otah W. Smith, S 2c, Pvt. Leo P. Connelly; T-Sgt. Harry Stein, Pvt. Henry Wolff; Sgt. N. B. Stiwalt, Pfc. George Worthington; John Tanghe, Cpl. Turner; Pvt. Herman R. Trail, Durwood A. Callahan, U.S. Navy; Wac Pvt. Mae West, Cpl. Paul S. Ward; Sgt. J. H. Whitehead, M-Sgt. Johnny Hayes; Lt. Wilma Ward, Pvt. Robert J. Mills; Pfc. Donald Weyl, Pvt. Harry L. Gregory; and Cpl. Andrew M. Yelvington, Cpl. George F. Almeda.

STRANGE REQUEST

From Trooper A. G. Windus, 1st Derbyshire Yeomanry, we have received perhaps the strangest request yet acknowledged: "Whilst traveling in convoy in my Sherman tank, between X and X on Jan. 12, this year, we were over-taken by a convoy of ambulances with American troops, traveling in the same direction as us.

"After a short distance had been covered, these ambulances pulled up at the road side, the occupants got out and waited for us to overtake them. When we passed, an American soldier (rank not known) took a snap of us with his camera.

"I should be very much obliged if you could put me in touch with this soldier as I should like a print of the snap when he has the film developed. Yours truly, A. G. Windus."

-J.W.

African Tribute Fails To Impress Broadway

(Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau)

NEW YORK—The American theater's first tribute to the infantrymen of the North Africa campaign, Maxwell Anderson's "Storm Operation," was unveiled this week on Broadway. The play, whose title is reported to have been suggested by General Dwight D. Eisenhower when the playwright visited Algiers last summer, was accorded lukewarm reception by the critics.

In general, both the audience and the critics enjoyed Anderson's realistic treatment of the Yank doughboy, but the reaction to the romantic sequences between the topkick and a nurse was "pas bon."

The play opens with the first sergeant and his men in an invasion barge before the dawn when the Oran was attacked. In this prologue the role of the doughboy is summed up by the sergeant, who tells his men: "We're a company of Infantry, and I've heard some fellows bitching about being in the Infantry. They want to be in the Navy or the Artillery or the Air Force. Let me tell you something. The Infantry is still the queen of battles. When the Artillery gets stuck, it sends for us. When the Navy gets to the edge of the shore, that's as far as it goes, that's where we take over. The Infantry is it. We've got the toughest job and the least spectacular and the most important."

For the remainder of the play the company moves from Maknassy to Mazzouza, where the unit becomes smaller through casualties.

Anderson makes only a slight effort to disguise the realistic dialogue of the Yank doughboy. His GIs are always talking about "mucking chow" or mucking war. The audience also receives a literal

explanation of the various degrees of "SNAFU" possible in the army.

Naturally there are Arabs in the play, since no story about North Africa would be complete without mention of the denizens of the djebels. There is an amusing sequence involving a sergeant who has bought an Arab girl for 800 francs and persuades his topkick to let him keep her. According to Mr. Anderson this incident was supposed to have actually happened.

An epilogue shows the first sergeant in an invasion barge talking to his men about a new operation. The topkick has learned by this time that men must have something worthwhile for which to fight.

Solar Black-Out Slated In Desert

As far as solar eclipses go, it will pay you to be in North Africa this year instead of the United States. On Tuesday, January 25, at about sundown in the Mediterranean area, there's going to be an eclipse which GIs from Dakar to Casablanca to Palermo will be able to see in part, if they climb to the top of a hill and fix eyes on the sun as it sinks below the western horizon.

No one in these parts will see the complete blackout as the moon passes between the sun and the earth. The path of totality extends from a point on the equator south of California, across South America from Peru to Brazil, and ends in the Sahara a little northwest of Lake Chad. If you can manage to be 40 miles north of Freetown Tuesday afternoon and clutching a piece of smoked glass, good for you, you're in.

GIs from Casa to Algiers will catch the eclipse as the sun is about 30 percent obscured and sinking in the west. Palermo Yanks will have to keep their eyes open to spot even a few seconds of the cosmic blackout before the sun disappears. The fighting men in Italy won't see any of it.

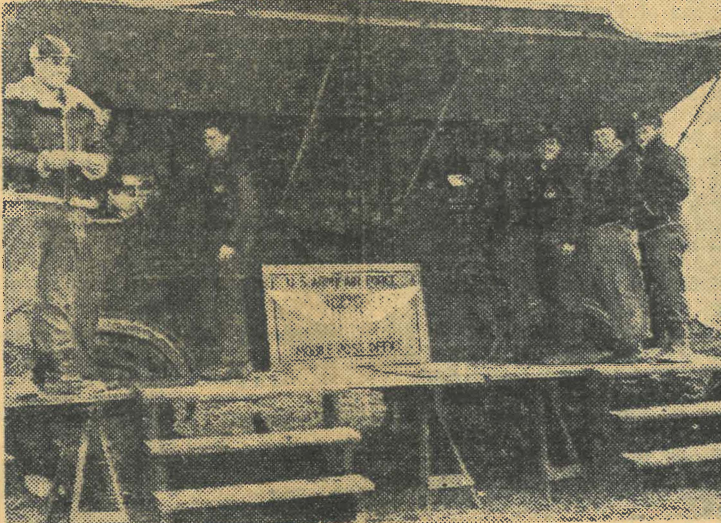
The 12th Weather Squadron, which supplies The Stars and Stripes the latest eclipse news, advises would-be watchers to find a high spot where they can see the western horizon unobscured. The turn for GIs in the Pacific theater will come later this year, on July 20, when there'll be a partial eclipse, beginning in Uganda, East Africa, passing over India and New Britain Island north of the Solomons.

Blessed Events

The ARC cable service announces that the following men in this theater have become fathers:

- Cpl. William Taylor, Edith, Dec. 16; Pfc. Clarence Mayhew, Franklin O'Neal, Jan. 10; Sgt. John Kenelin, daughter, Jan. 11; Pvt. Albert Spellis, Dennis Ward, Dec. 18; Pfc. Harry E. Laurent, son, Nov. 25; Sgt. Wayne L. Savis, Wayne Louis, Dec. 25.
- Pvt. Harold Gennany, Rosemary, Sept. 29; Lt. Arnold Wilde, Kris Arnold, Dec. 15; Lt. Daron C. Owen, Jr., Patricia Ann, Jan. 9; S-Sgt. Bernard R. Allen, Roger Lee, Jan. 8; Pfc. Harry J. Danson, son, Jan. 7; S-Sgt. Everett A. Rissor, daughter, Jan. 8.
- S-Sgt. Francis X. Thibert, son, Jan. 2; T-5 George Ischeri, daughter, Jan. 3; Capt. John P. Mull, Jr., daughter, Jan. 11; 2nd Lt. Wyatt A. Fleming, Ruth Ann, Dec. 25.

