# DISTRIPES

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For U.S. Armed Forces

TWO FRANCS

# Soviets Stagger Nazis From Bug To Pripet Area

### **Vatutin Smashes Enemy** 60 Miles Inside 1939 Polish Frontier

LONDON—Bold Russian armies boiled through the Ukraine breakthrough this week fanning out in devastating drives from the Pripet marshes to the banks of the River Bug, advancing everywhere along the line and inflicting staggering losses on the retreating Germans.

Military observers likened the creat Soviet winter offensive to a fierce forest fire. Each time the Nazis tried to stamp out the flame in one spot, the blaze broke out somewhere else, and it was apparent that the enemy was hardpressed to rally enough power to put out the fire.

The newest Red Army thrust was launched Wednesday on the northern fringe of the desolate Pripet marsh sector, and as the week drew to a close the forces of General Konstantin Rokossovsky had enveloped Prudok and were plowing toward the Nazi bastion of Mozir on the Pripet River. Late reports indicated the Russians had reached the inner-defense ring around Mozir, a sector with forti-

reports indicated the Russians had reached the inner-defense ring around Mozir, a sector with fortified points some seven miles deep. On the lower fringe of the marshes. 150 miles away, General Nikolai Vatutin's tanks and mechanized infuntry were striking forward with confidence and speed 60 miles inside the 1939 Polish frontier, in hot pursuit of the Germans falling back from Sanny in complete disorder. Sanny, 25 miles inside the old border, fell Wednes-(Continued on Page 16)

# Allied Air Raids

LONDON — The Allied air of-fensive against Nazi-occupied Eu-tope was carried to the very heart of the German defense network this week when more than 1,200 planes, including 700 heavy bomb-ers, struck at key aircraft as-membly factories. At least 152 German planes were

sembly factories.

At least 152 German planes were that down in the unparalleled three-hour air battle over northwest Germany Tuesday in an attack rivaling in intensity the great Schweinfurt raid of Oct. 14. Of the German fighters downed, 129 were credited to gunners aboard the heavy bombers and 27 to the escorting fighters.

Revised figures of American losses indicated that 60 bombers failed to return, equalling the record losses of the 8th Air Force in the Schweinfurt raid in which 183 German planes were shot down.

down.

In addition to the previously announced destruction of three Messerschmitt plants at Brunswick and the crippling of a Focke-Wulf factory at Oschersleben and Junkers plants at Halberstadt, U.S. headquarters have said that the raiders had struck heavily at other targets. These included the railway center of Bielefeld, 75 miles south of Bremen, and Meppen, on the Dortmund-Ems canal near the Netherlands border.

Bomber and fighter crew reports that new tactics were used by the greatest protective force thrown up by the Luftwaffe in recent months have been confirmed by the German Overseas radio as monitored here.

Trailing balloons, or air mines, were used by the grant of the proviously and the plant of the parrot (Jock) and the pilot (1st Lt. Donald L. Clark, Oakland, Calif.,) joined forces last summer in Tunisia. Lt. Clark was then flying his P-38 in support of the greatest protective force thrown up by the Luftwaffe in recent months have been confirmed by the German Overseas radio as monitored here.

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Trailing balloons, or air mines, the previously and policy and no depth perception, and no depth perception, and no depth perception, and no depth perception, watched the imitation of himself through one quizzical, half-opened eye. Occasionally, he would give an irritated peck at the string. "Then I had to clip his left wing so he couldn't fly away," the lieutenant continued. "After that his flying was even worse. He could get up in the air all right, but when he tried to land he would give a bout a foot off the ground. The perception, he has probably still done more real flying, man and boy, than most birds with two good wings.

And he'd like to do more.

Trailing balloons, or air mines, a German announcer said, were towed by the German fighters through the attacking bomber squadrons at a height of about 13,000 feet and at a speed of about 130 miles per hour. The method

(Continued on Page 16)

### Knox Advocates Year Of Training For Boys

CLEVELAND—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox told Boy Scouts here this week that one of the best measures to take to insure that individual liberties will be preserved is to require every boy, when he attains the age of 17 or 18, to spend at least a year in training on land or sea. "At the conclusion of hostilities," he said, "our men could be replaced by young men with one year's training to fulfill our needs overseas in the period of adjustment."

# Allies Frustrate Jap Escape Bid

ALLIED SOUTH PACIFIC From Season the retreating Germans. His week's close as powerful free so for the nemy was hardnessed to relly mough power to grain that the enemy was hardnessed to relly mough power to grain the season of the northeastern New Guinea coast was red with Japanese street that the enemy was hardnessed to relly mough power to grain the season of the northeastern New Guinea coast was red with Japanese street that the enemy was hardnessed to relly mough power to grain the season of the northeastern New Guinea coast was red with Japanese which week's close a powerful forces of Allied divergence of the season of the season of the season of the rapidly closing Huon Porthern Allied are not allowed the language of the Saidor area and surface and surface which a surface with Japanese were ports indicated the Russians had cached the language of the Saidor area and cached the language of the Saidor area and cached the language of the Saidor area and cached the language of the summarian state of the gunwhales with troops Eleven other ports indicated the Russians had cached the language of the said points on a sector with Gritism On the lower fringe of the gunwhales with troops Eleven other ports indicated the Russians had cached the language of the said points on a sector with Gritism on the said points of the said of the sa

Ruins Of A New Era



A 5TH ARMY patrol walks through the heavy rubble in San Vittore, which was captured by American troops after a three-day battle in the streets and houses. (Pool Photo by Goldstein through PWB)

# **National Debate Centers** On Plan To Draft Labor

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

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14-Presi-mous opposition to the President's

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14—President Roosevelt's annual State of the Union message to Congress provoked a hot debate in both the nation's press and on tole this week, with the talk toxic is ing chiefly about the President's recommendation for a national service act or a labor draft.

Pro and con arguments over the merits of the labor draft proposal far overshadowed discussion on remaining recommendations of the President's five-point program for the economic war front—a "realistic" tax law; continuation of the existing renegotiation law on war contracts; subsidy support and extension of the price-wage stabilization act expiring June 30, 1944

Congressional reaction to the message slanted almost entirely toward the compulsory service proposal and brought forth comment expressing every sentiment from full approval to condemnation of the labor draft as "a step toward dictatorship."

The nation's press and radio

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14—President's proposal.

Although the Senate Military Actions opposition to the President bill introduction. Although the Senate Military Actions of Labor convened to antional service law almost immediately following the President's message, Chairman Robert Reynolds (D., N. C.), and five others of the labor draft or insisted they would not support it unless the remaining measures recommended by the President also were put through—a condition which the President himself imposed in setting forth his five-point plan.

Sen. Reynolds declared: "It would give us the same thing that Stalin and Hitler have got," while Sen. Edwin Johnson (D., Colo.), called national service "a new and fancy name for labor conscription" and predicted that the legislation "will never get out of committee."

Sen. Elbert D. Thomas (D., Utah), said: "If we can get the

a month, what is so undemocratic about sending a man to a Curtiss (Continued on Page 15)

(Continued on Page 15)

Five separate pieces of legislation were proposed by Mr. Roose-

# Depth Perception Bad, So Parrot Flies In P-38

(By A Staff Correspondent)

up by the Luftwaffe in recent months have been confirmed by the German Overseas radio as monitored here.

Trailing balloons, or air mines, a German announcer said, were towed by the German fighters

Lt. Clark says sadly. "He used to like to flap around the hangar but his depth perception was all wrong. And besides he would fly sideways." Here the lieutenant jumped up off his bed and zoomed around the room like a parrot flying sideways.

So the lieutenant decided that since Jock was such a terrible flyer, since Jock was such a terrible flyer, and would probably meet a hideous end if left to his own devices, the only thing to do was to take him along in the P-38.

"He really loved flying and was a bombing fool from the start,"

(Continued on Pag 16)

# Axis Felt Allied Lash In Year After Casa

WASHINGTON—The first anniversary of the Roosevelt-Churchill Casablanca conference, which opened on Jan. 14, 1943, was marked in the capital this week by comments expressing satisfaction with developments occurring since the historic Allied meeting.

It was recalled here that President Roosevelt had said at the time of the Casablanca conference: "Before this year (1943) is out, it will be made known to the world that the Casablanca conference produced plenty of news, and it will be bad news for the Germans and the Japanese."

# 5th Army Ready For Big Assault **Against Cassino**

### Germans Wait In Town To Wage Defense Of Rome Road

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUAR - TERS, Jan. 14—Hard-hitting British and American troops on the southern sector of the 5th Army front pulled in their belts as the week ended for the supreme assault against Cassino, vital objective on the road & Rome. The Germans holding the well-defended town were grimly waiting for them.

sault against Cassino, vital objective on the road to Rome. The Germans holding the well defended town were grimly waiting for them, souatting solidly behind a barrier of machine guns, weapon pits, trenches, barbed wire and plenty of the usual land mines.

The Germans gave every indication they would fight bitterly to hold Cassino, because it is the gate-way to the Cassino Corridor or the "Cassilian Way," a fairly level plain through which runs the vital south-central highway to Rome. Cassino is about 75 air miles southeast of the Italian capital.

But the Allies were in no hurry. Deliberately, they were making certain preparations. Yesterday found them busy consolidating their gains around Cervaro and pushing southeast along a secondary road toward two objectives—the Rome-Cassino road itself and Mt. Trocchio. a 1,500-foot ridge on the other side of the highway. Mt. Trocchio is the only remaining height the Germans hold before Earlies and 5th Army intantry-the relentlessly closing in on the control of the side of the highway in the Hermans hold before than half-way through the six-mile defensive belt guarding Cassino, forward patrols were jabbing at enemy positions, looking for the weak spots. They were aided by fine, clear weather, a welcome contrast to the overcast skies of the last few days.

Even though it was slowed down (Continued on Page 16)

(Continued on Page 16)

# Congress Faces Stormy Session

WASHINGTON—The session of Congress which reconvened here this week promises to be one of the most important—and one of the stormiest—in American legislative history, capital observers are agreed. Legislation recommended in the President's State of the Union and budget messages alone is expected to keep Congress in heated debate for many weeks, and in addition mittee."

Sen. Elbert D. Thomas (D., Utah), said: "If we can get the whole program, I'm for it." Another committee member, San. Har ey Kilgore (D., W. Va.), stipulated that "unless they take the dollars with the men, I'm against it." and Sen. Joe O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.), declared: "We couldn't possibly have it without a drastic tax bill."

Rep. James Wadsworth (R., N. Y.), co-sponsor of the national service bill identical with that introduced by Senator Austin, said: "If you can tap a man on the shoulder and send him to New Guinea to fight for 50 dollars a month, what is so undemocratic a month, what is so undemocratic a few first which reconvened here this week promises to be one of the most important—and one of the stormiest—in American legislative history, capital observers are agreed. Legislation recommended in the President's State of the Union and budget messages alone is expected to keep Congress in heated debate for many weeks, and in addition numerous controversial issues—including the soldier-vote proposals—have been carried over from 1943. These and other issues will be debated in a Congress which reconvened here this week promises to be one of the most important—and one of the stormiest—in American legislative history, capital observers are agreed. Legislation recommended in the President's State of the Union and budget messages alone is expected to keep Congress which reconvened here this week promises to be one of the most important—and one of the stormiest—in American legislative history, capital observers are agreed. Legislation recommended in the President's State of the Union and budget messages alone is expected to keep Congress which reconvened here this week promises to be one of the most important—and one of the stormiest—in American legislative history, capital observers are agreed. Legislation recommended in the President's State of the Union and budget messages alone is expected to keep Congress in heated debate in a Congress which is debated in a Congress which is debated in a Congress wh

tion were proposed by Mr. Roosevelt in his annual message. They are: (1) a national service act; (2) a "realistic" tax law; (3) a "cost of food" (subsidies) law; (4) reenactment of the economic stabilization act; (5) continuation of the law permitting a renegotation of war contracts.

While the proposed national service act got triple the attention of the other recommendations, the "realistic" tax law, which is first on the Senate's order of business, is almost equally controversial. In his 100 billion-dollar budget message the President asked for a "truly stiff fiscal program" to provide at least 10,500,000,000 dollars in new taxes on top of the 40.769,-000,000 dollars anticipated from present revenue laws. Unless Con-gress has drastically changed its mind since last December, the re-

(Continued on Page 15)

# French Consider Postwar Plans

Plans for an interim government for France during the period be-tween the liberation of the country and the holding of national elections will be considered by the French Provisional Consultive Assembly in Algiers next week.

Discussion of the effectiveness of the Resistance movement with

of the Resistance movement within France, the elimination of alleged collaborationists from the
government and the colonial policy
of the French Committee of National Liberation highlighted the
debates here this week.

A resolution calling for United
Nations' recognition of the Resistance groups in France and their
inclusion in strategic plans for the
invasion of Europe was unanimously adopted early in the week. The
resolution, proposed by the Resistance delegates who comprise a
majority of the Assembly, also
called for the Committee of Liberation to increase immediately the
dispatch of supplies and equipdispatch of supplies and equip-ment to the Resistance groups in

France.
Climaxing the debate on purging, the Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution proposed by the Metropolitan and Extra-Metropolitan Resistance delegates requesting the Committee of Liberation to apply a coherent policy of purging and sanctions in each ministry of the government. The resolution further asserted that "immediate, severe and just" measures will be essential for the maintenance of order when France is liberated. when France is liberated.

Under discussion at the end of

the week was the proposal by the Overseas Committee of the Assembly that French colonies and protectorates be united in an overseas federation with its own Par-

The suggestion was voiced by Philippe O. Lapie, former governor of the Chad and spokesman for the Committee. The Committee of Liberation was also asked to make known its policy in advance of the colonial conference, which will be held at Brazzaville at the end of the month.

# Cromwell Sues To Void Divorce

ELIZABETH, N. J.—Doris Duke was called names much less complimentary than the usual "richest girl in the world" in husband James H. R. Cromwell's suit in Changery H. R. Cromwell's suit in Chancery Court here this week to void her Reno divorce of last month. Mr. Cromwell, former U.S. Min-

ister to Canada, threw mud in big gobs at the tobacco heiress, accusing her of misconduct with a "truant" member of the British Parliament both in this state and

a "truant" member of the British Parliament both in this state and in Hawaii, and won a court order requiring Doris to answer his charges within 30 days.

Mr. Cromwell demanded his wife's appearance in court to tell the story of her "conduct and carryings on—painful and shocking as that story will be." He said that when his valet called at the Duke farm here to get Mr. Cromwell's clothes the valet was kept waiting several hours "because Cromwell's bedroom was then occupied by his successor in his wife's affections."

The "successor," Mr. Cromwell said, was "a truant member of the British. Parliament who found Duke's Farms as well as Mrs. Cromwell's home in Honolulu more relaxing than London, then undergoing the fury of Teutonic bombing."

Mrs. Cromwell, according to Crom-

Mrs. Cromwell, according to Cromwell, is now in Honolulu, "enjoying the vicarious satisfaction springing from the presence of her English companion in play". lish companion in play.'

The Jersey court forbid the heir-ss "to set up" her Reno divorce, won on the charge that Cromwell attempted to grab control of seven million dollars of her fortune.

### Jap Weapons Termed Inferior To U.S. Guns

**DETROIT** — Japanese equipment is decidedly inferior to that used by U.S. soldiers and marines, and the spread will increase as the war in the Pacific continues, Maj. Gen.

n the Pacific continues, Maj. Gen.
D. M. Barnes of the Army ordnance section declared here.
Japanese weapons are designed
primarily for jungle fighting, General Barnes said, and although
Japan's infantry arms are light
and portable, they lack fire power.
General Barnes said that the
Germans had much better weapons

Germans had much better weapons than the Japanese and were lead-ers in the half-track field.

### **Shelled Wall Exposes** Valuable Gin Cache

WITH THE ALLIES IN ITALY —Secret hiding places have been resorted to by the Italian townspeople to safeguard dwindling supplies from the Nazis, it was reported this week.

A Reuter's correspondent with the 8th Army tells of an Allied tank crew that had been held up by a brick wall in the Villa Grande sector. The wall was shelled rather than charged. It collapsed and exposed a hidden storeroom containing 30 cases of brandy, 12 bottles to the case. In similar ways, he said the Italians have hidden a said the Italians have hidden a great deal of stuff because the German Army set prices at a level which the Italians considered too

# CIO Group Lists Five 'Essentials'

WASHINGTON—Americans must be assured five "essentials" in the postwar period, the CIO's planning committee declared in recommending the establishment now of Federal machinery to guide the United States from a war to a peacetime

economy.

The committee said every Ameri-

can should have:

1. A job at union wages or a farm, business or profession that "pays."

2. A well-built, convenient home, A well-built, convenient home,

decently furnished.

3. Good food, clothing and medical care.

4. Good schooling for children with an equal chance for healthy

and happy growth.

5. An adequate income through social insurance in case of sickness, old age or early death of the wage earner, or unemployment.

Business must be encouraged to achieve these basic goals, the union committee said, "but the nation cannot afford to wait until business alone succeeds or fails."

The committee added that postwar plans must be based on "clear-cut recognition" of the Federal government's responsibility to obtainp and maintain full employ-nts relli, Mt.ill production.

### Churches Kept Free Of Secular Functions

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUAR-TERS - Churches, cathedrals and shrines in the Mediterranean theater are not to be used for secular purposes except as temporary shelters in emergencies for wounded personnel awaîting evacuation, it was ordered here this week. Under no circumstances, an AFHQ circumstances, an AFHQ circumstances. lar stated, are the religious build-ings to be used for aid stations, quarters, mess halls, storehouses or theaters.

If the consent of the appropri-

KILLED IN ACTION WORLD WAR I WORLD WAR II 1 killed (total 36,694) for every 6 wounded (total 224,089) 2 killed (total 10,448) for every 6 wounded (29,219). MARINES \$ SURVIVAL OF WOUNDED WORLD WAR I WORLD WAR II ARMY 6% (total 13,691) of wounded dies NAVY 7.35% (65) of wounded died 3.16% (247) of wounded die MARINES 12% (1,007) of wounded died 3.15% (175) of wounded die

WOUNDED AMERICAN combat troops in World War II have double the chance of recovering as had their fathers in World War I, the Office of War Information reported in an analysis of battle casualties. The chances of being killed, however, are also twice as great. Increased recoveries are credited to improved medical techniques. The increased ratio of killed is attributed to greater fire-power and destructive force of ordnance and the war of movement.

# Linguists Assail Basic Theories

NEW YORK—Basic English is neither "basic" nor "English" in many cases, speakers said here this week at a meeting of the American Dialect Society. In addition, one expert declared, Basic English is inadequate to meet the demands of daily conversation.

American linguistic scholars, ac-American inguistic scholars, according to Cpl. Allen Walker Reed, secretary of the society, feels that the "high powered promotion" which Basic English has received

which Basic English has received is "extension of and a deterrent to the The outlanguage."

Foreigners would be much better off, said Mrs. Elizabeth Goepp Scanlan, head of the department of speech at Gueens College, to learn the simple idiomatic phrases rather than the complex combination of verbs and prepositions which represent the same idea in Basic. tion of verbs and prepositions which represent the same idea in Basic English. Instead of saying "I want water," Mrs. Scanlan explained, you would have to say "I have to have water."

Basic English, a theory proposed by Dr. Charles Kay Ogden of England and Dr. Ivor Armstrong Richards of Harvard University, was attacked by one speaker as "linguistically imperialistic." The English-speaking peoples, she as-

English-speaking peoples, she asserted, could not make others adopt If the consent of the appropriate local ecclesiastical authorities is obtained, the buildings may be used for religious services of the creed or faith to which they have been concentrated.

# U.S. War Outgo Peak **Expected In 6 Months**

WASHINGTON-The United WASHINGTON—The United States is expected to pass the peak of munitions buying in the next six months, Harold D. Smith, Director of the U.S. Bureau of Budget, told a group of financial writers here Friday.

So for Mr. Smith said the United

ers here Friday.

So far, Mr. Smith said, the United States has been spending about 44,000,000,000 dollars every six months. He revealed that by the end of the fiscal year 1945, the total cost of the war would be about 292,000,000,000 dollars.

"The United States is not half meeting the cost of war by taxa-tion," Mr. Smith added.

## Gotham Bank Denies U.S. Trade Charges

NEW YORK, Jan. 14 — The Chase National Bank pleaded not guilty in Federal Court here yesterday to two indictments charging violation of the trading with the

enemy act.
The bank, together with Leonard Smit, described as a refugee international diamond dealer from the Netherlands and two corporations which he controlled, has been indicted on charges of conspiracy in the illegal sale and export of industrial diamonds.

Winthrop W. Aldrich, chairman of the Chase board, had earlier declared that the charge "simply does not make sense."

# Naples Typhus Spread Feared

CAIRO—The Naples typhus epidemic—'50 times as strong as it was in October"—is threatening to extend to Southern Italy, Brig. Gen. Leon A. Fox, Field Director of the U.S. Typhus Commission, reported this week to U.S. Army Headquarters in the Middle East.

ters in the Middle East.

While no cases have been reported among military personnel, General Fox said, the growing epidemie is nevertheless a menace to the Allied military effort in Italy, with more than 30,000 Italians being treated daily. "Flying squadrons" of doctors are administering antivermin powders and vaccine which have been flown to the stricken area. Additional personnel to help fight the scourge has also been flown from the Middle East, it was announced.

announced.
General Fox outlines the following five-point program for fighting the epidemic, a problem which he said was inherited from the Ger-

(1) Intensive case-hunting in Na-(1) Intensive case-hunting in Naples' crowded tenement areas; (2) "contact" delousing of persons living near stricken patients, as well as mass delousing of Naples' 600, 000 population; (3) "immunization by anti-typhus serum; (4) delousing of refugees from German-occupied Italy, and (5) continued use of the "flying squadrons" ready to enter outlying districts if any further epidemic is reported.

# Japanese Spurn **Prisoners Treaty**

WASHINGTON — The government of Japan has violated its pro-claimed intention to abide by the WASHINGTON - The ment of Japan has violated its proclaimed intention to abide by the
1923 Geneva Convention governing
the treatment of prisoners of war,
the U.S. State Department charged
this week. The Tokio regime was
specifically accused of failing to
expedite the exchange of United
States nationals.

Documenting the charge leveled
at Japan by the State Department
was a detailed report relating the
steps taken since Pearl Harbor to
bring about the speedy exchange of
10,000 Americans now interned in
territories occupied by the Japs.
Japan is contesting the exchange
privileges of United States citizens
in the Philippines on the ground
that the islands are American territory, the State Department said,
pointing out that this interpretation places American civilians captured in the Philippines, on Guam
and on Wake Island in a different

tion places American civilians captured in the Philippines, on Guam and on Wake Island in a different category from those taken in Japan, China, Manchuria, Indo-China and Hong Kong.

"Only after months of negotiations," the State Department revealed, "did the Japanese government finally indicate that it would return to the United States a small number of civilians from the Philippines.

"As of this moment, the Department of State is not in a position to offer encouragement for the early repatriation of American civilians in Japanese custody."

early repatriation of Am civilians in Japanese custody



# **Poles Discussing** Soviet Proposal On Postwar Line

LONDON—The Polish government is expected to issue a statement over the weekend giving its position on the recent Russian declaration regarding the postwar Russo-Poiish boundary. The Polish cabinet has held sev-

eral sessions during the past three days, but complete secrecy has surrounded the discussions. Likesurrounded the discussions. Likewise, no statement has been issued regarding the meeting here early in the week of Polish Prime Minister Stanislaw Mikolajczk and Eduard Benes, president of the Czechoslovak government in exile. The Soviet declaration, broadcast last Monday night, suggested that the Russo-Polish frontier follow the so-called Curzon line, proposed in 1919, and that in compensations.

posed in 1919, and that in compensation Poland be permitted to acquire territory seized in the west by the Germans. The Curzon line would place such cities at Lwow, Brest-Litovsk, Vilna and Pinsk in Russia.

Russia.
The New York Herald Tribune The New York Herald Tribune yesterday characterized the Soviet declaration as "rough and peremptory" but stated that "the offer accords substantially with what most have come to believe is the only practical and enduring solution of the complex problems of the Polish frontier."

The New York Times said editorially: "we are not primarily contains."

ially: "we are not primarily con-cerned with boundaries but we are

very much concerned in the manner in which boundaries are fixed."