'The Better To Serve ...'



THIS MOBILE POSTOFFICE brings every mail service to a front-line American Warhawk fighter bomber group which has been flying support missions for the 8th Army since the Libyan desert campaign. Manned by two sergeants from the postal section, 12th Air Force, the postoffice moves every time the Air Corps unit pushes up the Italian peninsula. The postoffice was converted from an abandoned Italian trailer picked up last fall in Cape Bon, Tunisia. "All they have to do is load the platform and the stairs under the money order and stamp windows into the trailer and they're ready to go," explained Maj. W. O. Callahan, Prosperity, S. C., chief postal officer for the Mediterranean Air Forces. (AAF Photo)

WEEKLY ROUNDUP



HOT STOVE LEAGUE: With the major league baseball clubs mailing contracts this week, Tim Cohane, New York World-Telegram sportswriter blossoms forth in verse: "The season of holdouts is on us, but not as in winters of yore, when Ruth and the Colonel invaded each journal with salary confabs galore; the season of holdouts is on us, but not as in winters gone past, while hopefully waiting the fans are debating how long will the Luftwaffe last" . . . The report that Red Schoendienst was in the Coast Guard caused the Cards some anxious moments, as they have been depending on Red to take over Marty Marion's slot if the latter gets the call to the armed forces. Red wired the Cardinal bosses and told them to stop worrying. The guy the Coast Guard took was his cousin, Paul, who looks almost exactly like him. Red is still 4-F.

NOW WE KNOW DEPT.: Recently a neurosis expert who examines men for induction explained why so many athletes are turned down for service when they are still "go" on a sports field. He explained that men with punctured eardrums are dead pigeons in a gas attack. Moreover, a man with apparently healed injuries may be hospitalized during training or combat and require six or seven men to look after him. That, the doctor believes, would be a waste of manpower. Glad to hear why a fellow who can crush a football line, or run up and down a basketball court all night, can be too frail for military duty.

BASKETBALL NETTINGS: When 6-foot, 9-inch George Mikán dropped 27 points through the hoop as DePaul slaughtered Indiana, 81-43, it was the highest score a Hoosier basketball team had permitted one man to run up in its history . . . North Carolina Pre-flight is fielding one of the not basketball teams of the South, with little Tippy Dye of Ohio State leading the squad. Others are Bud Palmer of Princeton, Winney Myers and Stan Skauyn of Dartmouth and Don Elser of Notre Dame. They recently broke the Norfolk Naval Air Flyers' undefeated string.

ANSWERING THE MAIL: To Pvt. James B. Starnes, Don Hutson has been playing pro football since 1935, and Sammy Baugh began his professional football career two years later.

BACKSTREICH BANTER: Bill Strang, the Brooklyn moving man who spends thousands of dollars for trotting horses, recently purchased a colt named Scot Spencer for 15,000 dollars. The first thing

he did was charge the name to Mr. Fritz in honor of Freddie Fitzsimmons, former Dodger hurler and now manager of the Phillies . . . Two of the most successful jockeys riding at the Fair Grounds meeting in New Orleans are Tony LoTurco and Bill Cook. LoTurco has been a ferry pilot ever since the outbreak of the war, and Cook recently was discharged for wounds received in action.

SOUTH AMERICAN WAY: Soccer rivalry in Buenos Aires makes games in the States look tame. On the same Sunday recently, the manager of a team shot and killed a 16-year-old spectator who rushed on the field and stopped his team as it was driving for a tally, while at a game across town, a spectator was shot for threatening the referee.

HOOKS AND JABS: Pete Latzo, the former welter champ, is now running a fight club in Scranton and doing all right. Pete finally found out where the real dough in the fight game is . . . Harry Greb, the late middleweight champion whom heavies frequently ducked, got a tardy boost the other day. When asked by a friend if he could have licked Greb, Two-Ton Tony Galento said, "No, I couldn't." That makes Greb the only man Tony ever admitted he couldn't lick.

ODDS AND ENDS: Sgt. Johnnie Pierson, the Midwest midget auto speedster who never suffered a crackup in competition, was killed in a jeep near Aberdeen Proving Grounds . . . When the first-round results of the Eastern Boys Indoor Tennis matches were announced, an old tennis name came back to the headlines. Vinnie Richards, Jr., son of the old Davis Cupper, trounced an opponent in straight sets in his first tournament competition.

INSIDE STUFF: A captain at Washington and Lee's Army training center took a lot of starch out of a newly-arrived second lieutenant recently. The newly commissioned officer let it be known that he was a tennis player of considerable ability and hoped there was someone around who could give him at least a little competition. He hadn't been up against anyone in his class in so long he was afraid his game would go sour. The captain allowed as how they had a corporal around who might furnish him a little opposition. The corporal beat the lieutenant three love sets in a row. The corporal was Frankie Parker, former national champ and singles runner-up. The captain mercifully withheld the name of the lieutenant.

—Cpl. BILL GILHAM

Art Ross Keeps Boston Near Top In Puck Chase

By Pvt. TOM SHEHAN
(Special to The Stars and Stripes)

The youthful Les Canadiens of Montreal, thanks to their early season 14-game winning streak, are still setting the pace in the National Hockey League race, but Art Ross' Boston Bruins are playing a brand of hockey which should take them into the playoffs.

That's surprising from a club which was supposed to founder without the services of Frankie Brimsek, its crack goal tender. When it was learned that "Mr. Zero" would be guarding the nets of the Curtis Bay Coast Guard team this year instead of those of the Boston club, the dopsters consigned the Bruins to a tail-end berth.

Such estimates failed to take into consideration that Uncle Arthur's teams are seldom without good goal tending. Ross is the man who turned up with a Tiny Thompson when Hal Winkler slowed down, a Brimsek when Thompson's days were numbered.