Noting that Russia had not taken the matter up with Britain and the United States, the Times continued."She because the transfer of the states of tinued: "She chose instead what amounts to an ultimatum. We think this is a mistake and a bad precedent. Russia needs the United Nations and they need her to produce a good and lasting peace."

# **Vets Eligible For** Injury Benefits

WASHINGTON-While Congres debates new proposals for caring for service men when they return to civilian life, pensions, rehabilitation and insurance are available to veterans who have been discharged during this war.

Disability pensions are payable to any person honorably discharged and are based upon the degree of

Disability pensions are payable to any person honorably discharged and are based upon the degree of disablement ranging from ten percent to 100 percent. Payments range from ten dollars to 100 dollars monthly.

For specific losses, such as hand, foot, and blindness, a veteran receives additional payments up to 250 dollars monthly.

Death pensions paid to dependents of men killed in service are: widow, no child, 65 dollars, with 13 dollars for each additional child; no widow, one child, 25 dollars, two children 38 dollars, each additional child, ten dollars, total not to exceed 100 dollars; dependent father and mother 25 dollars each, or one only 45 dollars.

Veterans' rehabilitation includes physical and mental control of the number of American flyers held in Switzer
Letter Discloses

WASHINGTON — Life in Japan is becoming increasingly difficult, it was revealed this week in an uncensored letter sent direct from Tokio and read over the radio by a Washington commentator.

only 45 dollars.
Veterans' rehabilitation includes physical and mental repair, plus vocational training for those with handicaps arising from service disability. Service men and women also foreign the restriction of the re

# A Long Way From Africa



EXAMINING COASTAL DEFENSES, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, the Old Fox of the Libyan desert, contemplates his chances of avoiding another defeat in western Europe. Recently appointed commander in chief of the German forces defending "oppressed Europe," Rommel was photographed during a tour of Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France. (Official OWI Photo through PWB)

# Swiss Build Air Force From Interned Planes

BERNE—Neutral and land-locked | land was given by authorities who witzerland has long been famous or the bravery and quality of her nountain fighters. On the other | funeral of crewmen who were killed Switzerland has long been famous for the bravery and quality of her mountain fighters. On the other hand, the Swiss Navy has long been the butt of the world's hu-

been the butt of the world's humorists.

But there's nothing to laugh about in the Swiss air force, which is one of the most heterogeneneous in the world. It now has at least a dozen American Flying Fortresses, a couple of Liberators and quite a few British heavy bombers. In addition, the Swiss have numerous German bombers of early war vintage and a good many Fock-Wulfe and Messerschmitt fighters to provide cover. vide cover.

Mechanical difficulties and accurate Swiss gunfire have brought most of these planes down on neutral soil. The Swiss have taken full advantage of the international

Tokio and read over the radio by a Washington commentator.
Giving Americans some first-hand news on current conditions in Japan, the letter said that there "is talk of evacuation of all foreigners from Tokio," partly because of expected air attacks but chiefly for fear of anti-foreigner movements.

funeral of crewmen who were killed in a crash caused by Swiss ack-ack. Although the Swiss go to great lengths to repair all salvagable planes—they don't bother to train crews of their own to fly the ships. Theirs is a philosophy of waiting. If the country entered the war on the side of the Allies, the crews on hand and interned could fly them away. Or if the Swiss aligned with the Axis, the Nazis could carry on

the Axis, the Nazis could carry on from there.

The native Swiss air force is composed entirely of fighter planes. The bomber, the Swiss feel, is an offensive weapon; the fighter is

The bomber, the Swiss feel, is an offensive weapon; the fighter is strictly for defense—and defense is what the Swiss have always used as their military guide.

Most of the Swiss fighters are Messerschmitts. When World War II began, the Swiss started to rearm. Britain and America couldn't supply their own forces let alone sell planes to the little Furance.

# Pilots Cross 'Hump' To Supply Chinese

By SONIA TOMARA

(New York Herald Tribune Correspondent)

a glorious achievement of our Air Forces. I happen to have seen much of it and I would like to tell it.

The Hump is the name given to the part of the Himalaya mountains dividing China from India. They are some 15,000 feet high, most forbidding, without roads, partly covered with thick jungle, partly bare and rocky. Over these partly bare and rocky. Over these mountains now passes one of the hardest air routes in the world. Yet it carries all that can be taken into China from the outer world. Bombs, guns, rifles, clothing for soldiers, food and, above all, gasoline—the stuff without which no modern war can be fought. Jeeps, staff cars and small trucks are flown over the Hump, spare parts for planes and various tools without which our 14th AAF fighting in China under Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault would not be Claire L. Chennault would not be able to operate.

Fifteen months ago, when I flew the Hump for the first time, flew the Hump for the first time, we had a handful of planes making the trip. In bad weather they did not fly. Sometimes, you had to wait for a week to get transportation. Today, the Air Transport Command has an armada of ships going and coming. Out at the airfie ds, at both ends, you never cease hearing the roar of motors. I cannot tell the amount of supplies we are sending to China monthly, but it is truly impressive monthly, but it is truly impressive and is steadily growing. Contrary to what has been said, this amount has not yet exceeded the tonnage that went over the Burma road. But it has probably equalled it.

### KEPT CHINA BASES

Without this air route which was opened by an American flyer after the fall of Burma, our bases in China would have been abandoned. China would have faded out of the war nicture. There was danger the war picture. There was danger of that in the dreadful spring of 1942, when we had lost the Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, Singapore and Burma. There was no more land access to Chungking. The intermediary base at Lashio for a commercial air route to China was in Japanese hands.

arm. Britain and America couldn't supply their own forces let alone sell planes to the little European country. But Germany was glad to furnish all the planes the Swiss could pay for upon delivery.

All flyers interned in Switzerland are treated well and given almost unlimited liberty of movement, although police guard them when they travel. The Swiss pay all the bills, but are keeping strict account of expenditures. After the war they will present a board bill to each of the countries concerned.

At long last the War Departbe found. Col. C. V. Haynes, since ment has released the story of promoted, a flyer known for his "the Hump." It is one of the best exploits in South America, volunstories of this war, the story of teered to cut a new air route to teered to cut a new air route to China.

He flew the first transport plane over the Hump in monsoon weather, when visibility over the mountains was bad. He landed safely on the other side. Other pilots followed him. We moved a fighter group into Assam, in northeastern India, where the mountains begin. These where the mountains begin. These men were the pioneers of our 10th AAF, which has since grown immensely. The AVGs were transformed into the China Task Force, later into the 14th AAF. That summer of 1942 saved our lifeline to China and laid the foundation of our future offensive against the Japs.

### EXCITING TRIP

I have flown the Hump four times, once in a Liberator. It is one of the most exciting, most beautiful trips in the world. You fly over jungle so thick that if you land there with a parachute you could hardly hope to be found. Yet men have landed there, amidst triberators are the second of the se Yet men have landed there, amidst tribesmen who decorate their houses with human skulls.

Then you rise above mountains never trodden by human foot. You rock over peaks covered with snow. In the valleys you perceive mighty rivers. You gasp for oxygen if you have no mask. At times, if the weather is bad, you swing south and see Japanese positions.

Then the scenery changes. Terraced paddy rice fields indicate that you have reached China. Yet the mountains are still all around.

Finally, the plane lands on a large airfield, among coolies in blue denim. It is the field where General Chennault, loved by his men, is the chief.

I have known young pilots who had made the trip over 100 times. Each time they wondered whether the Japanese would catch them. We have lost planes over the Hump — sometimes from bad weather and sometimes from Japanese from Jap weather and sometimes from Jap-anese fighters. I remember once, over in China how reports kept coming in from a pilot who had a Jap on his tail. His plane never arrived.

Yet we have maintained the route and strengthened it so that the Japs can never cut it now.

# **Bolivian Exports** Halted By U.S.

LA PAZ, Bolivia—While delaying recognition of the new Bolivian regime, the United States has suspended exports of mining machinery to this country in a move which, officials said, might paralyze Bolivia's economy within three months months.

The suspension is the heaviest blow yet administered to the revolutionary regime which has an-nounced its intention of acceptnounced its intention of accepting the Atlantic Charter and following the lead of the United Nations. Recognized only by Argentina, the regime might be able to survive without recognition by other countries, but it is believed that the government would fall if governmen would American machinery were with-held for a long period.

In an attempt to avert economic In an attempt to avert economic sanctions, the revolutionary leaders, including President Gualberto Villarroel and Finance Minister Victor Paz Estenssoro, said that the new government would continue to supply the United States with all of Bolivia's war materials, even if Washington refuses to extend recognition. The United States has purchased about 20,000 tons of tin annually from Bolivia, slightly tin annually from Bolivia, slightly less than half of the total U.S. consumption. The rest is bought from the Belgian Congo. The Allies use certain other Bolivian war materials—including wolframite, anti-mony, zinc, lead and small quan-tities of rubber.

Bolivian trade is closely tied up with Britain and the U.S., which together took 98 percent of the South American country's exports in 1942, against only two percent for Argentina. The United States supplied 40 percent of Bolivia's imports and Argentina Separation 28 percent ports and Argentina 26 percent.

# **Baruch Forming Policy** For Canceling Contracts

was made training for those with handicaps arising from service disability. Service men and women also get preference rating in civil service. While a disabled veteran is in training he receives 80 dollars movements.

There is corruption in every deach child and ten dollars for each child and ten dollars for each dependent parent.

British Airfields Cover Quarter Million Acres

London — British air bases shared by the RAF and the U.S. 8th Air Force over 250,000 acres and by the RAF and the U.S. 8th Air Force over 250,000 acres and a base of the pondent sale of the pondent said, gives the impression that British no which colored spots sairfield.

At the end of World War I, Britain has become one vast sirfield.

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# Behind The Scenes With Army Bandmen



IN THE SERENE surroundings of Monastere du Bon Pasteur, French counterpart of institutions conducted by the House of the Good Shepherd in America, the United States Army Band lives, eats sleeps and rehearses faithfully for its public appearances in this theater.

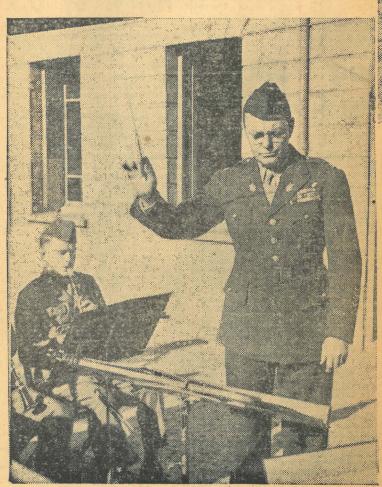
Orphans and refugee children from occupied France and hooded sisters who toil with Mother Superior Marie de Saint Jean Baptiste, watch and listen with interest as Capt. Thomas F. Darcy, Jr., and his 86 soldier musicians polish up their programs in the sun-drenched courtyard, which is 100 years old. Members of the band share their candy rations with the youngsters, who range in age from three to 13, and on GI movie night, the sisters and their charges attend the weekly cinema en masse.

During rehearsals, the band sticks to drab OD or fatigue attire, but the men don dress uniforms for their public appearances, and most glittering of all is the drum major, S-Sgt. Elmer Kettler, shown above in full regalia listening to the bugle corps (they actually use trumpets) practicing in a pit at the rear of the monastery.

Their leader. Capt. Darcy (shown below conducting rehearsal) wears the regulation Army blue dress uniform when the band is playing at public and high state functions.

In addition to being a musician's musician, Capt. Darcy also is a soldier's soldier. He served in World War I with the 1st Division and was under fire in all engagements participated in by his regiment, the 18th Infantry. He was wounded in action, and, in addition to the Purple Heart, wears the Silver Star with oak leaf cluster, the Verdun Medal, and the French fourregere in the colors of the Croix de Guerre.

Capt. Darcy's assistant leader is Warrant Officer Hugh Curry, who was graduated from the Army Music School for Bandleaders which was conducted by Capt. Darcy for almost 450 new band leaders now leading Army musical organizations all over the world.







THE ABOVE PICTURE of the U.S. Army Band in rehearsal discloses the atmosphere in which the musical organization lives and works in North Africa. The band, in this theater more than six months, has played its way through Morocco and Algeria, Tunisia and Sicily, and spent a solid week with the 5th Army before it shoved off to its task on the other side of the Mediterrancen. Appearances included concerts in British and American hospitals, as well as official jobs at official receptions.