Choo Choo Coteau, a graduate of the amateur ranks, and Bert Gardiner, a National League cast-off, have been substituting for Brimsek. Choo Choo has been brilliant, if erratic; Gardiner steady, if not brilliant. Between them both, however, the Bruins have had adequate goal tending.

Nobody is indispensable in the Ross scheme of things. Eddie Shore

was a great favorite in Boston for years, but when Art decided to get rid of him, he paid no attention to a threatened boycott by the fans and traded Eddie to the Americans. The fans stayed away for a time, but when the Bruins started winning again, they drifted back into the boxoffice lines.

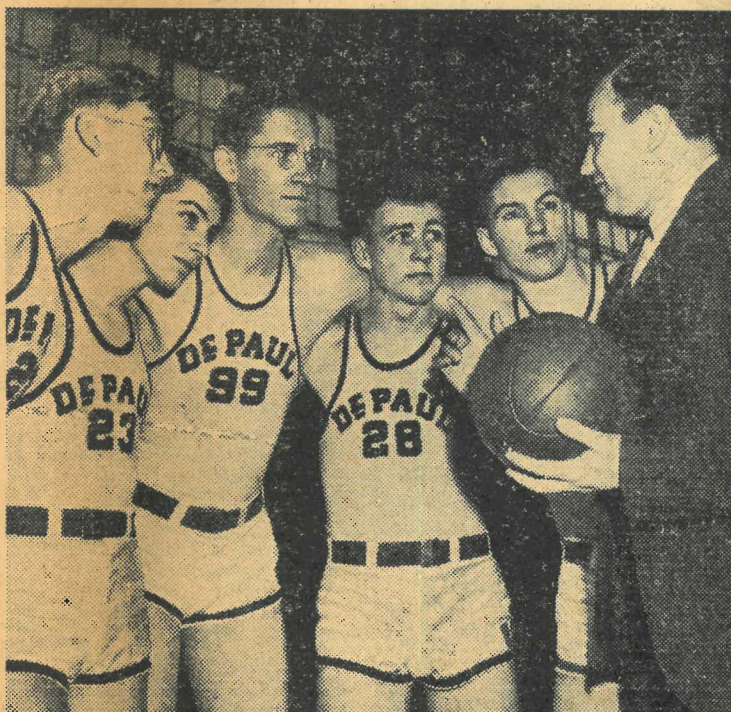
Frank Patrick, Fred Hitchman, and Cooney Weiland have all seen service as Ross lieutenants. One after another received credit for much of the Bruins' success, but when the time came Art sent them on their way and the Boston team kept on winning.

Apparently only Uncle Arthur is indispensable to the Bruins. Not only is he a good coach, but he puts across deals which make the most of fading oldtimers and inadequate youngsters while they will still bring a price.

His best deal this year was the selling of three young players—Ab DeMarco, Chuck Scherza, and Oscar Aubuchon—to the Rangers for an estimated 30,000 dollars. Hockey writers say that if that figure is correct, then the Bruins made a profit of 20,000 dollars on a trio of players who did not fit into their organization. Which gives you some idea of why Uncle Arthur seems indispensable to C. F. Adams, the Boston chain store grocer who owns the club.

French Professionals Enter Allied Boxing Championships

Nation's Top Team



MEMBERS of the DePaul hoop squad get a few pointers from Coach Ray Meyer. Left to right: Ed Kochan (27) left guard; Dick Triplow (23) right forward; George Miken (99) six-foot-nine-inch center; Jack Dean (28) left forward; Gene Stump (92) right guard, and Coach Meyer.

90 Men Fighting In Italy Prelims; Champs Ref

The biggest news on the Allied Boxing front this week was the French entry of professional fighters in the Algiers and Casablanca eliminations. The best known of the French pros—Marcel Cerdan—filed his entry at Casa.

Cerdan is the present European welterweight champion and in several North African bouts has scored early kayos over the best the American doughboys could offer. His latest win was a second-round KO against S-Sgt. Jim Toney, a Detroit pro, in Oran last month.

Omar Koudri, an Arab, is entered in the Algiers eliminations. He is the welterweight champion of France and Africa who was recently beaten by Cerdan for the European title. Rene Pons is the bantam king of France and Africa, but he has filed his entry as a featherweight.

160-POUND KING

Garcia Lluch was the middleweight champion of Spain until the Spanish civil war broke out. He left Spain and his crown at the end of the war. Ahmed Boudjera, the 1942 amateur champ of Africa in the lightweight class, is another pro entry.

Tunis was scheduled to hold its EBS sectional finals Saturday night. Eight soldiers were matched against eight sailors with the winners going to Algiers for the finals on Feb. 14-19. Gunner Jack Howard, London, was the sole British entrant to reach the sectional finals. He copped the Army's middleweight crown.

The feature bout on the Tunis card paired two heavyweights, Ed Charron, New York City, representing the Navy, and Pvt. Willie Robinson, Marietta, Va., the Army champ.

PBS BOUIS STARTED

Italy started its elimination bouts yesterday with 90 fighters entered in the pro and amateur division. On hand to referee initial bouts were Jack Sharkey, ex-world's heavyweight champ who is currently touring Italy, and Cpl. Fidel La Barba, former world's flyweight champ.

La Barba retired from the ring in 1927. He won the flyweight crown in 1925, gaining a ten-round decision over Frankie Genaro in Los Angeles.

Outstanding contenders in the Italian eliminations are: Pvt. Walter T. Bantum, Baltimore, Md., winner of the MBS championship in the 175-pound amateur class; Carl Palumbo, Amsterdam, N. Y., former national champ in the 126-pound division, and a pair of senior welterweights—Cpl. Junious Woods, Buffalo, N. Y., and Billy Cruz, Los Angeles.

Oran held its Navy elimination tournament last Thursday and Friday, and five sailors from Oran, two from Arzew and one from Algiers, won the right to enter the MBS sectional finals to be held on Jan. 25 in Oran.

Vernon Mobley, Denver, Colo., won the heavyweight title; Guy Cannon, Louisville, Ky., and sole Algiers winner, topped the light-heavyweight group; Johnny McCoy Hale, Corpus Christi, Texas, and Arzew's middleweight champ, grabbed the 160-pound crown.

Marty Jordan, a fighting Irishman from Stoneham, Mass., took the senior-welterweight title; Bob Clark, Flint, Mich., was the best of the welterweight entries and Jimmy Aldridge, Shreveport, La., of the lightweights.