The band contains three distinct musical units: a concert group, the makeup of which is elastic, depending on the size of the function at which it is to play; a dance combination of 18 pieces (and a Dixieland group of eight drawn from the dance or chestra) and a trumpet and drum corps of 25 men. This last group has begun playing American and French military marches with the whole band.

Photos by Stars and Stripes Staff Photographer Pfc. Martin Harris.

DIXIELAND IN AFRICA might be the title of the above picture, which shows three members of the Army Band engaged in a bit of a jam session, beating it out on a woodpile near their billet. Sergeants Freddie Wool-ston, Henry Levine and Tony Mi-randa are scattered around the pile (left to right). In civilian life, Sgt. Woolston was an arranger for Tommy Dorsey; he now leads the Dixieland Band and the dance orchestra. Sgt. and the dance orchestra. Sgt. Levine was known on the radio as Henry (Hot Lips) Levine of the Lower Basin Street Chamber Music Society, and also played the trumpet straight for Arturo Toscanini. Sgt. Miranda was with the Radio City Music Hall orchestra in New York.

The Army Band has played in 41 of the 48 states, and at most of the nation's important fairs and expositions since 1922.

Perhaps not typical of the band, but certainly proof of the fact that the Army Band has a proud and long tradition is the gentleman to the right, M-Sgt. Joe Young, Duluth, Minn., whose hash marks indicate seven threeyear hitches in the Army.



# 'Mighty May' Defies Fate To Sail The Sea Again

(Stars and Stripes Naval Writer)

Some people call the saving of her a "miracle." Then the numerous citations handed to ship's company by Vice Admiral H. Kent Hewitt, commander of U.S. Naval forces in North African waters, speak of "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action," of "great courage and outstanding devotion courage and outstanding devotion to duty." Those who know simply

Robert Frey, St. Louis, junior of-ficer of the deck, saw them far and high. From the bridge he barked the order alerting the ship and

the order alerting the ship and her guns:
 "Sky battery, main battery, action port! JU-88s; sound the general alarm!"
 SK1-c William Tefft, Ripley, N. Y., gun talker on the bridge, crisply repeated the words. The great G. Q. bells clanged through the ship. The Germans started coming. Next j. o. d. order would have been "Commence firing." But the planes came down fast. Tefft didn't wait. He snapped the order didn't wait. He snapped the order himself.

### Geysers Spout

Waves of JUs sideslipped down the sky, spitting bombs. Up on the director Gunner Fay Lightner, rangekeeper operator and assistant control officer for the big guns, saw geysers of water twisting up several hundred yards off the port bow from the planes' first bombs. He rubbed his long, weatherbeaten face and said quietly: "Oh, oh, this is it."

The gunnery and control officer

The gunnery and control officer had also given a "Commence firing." That was the last order he was to issue in this battle. One plane wailed over the ship, laying a stick. Lightner could see the bombs falling, each coming closer.

One, two, three, four, thunder!
All hands in the aft part of the ship were flopped to the deck.
Water rushed over the stern.
Shrapnel spattered the ship. In the director the control officer was knocked unconscious.

knocked unconscious.

Number four bomb of that package had dropped within three feet of the ship on the port side and exploded violently. No one knew it then, but three ugly holes, two and three feet across by nine feet vertically, were torn in the ship's side. Numerous small holes surrounded them. A deep and ghastly wrinkle - scar was blasted in the ship. The shock travelled athwartships through the girders and keel ships through the girders and keel and cleaved another huge scar on the starboard side. The ship's back was all but broken. Engine rooms began to flood. The May began to

### Pep Talk Works

Lightner was jammed back into the director, suffering a head cut, then forward into the rangekeeper,

then forward into the rangekeeper, which sliced his lips. But he remained conscious.

He shook his head to dispel dizziness and took stock. Eight of the 12 men in his own director crew were injured. Some members crew were injured. Some members passageway had once been, and there try to squeeze through the of the guncrew had been blown out of their stations. He himself had become control officer.

Now began a curious scene. Lightner, 18 years in the regular Navy, calls his present home South Boston. Mass., but really he is a southerner, from Hot Springs, Va. He is tall and popular with the men, speaking with a twangy, hillbillyish voice. Much in the manner of a third-base coach urging on a batter, he began talking to the guncrewmen individually:

"Give it to 'em John . . . Sh 'em what you've got, Rog . . . Gawdawmighty, men, let's give it to the scoundrels up there. Let 'em

have it, I say . . ."

The effect of Lightner's drawling words was almost electric. Men crawled back to their stations heedless of injury and squared off their guns at another wave of Jerries coming into the ship. The May reeled but gave out lead and red hell on her attackers.

This is about a destroyer called the Mighty May, which by every law of God, the devil and the sea should be at the bottom of the Mediterranean today, but which now sails once more against the enemy.

Some people call the saving of action-producing language of fight. action-producing language of fight-ing ships. Port he saw a plane coming in toward the Number 3 gun and yelled: "Fire on that bastard!" Number 3 leveled into the plane and let loose.

All the time the quartermaster kept turning the ship to dodge bombs, the trim destroyer spinning and weaving her hips like a swivelto duty." Those who know simply and weaving her hips like a swivel-say that the ship was saved because the had for a crew, men who had not heard of the laws or having heard didn't give a damn for them.

The USS Mayrant (the ship's formal name) was patrolling enemy-hot waters not far off the Sicilian coast when the first of the Luftwaffe visitors came. Ens.

Robert Frey, St. Louis, junior ofon the deck Frey picked himself up and ran on aft to take the place condensing over the vision plate of

water. Several men instantly volun-

water. Several men instantly volunteered to go after them. An asbestos suit was sent for as protection against the steam.

Converse himself went back after one shipmate, using the regular hatch instead of the escape hatch which had brought him out. which had brought him out.
Modest, red-haired CMM Harold
Steeves, North Quincy Mass.,
descended into the cauldron for
another. Stepping into water kneedeep, he yelled out: "Who is here?"
"I'm over here, over here," al
voice replied.
Constantly wining off the steem

his asbestos suit, Steeves ploughed through the water toward the voice. In other parts of the ship fates of lives were being decided in quick, here, over here." Water was around Steeves' waist when he reached the When the bomb exploded, MM1-c man. He could make him out as Theodore Converse, Poughkeepsie, MM 2-c Roy Peterson, Quimby,

Craggs had collapsed after bringing a MM 2-c (who later died) from the steam-filled engine room. Twenty-two-year-old Savadkin had peen descending to his station the engine room and was on the ladder two rungs from the bottom when the bomb exploded. He was hurtled up the length of the ladder. His body was draped across the

hatch and he was knocked cold regained consciousness few moments later he could nothing and thought he was blind He rushed his hands into his eyes. Wet red showed on his fingers. He where the showed on his fingers. He Jerries descended again on the knew his "blindness" was from a head injury. His scalp had been literally laid open. But disregarding the ship laid open. But disregarding guns gave back batile, the heavier guns not firing for fear of tearing guns not firing for fear of tearing the ship apart. One plane these key work in saving the ship crags werk work. A shipmate later described Savadkin's soon revived and assisted him. A shipmate later described Savadkin's Ships on both sides of her one

"He ran around with haif his scalp down his face, blood streaming down his hair and face. He mg down his hair and lace. He wouldn't sit down long enough to have his wound dressed but insisted on going ahead untreated to inspect flooded compartments and effect vital repairs. Later we had absolutely to hijack him to get him off the ship with other injured menous another ship." onto another ship."

The May was sinking steadily now. She was furthermore dead in the water—power gone, that is, and guns for the most part useless. She was thus a perfect target. She could not make not move.

While she was in this condition a wave of five FW-190s came high over. Why they didn't drop bombs to finish off the ship no one knows. Only guess is that the Germans must have thought the ship was sinking anyway and didn't consider it worthwhile to waste more bombs on her on her.

As she continued to go down, pumping efforts were concentrated Roosevelt, by the way on the forward fire room. The other three engine rooms were flooded, and water in this room had reached a dangerous height and was still coming up, fed through a hole ripped in the bulkhead. Big pumps were useless because of no power. Using the small gasoline-driven pumps that remained was not too unlike trying to throw the ocean out with a teacup.

A terse order came: "Jettison topside weight." Torpedo mounts were burned off with arcs. Tools, barrels, then torpedoes, ammuni-tion and large depth charges which had to be hauled up from two decks below were all heaved over-board until 170 tons in all were hearts.

The Mighty May patched up thrown into the sea.

"It was tough to throw those torpedoes over," one seaman said, shaking his head. "They cost 10,000

The two engineering officers, down until the main deck of the Lt. (jg) Lawrence Savadkin, New York, and his assistant Lt. (jg) Donald Craggs, Norwalk, Calif., were working like madmen under sharp personal handicaps.

The two engineering officers, down until the main deck of the ship was only six inches above water. The men worked feverishly. They were also blessed by nature: the sea was perfectly calm. "The least choppy sea and we would have more under." Savadkin will be sea was perfectly calm. least choppy sea and we would have gone under," Savadkin said.

Then there were many deeds of individual self-denial.

Seaman First Class Ronald E. Reuter, North Rochester, Minn., received a neat part in his head back to front from a piece of shrapnel. Dripping blood he went to the Sick Bay. There he found other men, burned, badly wounded, waiting for treament.

ing for treatment.

"These men need attention more than I do," a shipmate later said Reuter remarked and hurried back to help in efforts to prevent the

ship's sinking.
While one group continued to while one group continued to jettison, a second made preparations to abandon ship. A third tried to stem the flood of water, although matters were rapidly reaching the hopeless state. By all regulations and technical handbooks the ship should have sunk. She hadn't because of a combination of good elements and men who refused to give her up

tion of good elements and men who refused to give her up.

A distress dispatch had been flashed. The men could see in the distance a ship approaching. News that help was coming swept like magic through the ship and efforts were concentrated on holding the May until this ship, a minesweeper she could be made out now, arrived. Soon she came alongside. "We could have kissed her," one man said. man said.

### Just In Time

The minesweeper put over a line which gave the May emergency power for her pumps. Engineers estimated that the ship would not have held out a half hour longer look not this help come.

have held out a half hour longer had not this help come.

A little later further help came and the May was started to port in tow. Seven and one-half hours after the first attack she arrived. In port, pumping continued day after day. Five days after the ship arrived, the port was attacked. Jerries descended again on the May, cive bombing, strafing. And there the wounded ship's machine guns gave back battle, the heavier

Ships on both sides of her, one of them a high-octane and ammunition ship, were hit. An ammunition train nearby was also hit and began spraying the ship with

exploding shells, punching holes in her superstructure as if it were a dart board.

During the attack Lt. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., executive officer of the May, saw a coxswain standing on the bridge with a dungarees leg rolled up. Roosevelt stooped to leg rolled up. Roosevelt stooped to roll it down as protection against burns. Just as he raised up a heavy shell fragment landed where his head had been. The man's leg was left hanging by a shred, later was amputated. At the time Roosevelt applied a tourniquet and during the heaviest part of the attack through heaviest part of the attack through an area almost shelved with shrap-

Roosevelt, by the way, is okay as they come to everyone on this ship. To the officers he is "Pancho," the men "Rosie."

Pumping had to be during the raid. The ship began to sink again, compartments to flood. Again the work of the crew aided by shore help was the only thing that saved her. They pumped, put out the little fires flaring up over the ship, worked in hurtling across the decks.

Two Legions of Merit (Frey and Lightner) and six Silver Stars (Roosevelt, Savadkin, Craggs, Steeves, Converse and CSM David A. Elder, Boston, Mass.) were awarded along with 16 purple

temporarily—with anything available. Later, coming slowly into a repair harbor, she sent this somewhat unorthodox dispatch:

When all jettisoning possible being kept afloat by pumps, conwas done, the ship still kept going crete and mattresses."



"Like the Lord God Arriving."

wreckage.
wrench. Concussion hurled him against the bulkhead. Lights went weakly, unable to identify his against the bulkhead. Lights went out. The compartment began to flood at once. Steam lines broke and shot 600 pounds of scalding pressure, covering the area between Converse and the hatch which Converse and the hatch which would take him to safety. The passageway leading to the escape hatch was almost crushed in. Water

Converse staggered to a corner.
To protect himself against the steam he would crouch under water as long as possible, come up briefly for air, duck under again. Up and under he was trying to figure a method to get out.