The featherweight crown was taken by Ed Brooks, Charleston, Va., and the other Arzew entry, Bill Cummings, Indianapolis, Ind., copped the bantamweight title.

Another Louis Tour

NEW YORK — Sgt. Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world, will follow up his current tour of Army camps with a refereeing tour starting in Baltimore Jan. 24. Joe will devote his furlough time to the tour and insists that part of each show's proceeds go to war charity.

Favorites Hold Lead In U.S. Hoop Race

(Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau)

NEW YORK—The college basketball season swept nearer its half-way mark in a flurry of games which made the past week one of the busiest of the current campaign.

On the whole, the big teams and the sectional leaders stood up well. In the East, it's Dartmouth and St. John's; the Midwest had a slight shake-up as a result of DePaul's surprising loss to Valparaiso, which helped Great Lakes to move into a contending position for sectional honors; Oregon and St. Mary's Preflight furnish the one-two punch on the Pacific Coast; Kentucky's all-civilian squad still rates tops in the South, and Oklahoma A. and M. shares honors with Texas in the Southwest.

Columbia's Lions stole Eastern headlines during the past week, pasting the Big Red from Cornell, 33-29, for its first conference win. Dartmouth, the Eastern League leader with five straight wins, stepped out and trounced Camp Thomas, 75-40, and got its fifth conference win by stopping Princeton, 54-31.

ALBRIGHT UNBEATEN

Among the Eastern independents, Albright continued to set an undefeated pace with seven wins in a row. Muhlenberg has been beaten only once in ten contests and stays close behind. In the Metropolitan New York area, the St. John's Redmen, with a record of eight wins and one loss, stopped Temple, 36-32, and C.C.N.Y. nipped Canisius, 37-36.

Great Lakes proved that its previous week's victory over an unbeaten W. Michigan quintet was no fluke by spanking Fort Custer, 63-37, and lacing Marquette, 45-36. DePaul was idle after having its season's record of 13 straight wins snapped by little-known Valparaiso. In the Big Ten, Ohio State

dumped Indiana, 74-38, and Illinois handed Chicago its 49th loss in its last 50 games, 69-32. Northwestern, using Otto Graham as a feeder, continued to roll over all opposition and is undefeated with three wins.

Action in the Big Six was limited. Oklahoma strengthened its top spot with a 44-30 win over Missouri and Kansas bounded back from its loss to the Tigers by overpowering Nebraska, 51-27.

TEXAS ON TOP

Texas, temporarily at least, settled the question of which team in the Southwest Conference is tops. The Longhorns set a new league scoring record, slaughtering the Texas Aggies, 77-40. Rice obliged the high-scoring Longhorns by knocking off the perennial champion Arkansas Razorbacks, 67-41, for the Hog's first conference loss.

Oklahoma A. and M. lost its chance for any claim to a national crown by dropping a return game to the Norman Naval quintet. Previously, the Norman boys had beaten them, 25-19, in the Oklahoma City Invitational Tournament and Hank Iba's boys had asked for a return game.

Kentucky, after a swing through the Midwest which was topped off by a 55-54 win over Notre Dame, has returned to its own backyard and gets into action this week against conference competition. Kentucky is the best example of a nationally prominent quintet with an all-civilian line-up operating successfully against trainee-laden teams.

BITTER DUEL

Oregon and Washington state are engaged in a bitter duel for the northern division crown in the Pacific Coast Conference. The Staters and the Webfeet have already met once this season, with Oregon gaining an 87-86 overtime verdict. California rules a slight favorite over USC and UCLA in the southern division's three-team chase.

But this year the race for sectional and national honors is complicated by a Navy rule which prohibits trainees from being away from the campus longer than 48 hours. This requires some close train-catching and in some cases forces coaches to play Navy talent Friday night and then ship the boys back home and depend on civilian replacements for Saturday night's game.

Before the season ends this rule might easily prove a sixth man for the Kentucky powerhouse and give the boys from the Bluegrass country their first national crown.

STANDINGS

BIG TEN				
	W.	L.	Pct.	PF. PA.
Purdue	4	0	1.000	226 125
Northwestern	3	0	1.000	194 105
Ohio State	2	0	1.000	146 84
Iowa	2	0	1.000	74 63
Wisconsin	3	2	.600	216 215
Illinois	2	2	.500	197 170
Michigan	1	3	.250	171 194
Indiana	0	3	.000	127 208
Chicago	0	3	.000	79 216
Minnesota	0	4	.000	118 168
SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE				
	W.	L.	Pct.	PF. PA.
Texas	2	0	1.000	132 77
Rice	3	1	.750	207 144
Arkansas	3	1	.750	214 187
Southern Methodist	2	1	.667	139 119
Texas Christian	1	3	.250	157 209
Texas Aggies	0	3	.000	116 190

Flames Damage Army Buildings

NEW YORK—Flames this week swept through an Army Ordnance Depot near Atlanta and razed four buildings in downtown Toledo, Ohio, causing a total loss of approximately 3,000,000 dollars.

For Toledo it was the second half-million dollar fire in eight days and the worst in 25 years. Discovered shortly after midnight Thursday in a six-story Summit Street building occupied by Harry's Auto Stores, the fire spread to adjoining structures before it was brought under control in a four-hour fight. Exploding alcohol and oil drums in the auto supply store hampered the firemen. One fireman was killed, and six others were injured.

The Atlanta fire destroyed the Fourth Service Command's ordnance base shop and warehouse. The Depot's public relations office said most of the damage, estimated at nearly 2,500,000 dollars, was caused to motor transportation equipment in the buildings.

The buildings were still smoldering six hours after the fire was first reported. Firemen from Atlanta, Hapeville and the adjacent Army Service Forces Depot helped the Ordnance Depot fire department fight the flames.

The public relations announcement said that there were no casualties and that Col. R. L. Gaugler, commanding officer, had ordered an investigation to determine the cause of the fire.

Long-Wave Stations Aid Air Ferry Line

WASHINGTON—The Signal Corps of the Army Service Forces has greatly expedited the ferrying of aircraft across the North Atlantic by installing six long-wave radio stations linking the United States with Newfoundland, Labrador, Greenland, Iceland and Great Britain, the War Department disclosed this week.