"For awhile I wouldn't have bid two cents on my own life," he said. "And that steam was mighty damn

there try to squeeze through the narrow space remaining. Between waves of steam the space looked too small for even a midget's body and Converse is no midget. But it was that tight space or nothing. He was in no position to get finicky, Converse reminded himself.

Crawling on his hands and knees to stay in water he came to the narrow outlet. He pulled himself into the thinnest package possible and started through. He stuck. He sucked in his breath, gave his wet body a twist, a second twist and was through.

An officer examining the space later said he didn't see how a man could possibly wriggle through that space. Converse wouldn't try it again, even for fun. But now, covered with oil, he made his way up through the escape hatch, stepped onto the deck and immediately "landed on my bottom" but safely. parison with From the engine room from ing her.

was in the forward engine Iowa. He was slumped back against

Peterson had been working on pumps beneath the engine room deck level when the bomb exploded. Floor plates shifted over him. Injured and dazed, he had managed to crawl through the space. While he was trying dizzily to feel his way toward the escape hatch, his clothes caught on wreckage and trapped him. Pinned there, Peterson had kept splashing water on his face to keep from burning. Now Steeves

### Like A Vision

"It was like the Lord God arriving," Peterson said later. Steeves unfastened his shipmate.

"Put your arm over my shoulder and I'll help you along."

Scuffling over buckled floor plates the two men started toward the ladder. Once Steeves' overlong asbestos suit-legs caught in debris and nearly pulled him into the water. When they reached the bottom of the ladder, water level was almost to their shoulders.

"I'm all right, now, Steve," Peterson said, a little uncertainly. After watching to see that he got up safely, Steeves turned back into the engine room to look for another shipmate—this one he never found. Returning topside, Steeves, who has been on the May since she was commissioned four years ago and could not bear the thought of her going down, joined the fight to keep her.

This fight was now going into the relentless, decisive stage. Everything that life was became tied up in saving the ship. In a quite literal way life became nothing in comparison with the business of keep-

# It Happened At Home

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### The 64 Dollar Question . . .

A Denver, Col., butcher asked the OPA for a definition of a well-known kind of meat. Promptly the OPA sent him this definition: "Ground, chopped, or comminuted . . . from the skeleton portions of the carcass (but not included in the head) which contains no offal, added blood, cartilage, gristle, bone, cereal product or other ingredient except seasoning and which does not have a fat content in excess of 28 percent by chemical analysis . . . ground at least twice, the final grinding through a plate with holes not more than 3-16ths of an inch in diameter or chopped in a rotary cutter or by other means giving equivalent results." Hamburger was the meat defined.

### New Life Saver . . .

Serum albumin, a highly concentrated protein extract from human blood, is now being used by paratroopers and small naval units in place of the more bulky blood plasma. The chief value of the new serum, officials state, is that it can be carried in a small compass. Six times as much albumin serum can be carried in a kit the size now used for transporting blood plasma. At least twice as potent as blood plasma, the new serum is still partly a military secret. No information as to the laboratory processes or the extent of its current use has been revealed.

Main Street . . . Soldiers who sent in overseas ballots to the Richmond County, N. Y., judgeship election did not enjoy the traditional American right to secrecy of the ballot, Ray Ghent, World-Telegram writer said, in describing how the opened envelopes were passed around from hand to hand among Republican and Democratic representatives on the examining board . . . Mrs. Emile Joseph Marcadal, New Orleans, won a judgment of 1,500 dollars in civil court in a suit against the funeral directors who buried husband on May 17, 1941. The hearse driver, Mrs. Marcadal claimed, stopped the hearse in front of a barroom "for drinks" and arrived at the cemetery 45 minutes late . . . A working mother who has launched 27 nationwide campaigns to persuade women to take war jobs has quit her own because she says her children were being neglected. Dorothy Ducas, chief of the magazine bureau of the OWI, said: "To work to win the war but let children grow up as bad citizens to inherit the earth doesn't make sense." She blamed local communities for not providing recreation for children . . . People in Kansas City missed a lot of Christmas cheer. For ten days starting just before the holiday, a carload of 1,500 cases of whisky shunted around the Kansas City railroads in search of an owner. No one had ever heard of the consignee, the Sunset Distilled Products Company.

### Washington Notes . . .

S-Sgt. Thomas M. Day, Jr., a Fordham University student who was wounded at Mateur in the North African campaign, became the first disabled soldier to benefit from the new Veterans' Administration system disabled soldier to benefit from the new Veterans' Administration system of determining disability ratings. The rating board ruled that Sgt. Day, whose left leg was amputated above the knee, was eligible for a "total rating" of 100 dollars a month for six menths and eligible to apply for vocational training at government expense for a period up to four years... The U.S. Secret Service is taking vigorous steps to smash a new racket involving "bond brokers" who redeem war bonds prematurely for holders unwilling to sweat out the 60-day waiting period... During the President's absence from the U.S., his legal adviser, Justice Samuel I. Rosenman came to New York for a three-day visit and met many Broadway notables. When the President returned and saw Rosenman, he said, "Well, Sam, I met Chiang Kai-shek and Stalin." "That's nothing, Mr. President." replied Rosenman. "I met Frank Sinatra."... The country's railroads have asked for immediate investigation of the public safety possibilities in the use of radio telephones on moving trains. Rail officials say that installation of such equipment might have prevented a recent series of wrecks which have cost more than 150 lives... John L. Lewis burns pea coal in his home at Alexandria, Va., in a coal stoker system, his publicity man said, adding: "That's a nosey question to be asking."

From Broadway to Hollywood

### From Broadway to Hollywood . .

Gene Krupa got the biggest ovation in the history of Broadway's Paramount Theater, on his first public appearance since the drummer was paroled from San Quentin last summer on a narcotics charge. There was no announcement that Krupa was in Tommy Dorsey's Paramount show but when the curtain went up and the band swung out with "getting Sentimental Over You," 4,000 enthusiasts yelled and applauded. Krupa wept on his drums . . . Radio networks are banning ad libs on radio programs, after two comics strayed from their scripts into profanity, causing a rush of mail and phone calls . . . George Bernard Shaw is said to be writing a play about the postwar world . . . The next Frank Sinatraction will be "The Jazz Singer," with Frankie doing an Al Jolson . . Mickey Rooney is back in 1-A.

### Women and the War . . .

Forty fashion experts balloted to pick the fanciest dressed women of the world. Top honors were split between Rep. Clare Boothe Luce of Connecticut and the Duchess of Windsor. Mme. Chiang Kai-shek made the list for the first time—in sixth place. The globalady was quoted as saying, "I'm horribly frowsy these days," while the duchess was "flattered." . . . Bing Crosby has signed with Decca Records for a 10-year contract . . . A man rushed up to a crowded hosiery counter in a downtown Atlanta and demanded "two dozen of those nylons which have just come in." The startled clerk was speechless. "There" shouted the man, pointing, "in that box." Before the clerk could reply, dozens of feminine hands tore at the box, which turned out to be empty. The prankster escaped unscathed . . Cases of lonely government girls, maladjusted clerks and wives who have become nervous wrecks waiting for their husbands to come home have "fallen off substantially" in the past six months, it is reported. Main reason for the decline is said to be the psychiatric consultations now provided by the government . . . Wisconsin's school of journalism is going soprano in a big way. Women make up 90 percent of the enrollment today. make up 90 percent of the enrollment today.

# Highlights Of FDR's Annual State Of The Nation Message

WASHINGTON — Following are highlights of President Roosevelt's of all the perils that lie along the annual message to the Congress of the United States on the State of the Nation, read to both Houses on Overconfidence and complacency

Overconfidence and complacency

Berlin and Tokio—and by the sum strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no motter here represents the complace of the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no motter here are represented by the sum strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no motter here are represented by the sum of the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no motter here are represented by the sum of the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no motter here are represented by the sum of the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no motter here with the perils that the perils that lie along the lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known.

We have joined with right-minded people to defend ourselves in a world that has been gravely threatened with gangster rule. But I do not think that any of us can be content with mere survival. Sacrifices that we and our Allies are making impose upon us all a sacred obligation to see to it that out of this war we and our children will gain something bet-ter than mere survival.

We are united in determination that this war shall not be followed by another interim which leads to new disaster—that we shall not repeat the tragic errors of ostrich isolationism—that we shall not repeat the excesses of the wild Twenties when this nation went for a joy ride on a roller coaster which could be a tracked and blood.

There can be no discrimination which ended in a tragic crash.

Of course we made some commitments at Moscow, Cairo and Teheran. We most certainly com-Teheran. We most certainly committed ourselves to very large and very specific military plans which require the use of all Allied forces to defeat our enemies at the earliest possible time. But there were no secret treaties or political or financial commitments.

The one supreme objective for the future can be summed up in one word: security. That means not only physical security . . . but also economic security, social security, moral security.

Returning from my journeyings, I must confess to a sense of "letdown" when I found many evidences of faulty perspectives here in Washington. The faulty perspective consists in overemphasizing lesser problems and thereby underemphasizing the first and greatest problem.

The overwhelming majority of our people have met the demands of this war with magnificent courage and understanding.

A noisy minority (however) demands special favors for special groups. There are pests who swarm through the lobbies of the Congress and the cocktail bars of Washington, representing these groups as opposed to the basic interests of the nation as a whole. They look upon the war as a chance to make profits for themselves at the expense of their

If ever there was a time to subordinate individual or group sel-fishness to the national good, that time is now. Disunity at home—bickerings, sef-seeking partisan-ship, work stoppages, inflation. business as usual, politics as usual, luxury as usual—these are the influences which can undermine the morale of the brave men ready to die at the front for us here.

Those doing the complaining are laboring under the delusion that the war is already won and we can begin to slacken off. But the dangerous folly of that point of view can be measured by the distance that separates our troops from their ultimate objectives in

Overconfidence and complacency are among our deadliest enemies. That attitude on the part of anyone—government or management or labor—can lengthen this war. It can kill American boys.

The way to fight and win a war (is) all-out—and not with half-an-eye on the battlefronts abroad and the other eye-and-a-half on personal, selfish or political interests here at home.

Although I believe that we and our Alies can win the war without a national service act, I am certain that nothing less than total mobil-ization of all our resources of manpower and capital will guaran-

There can be no discrimination between the men and women who are assigned by the government to its defense at the battlefront and the men and women assigned to producing the vital materials essential to successful military oper-

National service is the most democratic way to wage a war. It resis on the obligation of each citizen to serve his nation to his utmost where he is best qualified.

Millions of American men and women are not in this war at all National service will be a means by which every man and woman can find that inner satisfaction which comes from making the fullest possible contribution to victory.

A national service act will give our people at home the assurance that they are standing four-square behind our soldiers and sailors. And it will give our enemies demoralizing assurance that we mean business—that we, 135,000,000 Americans, are on the march to Rome, Berlin and Tokio.

No amount of legalistic argument can be cloud the (soldier vote) issue in the eyes of 10,000,000 American citizens. Surely the signers of the Constitution did not intend a document which even in intend a document which, even in wartime, would be construed to take away the franchise of any of those who are fighting to preserve the Constitution itself.

It is our duty now to begin to lay the plans and determine the

### Allies Seek Full Nazi Defeat, Mann States

NEW YORK-The Allies do not want any premature capitulation which would leave Germany's war machine intact, Thomas Mann, world-famous German-born writer, told the German people in a re-cent shortwave broadcast from America.

living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no matter how high that general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our received in the content of t fraction of our people—whether it be one-third or one-fifth or one-tenth—is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed and insecure.

If we were to return to the so-called "normalcy" of the 1920s then it is certain that even though we shall have conquered our enemies on the battlefronts abroad, we shall have yielded to the spirit of Fascism here at home.

This government should pay heed to the demands of our fighting men abroad—and their fami-lies at home—rather than to the whining demands of selfish pres-sure groups who seek to feather their nests while young Americans are dying.

There are no two fronts for America in this war. There is only one front. There is one line of unity which extends from the hearts of the people at home to the man of our attacking forces. hearts of the people at home to the men of our attacking forces in our farthest outposts. When we speak of our total effort, we speak of the factory and the field and the mine as well as of the battle-ground—we speak of the soldier and the civilian, the citizen and his government. Each and every one of us has a solemn obligation to serve this nation in its most to serve this nation in its most critical hour—to keep this nation great, to make this nation greater in a better world.

# Stettinius Urges **Unity In Victory**

NEW YORK — The Allies can harvest the fruits of victory only by making peace in the same way as "we have learned to fight aggression as United Nations," Edward R. Stettinius, Under Secretary of State, said in the New York Times this week.

Scoffing at those who fear "reborn" China, Mr. Stettinius said that the new China emerging from this war "has become a moral leader for all United Nations through the vision of its people and its leaders of what is required for building a truly collaborative world."

Americans, he said, have nothing to fear but "failure to have confidence in ourselves and in our country." If the United States is prepared to continue its war col-laboration into peace, he asserted, "we shall get the collaboration of other nations to our mutual bene-

Not only does the nation have not only does the nation have nothing to fear from Russia, Mr. Stettinius declared, but it has "everything to gain" by effective and friendly collaboration with her in "our mutual self-interest." Mr. Stettinius looked forward to healthy competition as well as concernion between the United

### MALE CALL









By MILT CANIFF

# Company K-They Were All Heroes

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

WITH 5TH ARMY TROOPS ON THE ITALIAN FRONT—There should be many names in this story of K Company's attack on San Vittore and of its three days of house-to-house fighting within the ruins of this obscure village made

There should be many names, for the men of Company K are heroes. "Hero," by its constant literary application, has become a worn-out, trite expression. But what else can you call such men as a staff sergeant platoon leader who, once wounded, carried on; who, twice wounded, carried on until he could no

What, then, can you call such men as this staff sergeant's buddies, who,

building across the alley from the

Sgt. Francis Donald Poll, Byron Center, Mich., who had commanded one of the leading squads in the attack on San Vittore, sat on a fallen timber, leaned against a jagged piece of fallen wall, and told the story of those three days and nights just finished. He talked in a monotone, as if reciting a poem he did not understand. Perhaps that is because he understood it so clearly. Or perhaps because he couldn't understand how he had come out of the fight alive.

"We jumped off from that olive Sgt. Francis Donald Poll, Byron

"We jumped off from that olive grove over there," he began. "It was last Tuesday night just be-fore midnight. Let's see. Yes, it was Tuesday just before midnight.

"There were two platoons in on the attack. We were to hit the town from the northwest. The enemy wasn't supposed to be ex-pecting an attack from that di-rection

"It looked for a while like they weren't. We covered the 300 yards of open space and reached the fringe of the town without a shot being fired. The town was dark and silent: It had taken a terrific pasting that day; perhaps the Jerries had pulled out, we hoped.

### Edging Through Darkness

"It was so dark we broke the squads up into teams of six men as we began to feel our way through the alley. Still no shots. We had gotten about this far"—he indicated the six-foot-wide alley way outside the building—"when the corporal in charge of my other team came running up."
"What's the corporal's name?" I asked.

"I don't think you can use it," said Sgt. Poll. "He was wounded the next day."

Then he continued the story:
"The corporal said we had walked
right passed a Jerry machine gun
nest. The corporal said he had
heard them talking.

his name." The big bearded Yank made an impatient gesture and and then continued: "Sgt. S and I rushed back. He challenged the gun in German. I challenged the gun in English. That was a mistake. Things started to pop. They had guns on both sides of the alley. Their first blast wounded Sgt. S and another man and killed a guy from headquarters platoon who was carrying the wire.

"We scattered and took up positions. The Jerries were all around us. It was mainly a battle of hand grenades. The Jerries in their houses were smart; they had put heavy screening over the windows.

Sgt. S had a couple of machine pistol slugs in his leg, but he still kept going. He had about three men with him. They got separated from us. The Jerries trapped 'em in a room, but they couldn't get at them with hand grenades. Findly they drouded me through a

when they had dressed his wounds as best they could, took up a position in the

building across the alley from the house where he lay, determined to prevent the Germans from entering and taking the wounded man prisoner.

What, then, can you call the men of Company K?

There should be many names in this story, but there are few. For of the two leading platoons to enter San Vittore a large number of their men can no longer be named, for they are casualties. And not until next of kin have been notified can their names be made public.

Monotone Recital

Sgt. Francis Donald Poll, Byron

Center, Mich., who had commanded

from the room and got to Sgt. S. the alley. I made it okay, but the Jerries were in the room next to where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are coming back. There were nine of us together now, but we had to leave, for the Jerries were in the room next to where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are coming back. There were nine of us together now, but we had to leave, for the Jerries were in the room next to where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are coming back. There were in the room next to fixed him up as best we could where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are coming back. There were in the room next to where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are coming back. There were in the room next to fixed him up as best we could where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are coming back. There were in the room next to fixed him up as best we could where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are coming back. There were in the room next to fixed him up as best we could where we had our packs and they must have heard me, for they are casualties. Where we had our packs and they must have been do where we had our packs and they must have leading packs. There were in the room next to fixed him up as a could for they are casualties. All the alley. I made it okay, but the fixed him up as a could for they are casualties. All the alley. I made it okay, bu

### Company I Fought Too

All this took place on the night of Jan. 4-5. Similar whirlpools of action were all over the north end of this 500-house, closely-crammed, crumbling village. In the south end of town, Company I was having the same kind of fight, although they were never entirely cut off.

For 36 hours these two companies fought within two blocks of each other, yet could not contact one another until Thursday afternoon. The attack, you remember, had started Tuesday night.

Sct. Poll had paused to listen to the comforting scream and rattle of American dive bombers strafing the enemy on the hill they still held behind San Vittore. Now he continued:

"We stayed in that cellar all day Wednesday and most of Wednesday night. We had no rations and only one canteen of water. The Jerries were either in the room directly above us or next door. We could hear them talk. One of them burped all the time. We could hear some fighting, but not much. I guess all of us that were left had holed up and the Jerries were afraid to come in and get us.

Jerries Went To Work

"The name of the second plateon sergeant? Yes, he's still okay. His name is S-Sgt. Waldo Holmquist. Home town? Dawson, Minn., I

"Finally it quieted down again. "Finally it quieted down again. It was now daylight of Thursday. I had retrieved our radio. When we could turn it on, we could hear another platoon—the mortar platoon I think. They seemed to be working their way into town and doing okay. We decided to come out. We did."

Sgt. Poll had finished his story.
He now lit a cigarette. In the same monotone he added a post-script.
"They got Sgt. S out. I think he's going to be okay."

The taking of San Vittore was not in a military sense, a great victory. It was, however, tangible evidence of progress towards Cassino and Rome. It was also a spectacular engagement, a 40-hour, house-to-house battle in the ruins of a 500-house town where men of a 500-house town where men fought from roof to roof, from room to room.

burped all the time. We could hear some fighting, but not much. I guess all of us that were left had holed up and the Jerries were afraid to come in and get us.

Jerries Went To Work

"Early Thursday morning— it must have been about 2:30—I decided to go for our packs which we had left in a building across of the strategy called for Company I attacked from that direction.

The Yanks who assaulted San the Yanks who assaulted San that all the was only shaken and releast they had learned two lessons in those hellish days and made the attack on the town. The strategy called for Company K to attack from the northwest. They use for the bazooka gun to route way to get him." said another doughboy, referring to the bazooka gun.

The Yanks who assaulted San the Wall. He was only shaken and releast they had learned two lessons in those hellish days and made in street fighting.

1. The new and very effective enemy snipers and die-hards from buildings.

2. The hand grenade, while not doughboy, referring to the bazooka gun.

3. The Yanks who assaulted San the Wall. He was only shaken and releast the particular to the fight the next day.

3. The new and very effective enemy snipers and die-hards from buildings.

2. The hand grenade, while not doughboy, referring to the bazooka gun.



The Jerries dropped one hand grenade through a hole in the ceiling

For two nights and two days these two companies, a few blocks apart, fought to effect a junction, while in the Appenine mountains which hover above the town, the fight for the domination of a valley leading to Cassino continued.

The Yanks who assaulted San Vittore said they had learned two lessons in those hellish days and nights:

1. The new and very effective use for the bazooka gun to route enemy snipers and die-hards from buildings.

fire." This statement came from a doughboy who had a hand grenade ryon the roof above. The grenade, of the concussion type, went off two feet from the soldier, who was only partially protected by a low wall. He was only shaken and returned to the fight the next day. Other stories bear out the comparative ineffectiveness of the grenade in street fighting.

"You need something to knock the house down. That's the easiest way to get him," said another

# Terrain Dictates Fighting In Italy

By Sgt. MILTON LEHMAN

(Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

"The corporal said we had walked right passed a Jerry machine gun rain has dictated the fighting in his guns and then sit back to enterchments were greatly effective. After three-day artillery back the German has now that the attackers. All this the German has now that the attackers. All this the German has now attack the dictated the fighting in has dictated the fighting in his guns and then sit back to have the cast. All this the German has now that the attackers. All this the fective. After three-day artillery backet to German has now the fective. After three-day artillery backet. All this the day the test. Chiral plants the attackers. All this the fective. After three-day artillery backet to silence the German has now the fective fields. Chiaia, for example, these enterchments were gr

There is no perfect defense, even for an enemy whose strategy is de-fensive on every sector of the front. This lesson the Allied troops are learning day by day as they continue to crack through one part after another of the German "winter line." They are also learn-ing how well the Germans prepared a welcome for them.

### Many Advantages

A withdrawing force, provided it is not required to retreat too quickly, has many advantages. While advancing troops must make their ground reconnaissance in the face of enemy fire, the defenders are already quite familiar with the ground to the front, ground they have already been forced to yield.

WITH THE 5TH ARMY-Ter-ichart all routes of approach, range la Chiaia, for example,

week's drive began.

### All-Around Defense

has been built for all-around defense. Artillery and small arms fire have been coordinated to cover all possible routes of approach from all points of the compass. Pillboxes for mortars and machine guns have been placed to give mutually supporting fire and, on command, all weapons can be called in to build an interlocking but also as close-in protection for has been built for all-around dewall of fire.

Pillboxes and infantry entrenchments have been dug into the rocky peaks and sides of mountains, many of them ten feet deep and ribbed with walls of rock, thick timber and more rock. On Mt. atly they dropped one through a crack in the ceiling. It wounded have already been forced to yield tains, many of them ten feet deep tains, ma

the walls, only a direct hit had much chance of wiping out the hidden gunners.

The mountain defense system as been built for all around deian campaign, the Germans con-tinue to use mines, booby traps and called in to build an interlocking but also as close-in protection for platoon positions.

In addition to his other defensive

the end of a cocked, aimed rifl of sending his tanks and his me out as bait to draw in victims, letting scouts through his postions in order to open fire on the main attacking body.

### Nazis Forced Back

But in his hill defenses, the Ge man is no more invincible the ever was. While he is exacti a high price in men and mater for each yard he yields, he is st being forced to draw back. Allipatrols have probed his mounts defenses time after time to fi lied advance really been stopp

### STRIPES THE STARS AND

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# Nazi Pilots Don't Annoy Allied Lines Of Supply

WITH THE ALLIES IN ITALY— shortage of gasoline and more Of the many signs pointing to the particularly of engine parts, keep-diminishing power of the Lufting a larger than average number waffe, one of the most striking is of planes grounded. its failure to interrupt or even hamper Allied lines of supply in

the Italian theater.
Only once since the Salerno beachhead has a serious threat been made against shipping, and

have not been attacked since the river banks were cleared of the

### CONVOYS MOVE SAFELY

Long Allied convoys move in daylight with little danger and, except in the front areas, vehicles travel at night with full lights. And what has the once-famed Luftwaffe done in the face of this bold Allied challenge? It has done your little

done very little.

For the Nazis' behavior or strategy, as some authorities are inclined to believe, there are three

disastrous. In the most sensational dogfight of the Italian campaign, 12 enemy planes jumped six 2. It is necessary for the Germans to keep a large part of their force on the Russian front and a larger force in France and western Germany to fight off British-based bomber waves. That leaves only defensive wings in Greece, the Balkans, Italy and Norway.

3. Germany is suffering from a will be his undoing."

disastrous. In the most sensational dogfight of the Italian campaign, 12 enemy planes jumped six American - flown Spitfires. The Yanks knocked off six of them without loss to themselves.

"The German flier is either very good or very poor," said one Invader pilot. "You will usually find the gun leader is an expert but a couple of his bum wing men will be his undoing."

—J. F.