The new long-wave network assures 24-hour radio, telegraph and radio telephone communications, uninterrupted by atmospheric disturbances and magnetic storms which disturb short wave communications, the announcement said. "Many obstacles had to be overcome," it explained. "In Greenland and Iceland, antennae had to be set in solid rock. For the Newfoundland station, a 60-yard tower was erected in the face of intense winds, and at another Arctic station an antenna had to be constructed to withstand maximum winds of 160-mile per hour velocity."

Postwar Shift Indicated In Sectional Population

WASHINGTON—The West and South face a steady growth in population after the war while the East has the least chance of postwar growth, according to a survey made by Dr. Philip M. Hauser, assistant director of the Census Bureau.

In addition to accelerating population trends which were observed in peacetime, the war, Dr. Hauser said, has also given the United States a surplus of women for the first time. Gaps have been created in the age structure which will last for generations, he added, and the gradual decline in national population growth which set in about half a century ago will be accentuated by the war.

MOST RAPID GROWTH

Dr. Hauser predicted that areas most likely to retain war growth are those which showed "most rapid" growth in the years immediately before the war and since. He listed among these Atlanta and Columbus, Ga.; Charleston and Columbia, S. C.; Corpus Christi, Dallas, Galveston, Houston, and San Antonio, Texas; Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa and St. Petersburg, Fla.; Mobile, Ala.; Phoenix, Ariz.; San Diego, Calif., and Washington, D. C.

Cities second likeliest to retain their war growth, he said, are those which have grown recently at "above average rates." Some of these were listed as Amrillo, Beaumont-Port Arthur and Fort Worth, Texas; Augusta, Macon and Savannah, Ga.; Baltimore, Md.; Charleston, W. Va.; Evansville and Indianapolis, Ind.; Denver; Detroit; Durham, N. C.; Jackson, Miss.; Little Rock, Ark.; Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco-Oakland, San Jose and Stockton, Calif.; Madison, Wis.; Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; Montgomery, Ala.; New Orleans; Norfolk - Portsmouth - Newport News and Richmond, Va.; Oklahoma City; Portland, Me.; Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma, Wash., and Wilmington, Dela.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Cities which grew rapidly in wartime but grew "at a substantially lower rate" from 1920 to 1940, the report said, will require special programs in converting from war to peace activity in order to maintain their growth. In this classification were placed Akron and Dayton, Ohio; El Paso and Waco, Texas; Erie, Pa.; Kansas City, Mo.; Wichita, Kan.; Louisville,

Ky.; Portland, Ore.; Rockford, Ill., and Tulsa, Okla.

Dr. Hauser said that some cities which grew beyond average in 1920-40 but which have lost population or grown little during the war have, nevertheless, "excellent prospects of coming back." He placed in this category Asheville, Charlotte and Winston Salem, N. C.; Austin, Texas; Binghamton, N. Y.; Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Davenport and Waterloo, Iowa; Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tenn.; Rock Island-Moline and Peoria, Ill.; Fresno, Calif.; Kalamazoo and Lansing, Mich.; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.; Shreveport, La., and Springfield, Mo.

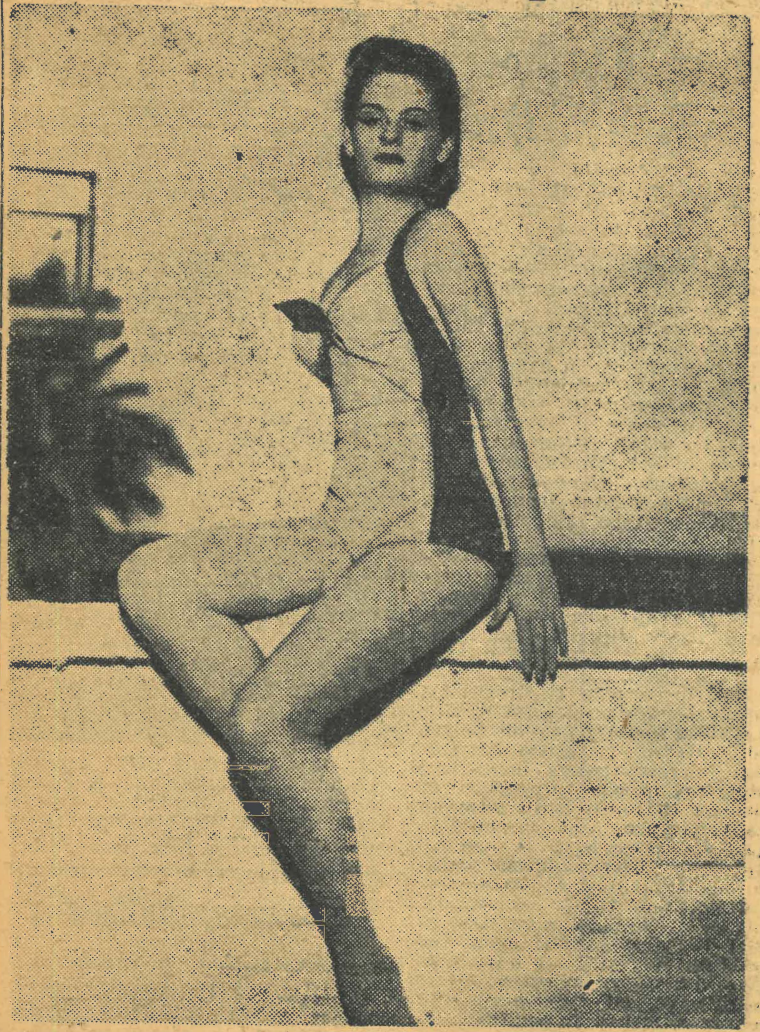
A more gloomy picture was presented for metropolitan areas which lost population or grew little in 1930-40. These, Dr. Hauser declared, have only "fair" postwar prospects. In this group he included New York City and north-eastern New Jersey; Atlantic City, N. J.; Chicago and Decatur, Ill.; Cleveland, Toledo and Youngstown, Ohio; Flint and Grand Rapids, Mich.; Fort Wayne and South Bend, Ind.; Huntington, W. Va.; Ashland, Ky.; Milwaukee; Roanoke, Va., and Topeka, Kan.