Most air spokesmen credit all three reasons with having much to do with the Luftwaffe's con-tinuing absence in Italian skies except for small-scale dive bombing and strafing attacks of Allied

been made against shipping, and that was the first raid against Bari, details of which were announced some time ago by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

Another raid against Bari proved unprofitable for the enemy and so have his ten or so against Naples. In Naples the Italian populace has calmed down enough so that it no longer jumps at the sound of an engine backfiring.

Although "Photo Freddy" comes over quite often, rear area supply dumps have seldom been bothered by his big brothers.

Vital communication points like the bridges over important rivers have not been attacked since the river banks were cleared of the local page in front line positions.

ALLIED AIR STRENGTH

There is, however, one other disappearance of the Luftwaffe. That is the strength of the Allied air arm. In the 5th Army sector the Spitands of the 12th Air Support Command, under the leadership of the ground forces, in many instances dive-bombing objectives not more than 1,000 that plane. So while "1 and 3" may be put on a boat, while "2 and 7" may get tossed on a plane. Whenever air transportation is available, he pointed out, all the field, whether it's air mail or not, is put on that plane. So while "1 and 3" sweat it out by "first available surface transportation," "2 and 7" zoom over, and you distangs of the 12th Air Support Command, under the leadership of Maj. Gen. Edwin J. House, have cover that the baby you didn't know had arrived already has three teeth and a habit of field-stripping the bassinet.

Hail 7" and 3" may be put on a boat, while "2 and 7" may get tossed on a plane. Whenever air transportation is available, he pointed out, all the major reason for the disappearance of the Strength of the Support Support of the Support of the Support of the ground forces, in many instances dive-bombing objectives not more than 1,000 the provided and 7" may get tossed on a plane. So while "1 and 3" sweat it out by "first available, he pointed out, all the mail that can be rushed to the field, whether it's air mail or not, is put on that Enemy airmen dare not challenge them.

Spitfires on bomb line patrol and sweeps up to Rome seldom meet the enemy. One pilot said he had not even seen an enemy fighter in almost two months of sorties. Another pilot reported that his squadron had deliberately flown over enemy airports to invite attacks, but generally without results.

Only when they are in superior numbers do the Messerschmitts and Focke-Wulfs mix it, and even possible explanations:

1. The Luftwaffe is harboring its strength to resist the big Allied invasion of the continent from lied invasion of the continent from 12 enemy planes jumped six

Blame It On Mother, The Jumpin' Jowls, Genius In Wartime

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### Tell It To The Folks

Just about everybody but the folks at home have been chided by GIs for the irregularity of mail delivery from home—but Mom and Pop do rate a bawling-out in many instances. At least that's what Lt. Col. Harold F. Ambrose, Chief of Technical Information of the War Department says.

Fully 15 percent of all mail going to soldiers overseas is still being incorrectly addressed, he declares, which accounts for most of the de-lay in delivery. On the whole, though, the weekly average of 23,000,000 pieces of mail, mostly letters, going to more than 2,500,000 men overseas, is being delivered regularly.

Answering soldiers' complaints that they receive installment letters "2 and 7" before "1 and 3," Col. Ambrose said that "1 and 3" may be put on a boat, while "2

London bridges, upper and low-er, are definitely not falling down, in spite of the insidious infiltration of America's gum-chewing habit into the Mayfair scene. No less an authority than the Royal Anthro-pological Institute has conducted a scholarly inquiry into the possible effects on the classic British profile of Juicy Fruit, or if you will, Spearmint.

The London Daily Mirror first brought up the subject. "Britons may chew from now until dooms may chew from how until dooms-day without its making any differ-ence to the jowl," the Institute triumphantly concluded after, no doubt, a trial by fire involving continuous chewing over stated periods of time by intrepid volunteers whose jaws measured up to snuff.

Frankly, this department is no less alarmed over the possibility that American soldiers may bring back to Brooklyn the tea-sipping microbe which has Britons drinking the stuff at all hours of the day. Tea is fine, yes, but America won't be the same place if its youth starts skipping into the drug store at 4 PM to ask for "a short Lip-ton" or "a lemon Salada," if you

### Dept. Of Utter Genius

The Ordnance men say that 1943 was a field year for amateur inventors with ending-the-warquick ideas. One asked for a patent on a device for paratroopers to drop their tents from planes with a sharp pole attached so that the tents would unfurl, the pole would stick in the ground and the tired trooper could take a nap as soon as he landed, if he had the time. Then there was the "Super Torpedo Scooper" for warships. The huge steel scoops would snag the tin fishes and flip them right back

Another ersatz genius came up with the "Fly Faper Plan" to trap the advancing enemy by spreading the advancing enemy by spreading "a sticky petroleum product" on the highways. His next offer is expected to be a combination skyhook and fly-paper arrangement which will have Messerschmitt pilots starving to death at 20,000 feet. For Allied pilots, genius No. 4 proposed a "Jack in the Box" parachute which would pitch the aviator out of his falling plane and make parachuting a pleasure by make parachuting a pleasure by releasing compressed springs under the flier's seat sending him up to the flier's seat sending him up to pull the ripcord, thus eliminating the wrench caused by jumping

down.
One peace-loving inventor has turn from Berlin where he was a correspondent for a Stockholm newspaper:

"Many children in Berlin told sandwiches it for you, after you their younger brothers and sis-



# Russian Borders Have Long, Unhappy History

Statements in the Russian press miles of territory. When Finland during the past fortnight have focused the world's attention on the question of the Soviet Union's postwar western frontiers. The Russians are sweeping the Wehrmacht off Soviet soil, and are now in a position to talk relevantly of the Europe which will emerge when the Nazis have been defeated.

In that Europe, beyond question.

the Nazis have been defeated.

In that Europe, beyond question the Russians will play a major role. At the end of World War I they had been defeated in battle and torn by revolution. At the end of this war they will undoubtedly have one of the mightiest of military machines. They have almost boundless natural resources. And they have the newly won self-confidence of a nation whose strength has been severely tested and found not wanting.

wanting.
It is against the background of what has taken place in Russia between 1917 and 1944 that Soviet statements about the future ought

statements about the future ought to be considered. An outcast among Europe's nations in 1917, Russia, in less than a generation, has become one of the first three powers of the earth. Having cone big things, the Russians feel entitled to talk big. Some of their recent talk has been blunt. Pravda, the official organ of the Communist party, was apparently furious when Wendell Wilkie, who has done much to explain the Russians to our country, wrote the following mild comment for the New York Times: "Everyone is, of course, concerned by one of the most important questions—What does Russia intend to do with respect to the political to do with respect to the political integrity of the small border states, Finland, Poland and the Baltic

### MUDDYING THE WATERS

Prayda took the view that this was not Mr. Willkie's business. An editorial charged him with "muddying the waters," went on to say that the "question of the Baltic States is an internal affair of the Soviet Union" and ended by asserting that the "Soviet Union knows how to deal with" Finland and Poland.

The Baltic States in question are Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. Under the czars Lithuania was a Russian grand duchy; Latvia and Estonia were Russian provinces. After World War I each became an independent state. Then in 1940 the three states were again made part of Russia. The Soviet claim is that the Baltic States were incorporated into the U.S.R. at their own re-quest. At the moment all are in

German hands. Russo-Finnish relations have a long and unhappy history. From 1809 to 1917 Finland was an autonomous grand duchy of czarist Rus sia. It became a republic in 1919. In 1939 the Finns and the Russians went to war and in 1940 Fin--R.R. land ceded to Russia 16,173 square not so difficult after all.

Russo-Polish disputes also go far back into history. When Poland's independence was formally recognized by the Allies in 1919, the Poles and the Russians were very much at odds. In May, 1920, Polish troops were in Kiev. Then the Russians drove them back as far as the gates of Warsaw. The Poles rallied and peace was restored in 1921, though on terms which the Russians considered unfavorable. In 1939 the Russians occupied part of Poland and once again have driven past the boundaries set in the 20s. past the boundaries set in the 20s.

past the boundaries set in the 20s.
At the present time relations between the Poles and the Russians are, to put it mildly, delicate. Moscow and the Polish government-inexile in London are not on formal diplomatic speaking terms. There are indications that both Moscow and the exiled government would like better relations, but the frontier question seems to be a stumbling block. It is clear that Moscow does not regard the boundary line of Sept. 1, 1939, as satisfactory. The Russians believe that that line deprived them of territory and population rightly theirs.

STORMY RELATIONS

### STORMY RELATIONS

Relations between Russia and the Relations between Russia and the Balkan state of Rumania have also been stormy. Here again decisions taken by the Allies at the end of World War I are not accepted by the Russians as just. In 1940 the Russians occupied the border province of Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina, which had been given to Rumania at the end of the last war. This territory is now in Axis war. This territory is now in Axis

It is obvious from the foregoing, tain historical points, that the question of eastern Europe's fronquestion of eastern Europe's fron-tiers must be considered in relation to a long and stormy past. That part of the world has been torn by war throughout the centuries. It is inhabited by peoples with dif-ferent backgrounds and cultures. Much of it is plain land, lacking

Much of it is plain land, lacking natural geographical boundaries. Where there are no natural borders, there is apt to be trouble. Americans will do well to keep in mind these factors of history and geopraphy when eastern Europe's frontiers are being discussed.

Also to be kept in mind is the

Also to be kept in mind is the fact that Russia, indisputedly a great power again, has exchanged a pledge with the great western allies—the United States and Great Britain—to work together for a Britain—to work together for a peaceful future. It is on that basis of mutual good will that all three governments have said they wish to appreach the problems of the postwar world. If all three adhere to the pleage problems which now to the pledge, problems which now seem complex may turn out to be

# They Say

ORMER GOV. ALFRED E. LOUIS H. PINK, OPA official on landlord-tenant disagreements over doormen:
"Women beautiful or a superior of the Fourth War"
"Women beautiful or a superior of the Fourth War"
"Women beautiful or a superior of the Fourth War"
"The Superior of t

"Women have a lot more nerve than men when it comes to get-ting money out of a man."

GENERAL PAYTON C. MARCH, Army chief of staff in the first World War, on his 79th birth-

can't whip Germany by whipping somebody in Senegam-bia. I'm a 'cross-channel' man myself and I think we've finally got to the right idea in an all-out western front attack."

LT. JOHN C. MORGAN, German threat to try Allied airmen as war criminals:
"The Nazis thought they would

scare us, but they simply made us madder than ever—and nothing in the world can beat an American when he's riled."

HAROLD M. LONG, at a social sciences conference in the States:
"Too often the student in a college history course is solemnly informed that Columbus discovered America in 1492."

GENERAL THOMAS HOLCOMB, retired Marine Corps command-

"An unremitting Allied attack will converge on Japan from all directions. One of these routes will be along the chain of major islands leading directly to Japan's front door.

like a Balkan general and who performs no necessary service, but flatters the tenants' vanity by saying, 'Good morning, sir,' is, of course, not essential and can be eliminated without affecting the rent."

R. ALLEN GREGG, of the Rockefeller Foundation, addressgroup of medical school instructors:

"There are plenty of M.D.s in the world; there are not enough good doctors."

COL. BUD J. PEASLEE of the U.S. Air Force

'The most beautiful sight in the world is to see any enemy plane disintegrate or go down

JAN MASARYK, Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovak government: "In negotiating the treaty (with Russia), we did not sell out to Russia. We know that without Russia's friendship, none of her small neighbors can revert to independent rational life." dependent national life."

IVAR VESTERLUND, on his return from Berlin where he was a correspondent for a Stockholm

their younger brothers and sis-drop a coin in a slot. Apparently ters that Santa Claus was killed on the eastern front."



### LEAGUE LEADERS

Dear Editor:

Have you ever asked yourself what will happen after this war? Have you thought of the tremendously important problems which face the postwar world when it begins its search for a way of creating an enduring peace? ing an enduring peace?

Don't laugh or scoff or make some cynical remark: this is the some cynical remark: this is the attitude of people who are too lazy to think. A cynical outlook is assumed by one who is trying to hide his ignorance, or by one who knows there is something wrong, but has given up hope that anything can or will ever be done about it. A cynic is a quitter; mentally, he is yellow. We have enough common sense and intelligence to make this a warless world. What we need is the fierce desire, the unrelenting determination that there shall be peace.

Despite the fact that it failed, most of us have confidence in the principles underlying the League of Nations. We know that the world must be organized or governed in some manner. The U.S. was among the nations which caused the collapse of the old League. After sponsoring the idea, we refused to join.