LOST IN POPULATION

Areas destined neither to grow rapidly nor recoup their losses after the war were identified as those which have decreased in population or grown little during the war and had the same trend in the two previous decades. Dr. Hauser listed Albany-Schenectady-Troy, Buffalo-Niagara, Rochester, Syracuse and Utica-Rome, N. Y.; Philadelphia, Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Altoona, Harrisburg, Johnstown, Lancaster, Pittsburgh, Reading, Scranton-Wilkes-Barre and York, Pa.; Trenton, N. J.; Boston, Fall River-New Bedford, Springfield, Holyoke and Worcester, Mass.; Duluth, Minn.; Superior and Racine-Kenosha, Wis.; Lincoln and Omaha, Neb.; Manchester, N. H.; Council Bluffs and Sioux City, Iowa; Providence, R. I.; Saginaw-Bay City, Mich.; St. Joseph, Mo.; Springfield, Ill.; Terre Haute, Ind., and Wheeling, W. Va.

Wartime population growth has been more rapid in the South and West than in the North, Dr. Hauser noted. The North, he pointed out, had the largest percentage of metropolitan areas in the class indicated to have the least chance of postwar growth. The West had the highest percentage of areas in the class most likely to retain wartime population gains, with the South having the next highest percentage in this class.

Cool Beauty



USUALLY SEEN in more dignified poses than this, Alexis Smith in a bathing suit still retains the cool beauty for which she is famous.

Officers Credit Infantry In Rout Of Nazis In Hills

WASHINGTON—The War Department issued a report this week crediting the infantry with routing the Germans out of their mountain defenses in the 5th Army's drive up Italy. The report was prepared by Lt. Col. James C. Mott and Lt. Col. Perry E. Conant, two Army Ground Forces observers who have just returned from a three-month tour of the front.

They emphasized that the infantrymen had been given a tough nut to crack in their attack in the rugged mountains north of the Volturno River. The Germans had prepared defensive positions every yard of the way—positions which could be bombed and shelled, but from which the defenders could be driven only by bayonets. And that, the observers noted, was exclusively a doughfoot's job.

Col. Mott wrote that the German positions in one sector covered an area about five miles deep and were on a series of hills which were progressively higher. "The fact that each hill was higher than the one before it gave the Nazis all the advantages of observation," Col. Mott wrote. "They could see what was going on below, and they could adjust their artillery fire quickly and effectively."

The German positions, he pointed

out, had been dug into solid rock with power tools and explosives, and the Germans had dug thousands of foxholes and other strong points around them. All approaches were mined and the entire area had been minutely charted for artillery fire before the Americans came.

The report added that the weather was another obstacle. During November it rained every day, and frequently the rain turned to snow. It was cold and foggy and often, even at midday, in the mountains fog limited visibility to about five or ten yards.

Col. Conant wrote that the mountains were "the toughest, country imaginable."

"In addition to climbing up and down them day after day," he said, "the doughboys still had to fight. And when they did get a chance for a little rest, their foxholes were knee deep in mud."

Partisans Helped By Allied Planes

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 21—An Allied air offensive in support of Marshal Tito's Yugoslavian Partisans this week destroyed some 15,000 tons of German shipping, including invasion craft, and pinned down several German divisions in Yugoslavia, it was disclosed today.

Day after day aircraft of the Desert and Coastal Air Forces have ranged the Adriatic smashing supplies intended for the relief of German forces isolated from railheads in Partisan-encircled ports. At one point Kittyhawks smashed 15 assorted invasion craft. For five days Desert fighter bombers pounded German-held docks and ammunition dumps. Coastal Air Force planes concentrated on forcing German ships to play hide and seek in coves and harbors, frustrating their efforts to supply troops on the mainland.

An RAF statement said the Germans had run so short of supplies in their recent fighting with the Partisans that they have had to slacken the pace of their operations.

The operations along the Dalmatian coast have been combined with Strategic Air Force attacks on Skoplje, Nish and Sofia to paralyze further the German supply lines.

All-Out Aid To Allies Pledged By Badoglio

LONDON, Jan. 21—The first interest of Marshal Pietro Badoglio is that the Germans be shoved out of Italy and that the Allies be given the utmost aid in doing this, a Reuter's press correspondent quoted the Italian leader as declaring in an interview yesterday.

"My basic policy is to push the Germans from Italy and to render the maximum aid to the Allies. All internal Italian questions take second place," the Marshal was quoted as saying. Badoglio was also said to have described the shooting of Count Galeazzo Ciano and other Italians as "an act in recognized German style. It was ordered by Germans to be an example to frighten their own gaudiers and puppet politicians of Hungary, Bulgaria, and Rumania."

U.S. Communists Fold Political Organization

NEW YORK—The Communist party in the United States is to cease functioning as a political organization and will operate henceforth as an "educational" society, it has been announced at party headquarters. Earl Browder, the party's Presidential nominee in 1940, declared that the "two-party system traditional in our country" should be preserved.

The decision to end the party's existence as a political group was said to have been approved unanimously by the Communist National Committee.

British Coastal Guns Duel Nazi Artillery

LONDON, Jan. 21—British heavy coastal batteries opened fire on an enemy convoy in the Straits of Dover shortly after dawn yesterday, starting a duel with Nazi long-range guns on the French coast which lasted three hours.

The British batteries fired a total of some 70 or 80 shells. It is believed that their target was a convoy which had been harbored in a French port for several days and was attempting to slip out.

Casualties Evacuated

LONDON—Large numbers of wounded Germans are being evacuated from Poland, giving Germans back home a true picture of the size of east front casualty lists.

The Office of War Information reports that hospital trains are running daily into East Prussia, Silesia and Pomerania, showing that attempts to conceal the casualty figures apparently have been abandoned.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- HORIZONTAL**
- To cut off
 - Item
 - To spread for drying
 - Fuss
 - Part of step
 - Babylonian war god
 - To act
 - African antelope
 - Sound quality
 - A fruit
 - So be it
 - Criterion
 - Canvas shelters
 - Native metal (pl.)
 - Faroe Islands' whirlwind
 - Ancient
 - Aromas
 - Merriment
 - Pronoun
 - Sand
 - Runs at easy pace
 - Sternest
 - Gaelic
 - To send forth
 - Largest continent
 - To analyze a sentence
 - Sparkling decoration
 - Bitter vetch
 - Drinking vessel
 - Vast age
 - Golfer's mound
 - Taut
 - Turf

- VERTICAL**
- Once around track
 - Poem
 - To presage
 - Scottish weighing machine
 - Rents
 - Doctrine
 - Compass point
 - Most verdant
 - Crown
 - Sea eagle
 - Parent (coll.)
 - Baptismal basin
 - Young boys game
 - Young salmon
 - Small particles
 - A fray
 - Blows on a horn
 - Defeats distastefully
 - Thick
 - Most sorrowful
 - Food regimen
 - Overruns in search of food
 - Precious jewels
 - To check
 - Poetry
 - Tapestry
 - Rational
 - To fondle
 - Exist
 - Japanese coin
 - Chinese card game
 - Pinch
 - Symbol for tellurium

(Answers on Page 16)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16				17	18		
		19				20				
21	22			23	24			25	26	
27			28		29			30		
31			32	33				34		
35			36				37	38		
39	40					41		42		
		43				44	45			
46	47				48			49	50	
51			52	53				54		
55			56					57		

Soldiers Step Up Bond Purchases In Fourth Drive

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 21—With the Fourth War Loan drive nearing the end of its first month, soldiers throughout the Mediterranean theater this week indicated that they would surpass the record of war bond purchases they compiled in December. Without the stimulus of a formal drive, soldiers in Italy bought 1,100,000 dollars' worth last month.

The percentage of soldiers' allotments which goes into bonds is a military secret, but 1st Lt. H. E. Kusters, of the Chief Finance Office, reported this week that soldiers were putting a "considerable portion" of their pay into war bonds.

Officers and men bought 4,000,000 dollars' worth of bonds (maturity value) last month through Class B allotments. Others purchased bonds through Class E allotments. Under this system, officers and men can allocate any amount to someone back home, a bank or a financial agency. Not all of these funds go into war bonds, but Lt. Kusters explained that soldiers in their letters home had designated a high proportion of them for bonds. Last month some 25,000,000 dollars went to the U.S. under this system.

Through Finance Office facilities, soldiers purchased 320,000 dollars' worth of bonds on a direct cash basis. The proportion of Personal Transfer Account spent for bonds was not known, but Lt. Kusters said a "high proportion" of last month's payroll had gone into these investments. In addition, soldiers are buying bonds through their APOs, but since these are bought with regular money orders, no compilation of purchases has been kept.

Bonds may not be delivered outside the continental limits of the U.S. They are sent instead to a bank, a financial agency or a relative, whichever is designated by the soldier overseas. In some cases officers and men direct that the bonds be held for them by the U.S. Treasury, to be delivered upon their return to the States.

Bonds purchased outright are reaching home within an average of 15 days, while bonds bought through Class B allotments reach home in about a month.

The Adjutant General's Department has begun an intensive campaign to step up sales still further, with emphasis on increasing Class B allotments. Officers will be urged to buy at least on bond for cash. A circular signed by General Dwight D. Eisenhower at the drive's beginning directed all commanders "to initiate and conduct vigorous programs to stimulate sales within their commands. To this end, war bond organizations will be established in addition to unit war bond officers."

PUZZLE ANSWERS

L	O	P	T	H	I	N	G	T	E	D
A	D	O	R	I	S	E	R	I	R	A
P	E	R	F	O	R	M	E	L	A	N
T	O	N	E	P	E	A	R			
A	M	E	N	S	T	A	N	D	A	R
T	E	N	T	S	O	R	K	S	O	E
O	L	D	O	D	O	R	S	F	U	N
M	E	G	R	I	T	T	R	O	T	S
S	E	V	E	R	E	S	T	E	R	S
E	M	I	T	A	S	I	A			
P	A	R	S	E	S	P	A	N	G	L
E	R	S	S	T	E	I	N	E	O	N
T	E	E	T	E	N	S	E	S	O	D

Outgoing Greets Incoming



LT. GEN. IRA C. EAKER, recently appointed chief of the Mediterranean Air Command, is greeted at the airport by Air Chief Marshal Arthur W. Tedder, who leaves that post to become General Dwight D. Eisenhower's deputy commander of Allied invasion forces based in Britain. (Staff Photo by Sgt. Cyril Hopper)

Committees In Action

(Continued from Page 1)

N. C.), said his mail showed that people were eight-to-two against national service, and that he saw nothing in Mr. Stimson's testimony to change that picture—an opinion concurred in by Sen. Harry Truman (D., Mo.), who said:

"The soldiers are just about as agitated about a lot of other things as they are about strikes. They are mostly agitated about when they are going to get home."

In the House the Military Affairs Committee voted to defer action on the labor draft, Chairman Andrew May (D., Ky.), declaring that the committee would "wait developments, particularly to see what the Senate discovers as a result of its hearings."

The subsidy issue, kicked around Congress for months, was booted onto the Senate floor in the hope that floor debate would finally settle the controversy when the Senate Banking Committee reported favorably on the Bankhead bill, which would end all food subsidy payments by June 30.

COMMITTEE REVERSES

The committee reversed itself by reporting out the bill, since it had rejected the proposal a month ago. The Bankhead bill is similar to anti-subsidy legislation passed by the House in November. Administration supporters of price support payments, however, said they would attempt to make amendments to the bill on the floor in an attempt to retain part of the administration's half-billion dollar program for 1944.

The soldier-vote issue remained on the shelf in the House Rules Committee, following approval a week ago by the Elections Committee of the State's rights bill. Rep. John W. McCormack (D., Mass.), said the bill would reach the House floor next week. His statement was in answer to his demands for action by Rep. Hamilton Fish (R., N. Y.), who charged that Chairman Adolph J. Sabath (D.,

Ill.), of the Rules Committee, was attempting to block decision by refusing to call the group to rule on the question of bringing the State's rights bill to the floor.

RUSSIANS GAIN

(Continued from Page 1)

to cut off another large number of enemy troops.

General Maretskov's armies, fresh from their conquest of Novgorod, captured on Wednesday, provided the second threat. They were rolling southeast along a railway line toward Dno and Lake Ilmen. The sweep promised to bring them out near the great German fortress of Staraya Russa, south of Lake Ilmen.

Fighting in the sector before Leningrad, third point of Russian concentration, was furious. Russian troops stormed the "islands" of Nazi pill boxes and dugouts, which had been systematically shelled by Red Army artillery, and exacted a heavy toll.

The fall of Novgorod was of great strategic importance. Built on the high bank of the Volkov River in a vast marshy plain, the city is the junction of four railroads and a number of good highways, including a paved route from Moscow to Leningrad.

South of the Kiev bulge and 800 miles away from the six-day-old offensive in the north, great tank battles still raged as General Nikolai Vatutin's forces withstood new German counterattacks north of Kristanovka. The Nazi assaults in this sector have been going on for more than a week at great cost to the Wehrmacht.

The Nazis apparently still held the vital Odessa-Warsaw rail line, main escape route from the Dnieper bend to the west, but Red Army units still were threatening to overrun the Germans and trap the remnants of the German forces in the bend—estimated originally at 60 divisions.

Minturno Falls To 5th

(Continued from Page 1)

aircraft immediately lambasted the concentration, 5th Army artillery shelled it heavily and the counter-attack never got started.

As they extended their Garigliano bridgeheads, the British ran into heavily-defended positions. Again the fighting was especially heavy around Castelforte, two miles west of the river and six miles inland from the sea, and around Ventosa, a village about 600 yards westward. Both towns are on the western slopes of a hill known as Santi Cosmo e Damiano. The British captured some high ground on the hill and repelled several counter-attacks.

At the northern end of the Gustav Line the French banged across the northern reaches of the narrow Rapido just above San Elia. They captured Mt. il Lago, a mile north-northwest of San Elia. In addition to forming a threat to the Nazis' flank, the victory appeared to give the French a crack at Cassino from the north and rear.

German prisoners in this sector—members of the 5th Mountain Division—paid the French a grudging compliment. They conceded that the fighting and conditions in Italy were tougher than they had faced at Leningrad, their last previous battlefield. The prisoners also disclosed that elements of the 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division have been brought in to bolster the 5th Mountain.

CRUISER TARGETS

The names of the British warships which participated in the coast shelling were not disclosed, but it was stated that the cruisers were armed with 5.25 and 6-inch guns and that their targets were behind the British bridgeheads.

The bombardment lasted two days with the cruisers firing several hundred rounds each. One of the targets was revealed as Terracina, which is connected with the Tyrrhenian shore by a small secondary road.

Opposition from shore batteries was negligible, it was said, and while one of the warships was damaged slightly there were no casualties.

Much like a cagey checkers player who keeps shifting the direction of his drive to the opponent's base line, General Clark this week switched the emphasis of his drive toward Rome.

By the end of last week, his American infantrymen had captured Mt. Trocchio and smashed

forward toward Cassino's gates. But instead of attacking the town directly, General Clark brought up his French and British forces to equivalent positions on the Gustav Line.

This week the British, in a brilliant military achievement, crossed the Garigliano River at not fewer than three points. They drove west against terrifically strong defensive positions. Others went around the mouth of the river and pushed in from the Tyrrhenian seacoast.

STIFF OPPOSITION

Every yard was gained in the face of concentrated machine gun and mortar fire, counter-attacks by tanks and expertly planted mines.

Activity along the 8th Army front, as it has been for the past three weeks, was limited mainly to patrolling and artillery exchanges. Canadians of the 8th Army improved their forward positions slightly around San Tomaso. A day later they began a local attack in an unspecified area, seizing limited objectives. Under cover of darkness they withdrew to their original positions.

DISCHARGE PAY

(Continued from Page 1)

after Rep. Dewey Short (R., Mo.), warned against increasing the rates of mustering-out pay. Rep. Short denounced attempts "to bribe the veteran and buy his vote." The former Methodist minister called on Congress "to get a little courage and a little guts, and to stand up and speak out regardless of elections."

Rep. Short estimated that 15,000,000 persons will be eligible for discharge pay before the war is even over.

"You who think that you are going to bribe the veteran and buy his vote, you who think you can win his support by coddling him and being a sob sister with a lot of silly, slushy sentimentality, are going to have a sad awakening," he declared. "These veterans and their children will pay this bill."

Pointing out that legislation of this type offered a rare opportunity for demagoguery, Rep. Short said: "It would be amusing, were it not so pathetic and tragic, to see how some people fall all over each other trying to show their great love for the ex-service man."

The closest vote on any amendment came on that submitted by Rep. William Lemke (R., N. D.), which was rejected 137-71. It would have scaled payments according to the length of service, retaining veterans on Army and Navy payrolls for a specified number of months up to one year after discharge.

An effort by Rep. Emmanuel Celler (D., N. Y.), to include merchant seamen in mustering-out pay benefits was among the amendments voted down.

Only two minor amendments were received with favor by the House. One included benefits for members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, predecessor of the present WAC, who received honorable discharge for disability. The second amendment stipulated that in the event a member of the services died before receipt of his or her mustering-out pay, the benefit should be paid to his or her immediate family.

Italians Receive More Food From America

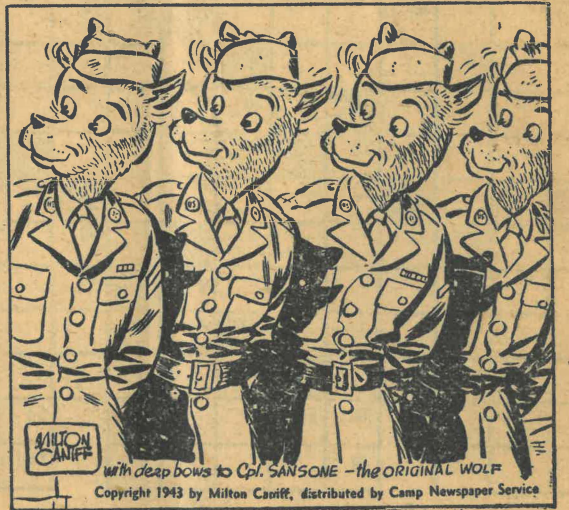
American food shipments, have increased to such proportions that the population of Italy should no longer be at the mercy of the black market, the Allied Control Commission announced at its Italian headquarters this week.

The commission assured Italian civilians that adequate schedules of food shipments were being fulfilled. In the past few weeks the tonnage received tripled that of the entire period prior to Dec. 15. Receipts included wheat flour, soup, milk, sugar, medical supplies and miscellaneous items.

Allied and Italian vehicles are making speedy distribution of supplies, the commission declared. At the same time it warned Italian farmers it was their duty to turn in their wheat and oil to local collecting centers and thereby help prevent suffering among their countrymen.

MALE CALL

By MILT CANIFF



With deep bows to Col. SANSONE - THE ORIGINAL WOLF
Copyright 1943 by Milton Caniff, distributed by Camp Newspaper Service