Isolation is dead. It is impossible

Isolation is dead. It is impossible for any nation in the world to remain alone and unapproachable. Together, with its Allies, America can ensure the peace anywhere on earth. To remain aloof, is to start this damned thing all over again.

The real peace problem will not be to choose a good plan, but to see that the plan works. We had better not return home and say: "I'm home now, and I'm going to have a good time. The hell with everything else."

It will be in our own interest to look up occasionally from our vork and play to make certain that only men of integrity and ability direct the operation of the new "League."

It will pay dividends in lives to watch carefully that this new League functions smoothly and effectively. Peace will not be a gift from heaven. Only man can make it. Real men will have to preserve it.

-- Pvt. Leo Newman

### ARTISTS

Dear Editor:

One of the best features about The Stars and Stripes is the vast amount of drawings you use to illustrate stories by Sgts. Jack Foisie, Milton Lehman and Ralph Martin, who are writing about war as it happens in Italy.

We know that the writers are with the men. Ernie Pyle was with us for awhile in Tunisia, and I once met Sgt. Paul Green, but I have never seen an artist from the paper, on the front.

When the paper arrives, we often discuss the various pictures and look at them for technicalities. They are always right, or so they seem to us who have actually been to the places the staff arrists draw artists draw.

Thus, we are now up to our necks in argument. I say that the artists do not go out into the field and my friend, who studied art for three years, insists that the sketches are "on the spot" drawings. Can you set us right as to how Sgts. Gregor Duncan, Stanley Meltzoff and Ed Vebell achieve these excellent illustrations for our favorite newspaper?

Mauldin are all in the field.—Editor.

### SUITS US

Dear Editor:

We among numerous other GIs would like to know who is responsible for the design of these zootsuit saddle pocket fatigue trousers and tops which we are now sport-

ing.
In order to reach for a smoke, a coin or a handkerchief, first stand on one hand, kick the left leg. turn a somersault and jack-knife into withdrawal position, then execute the one-two and go into a nose dive, coming up an hour later with the desired object or objects scat-

tered over 40 acres.

If there is a reason for these Sad Sack suits, what is it?

-T-Sgt Archie Lucero
Sgt. Edward Keyes
Sgt. Howard Sherretts
Sgt. John A. Boyd Set Kenneth Lawton

### POET LAUREATE

Dear Editor:

Recently, there has been a lot of discussion concerning who was the Poet Laureate of NATOUSA. This is rather a stupid argument, I would say There is no one person who stands out among the vast number of men and women who have had something accepted for publication in the Puptent Poets column.

Of course, at times there are some good poems. And there have been some lousy ones, too. To set a person aside as the best poet in the theater is taking on a big assignment.

Therefore, I would like to offer a suggestion that rather than select a "Poet Laureate" from poems already printed in the paper, why not open a competition for everyone to have a hand in and let a jury select the best poem, sonnet or ballad which is submitted.

sonnet or ballad which is submitted.
There have been a few poets in this theater who have consistently managed to make the column. Poets like Lt. John Weaver, Nurse Rose C. Craig, Pvt. S. C. Sampas, F-O Doug Wallace and others have kept the Puptents space well supplied. However, there are bound to be others in the theater who would submit poems if they were properly encouraged. Even myself, and I have yet to write a poem. have yet to write a poem.

-Maj. Thomas Kerak

The Stars and Stripes feels that every reader is entitled to his own choice of Poet Laureate, but don't let that discourage you from writ-ing a poem, Major.—Editor.

### SEPARATE UNITS

Dear Editor:

After reading The Stars and Stripes for some time, I have reached a point where I simply have to remind you and others that divisions are not the only troops in combat. Stripes

We are a small AAA separate we are a small AAA separate outfit. At first, we were at ached to the 1st Division from the arrival at Oran to the capture of Bizerta, the invasion of Sicily to the fall of Troina, which in my opinion decided the battle of Sicily. We are now with another division making history. cion making history.

I think it's unfair to our batteries who share the same hardships right along with the front-line troops not to be recognized. At this writing, we have been in the field over 12 months.

Are small separate units completely forgotten? If so, there is only one solution: send us back home for we have yet to see a Stage Door Canteen.

—Pvt. Michael Sirakis—Cpl. James A. Whitehead

Small units are by no means forgotten, but for security reasons they can almost never be mentioned. Whenever it can do so, The Stars and Stripes mentions small units by name and number, but censorship rulings, which are made to protect Allied lives, must be followed—Editor. be followed.—Editor.

### PUP TENT POET'S SONGS

Dear Editor:

Ings. Can you set us right as to how Sgts. Gregor Duncan, Stanley Meltzoff and Ed Vebell achieve these excellent illustrations for our favorite newspaper?

—S-Sgt. Raymond Arthur, Jr.

Staff artists work both in the field and in the office. At present. Sgts. Vebell, Meltzoff and Bill Manualin are all in the field.—Editor.

Manualin are all in the field.—Editor. will send it to him shortly.

You should see the top of my piano. The response of poets was tremendous. Most of the poems can be worked into something that will be worked into something that will perhaps give the author a kick when he sees it set to music. Of course, with most of them, one has to take the idea that is in the writer's mind and rewrite the poem. But there is always the chance of finding are seed to the seed to the seed to the poem. But there is always the chance of the seed to the se But there is always the chance of finding something good, and perhaps when the war is over, some publisher will be interested in a collection of these Puptent Poems In Sicily. set to music.

Each poem already sent to me will receive attention as soon as it it humanly possible. However, the poets will have to be patient, for it's going to take a long time to handle them all. This seems to be a bigger job than I imagined, but it was my bargain and I'm going to stick to it.

-Miss Mable Keeper 20 Grove Street Amsterdam, New York

# Study In White



A PEACETIME picture like this would be a good example of photographic patterns for winter. Now, however, this picture of Pfc. Reales P. Nelson, Caldwell, N. J., brushing snow off mortar shells in an ammunition dump, illustrates the difficulties of fighting on the Italian front. This view was taken near Demanio in the Pozzilli area of the 5th Army front.

(Army Pictorial Service Photo through PWB)

# Puptent Poets

### YANK ABOUT LIMEY

or amaze
The kid from Bangor, Maine, or
Rio Grande.
But place the glove upon the other
hand: Are we immune to critical survey? May we perhaps not kindle slight

dismay

dismay by calling ladies "babes" and whiskey "hooch," The Derby "derby" and a dog a "pooch"?

"pooch"?
we not shout, with boastful,
burning pride
all our wonders, sometimes
multiplied?

So let's he

Why sure we do: So let's be sporting, fair:
Let London love her dear old Leicester Square;
And give to those who eased the do: So let's be

way for us, A vote of honest thanks. Reserve

your cuss
him who neither broke the
Lion's back
Ainmed the glory of the Union

Jack!

Jack!
Let's honor Britain and her fighting men
And lift a glass to him in Number
Ten.
Let's give the credit where the credit where the let's give the credit where the cre

Let's give the credit where the credit's due credit's due And. side by side, the common cause pursue.

So much for that! But never dare So much for that! But never dare art.

Bright patterns format in the common tours of my heart, Minutely scrolled as rare, old English lace, Priceless far beyond all earthly art.

Experts Analyze

There's where the Latins live each

day, Where quietly they go their way To tend flocks and reap the hay.

And beauty bounds, even some to

But, all day long the soldier lay Whiling hours and cares away, Wishing he didn't have to stay

-T-4 Lyle C. Gann

### QUESTION AND ANSWER

Need you ask me why I cry
When you the answer know?
My tears want as little reason
As does the falling snow.
Yet, since you raised the question

And since you were my friend.
I cry because the thread is weak
I use my heart to mend.

-T-Sgt. William Callahan

### CHAIR CORPS SONG

And now, let's pause. Let's take Here we go, into the file-case yon-

And now, let's pause. Let's take a moment out

To beam the minds of those who foster doubt;

Of those who feel, or think they feel, inclined

To criticize the British and to find,

Without foundation, petty faults and ways,

And customs which may puzzle or amaze

The kid from Bangor, Maine, or Rio Grande.

But place the glove upon the other

Here we go, into the file-case yonder, der, der, let's buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here we so, into the file-case yon-der, let's is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go, into the drawer.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go into the CO's office,

We get one helluva roar,

We live in miles of paper files,

But nothing will stop the Army Chair Corps.

Here it is, buried away down under That (?-?-?) stuff we've been searching for.

Off we go into the CO's office,

We get one helluva roar,

We live in miles of paper files,

But nothing will stop the Army Chair Corps.

With feet on desk so high,

To a friend we'll send a message of
The trials of the swivel-chair guy.

We type and file, and though we
have no prop,

We're either in a spin or else we
blow our top,
A toast to the host of men who

The Army Chair Corps Here we go, into the file-case yon-der, Keep the margins level and true If you'd live to be a gray-haired

wonder,
Keep your nose out of the glue.
Office men, guarding the Army's
red tape
We'll be there, followed by more.
With dictionary, we're stationary—
Nothing can move the Army Chair

-M-Sgt. Dave Donald -M-Sgt. Vernon Messer

to say
That little England didn't save
the day!

—Mai. John A. Morgan

—ILLUSION

Love's linen, pale as twilight, oft as dawn,
Perfumed and spun by memory's hands, it seems
Though for that! But never dare
art.

Love's linen, pale as twilight, oft as dawn,
as dawn,
Perfumed and spun by memory's hands, it seems
Though it's an empty heart they

weave upon,
'Twill make a prescious basket for

my dreams, And, oh . . . my darling, when

this war is through
I'll share erch lovely dream I've saved, with you.

Pfc. Sammy Myscls

### SO BE IT

If you should die, darling
(How ironic in this present circumstance!) would not in the end-end

for me. For you are life for me—you are life Which will not die. I should go on

To live only the more intensely For having lived for you. But For a time, dear, I'd die with you only to emerge from the grave

Only to emerge from the grave (Pardon me, my dear, no sacrilege intended)
More God-like—like the being
Who plumbed the depths of Hell
Only to rise again and become
The Light and Hope of the world.
So be it ... and so be it with you.

-Lt. (j.g.) Philip A. Beardsley

# **General Vatutin Earns Distinction On Soviet Plains**

MOSCOW—A young man, as military men go, is the current hero of all Russia. If he had done hero of all Russia. If he had done nothing else in a quarter century as a Red Army officer, General Nikolai Fedorovich Vatutin would have earned a place in Soviet history for his direction of the recapture of Kiev—one of Russia's most beloved cities.

A five-star general at 45—only a marshal outranks him—Vatutin looks more like a Russian worker or farmer than a leading military

looks more like a Russian worker or farmer than a leading military strategist whose name is feared by the entire Wehrmacht. And like most of the younger Russian leaders, he was virtually anonymous before the Germans invaded the Soviet Union in June, 1941.

He was a soldier in the civil wars of 1918-20 and rose to the upper ranks in the Red Army during two decades of peace. When the Soviet reestablished the traditional designation of lieutenant general in 1940, Vatutin was one of 90 officers promoted to that rank.

### ORDER OF LENIN

ORDER OF LENIN

He received the Order of Lenin in February, 1941, for the "excellent state of preparedness" of his troops as revealed in maneuvers conducted by Marshal Semyon K. Timoshenko. When the Germans sprang their blitzkrieg the following summer, General Vatutin commanded troops in the field, learning to cope with Nazitactics and devising his own strategy for future offensives. Other highly - regarded officers, meanwhile, were unable to revise their traditional military learning to meet the new mechanical warfare and were shunted to desk jobs.

Vatutin came into real prominence about the same time as the Germans suffered their worst defeat. While other Red Army forces were annihilating the Nazi 6th Army at Stalingrad, Vatutin drove westward across the snow-covered steppes and into the Donets basin where he recaptured Voroshilovgrad and then Kharkov in February, 1943.

He later lost Kharkov to a strong

He later lost Kharkov to a strong Nazi counter-offensive but the manner in which he extricated his troops in this campaign won for mim the Order of Suvorov, First Class, one of Russia's highest military decorations. He had been promoted to colonel general during his push toward Kharkov and then was raised to his present rank of army general.

### ALMOST A LEGEND

Almost a Legend
Already a hero in the eyes of his
countrymen, Vatutin is becoming
almost a legend for his leadership
in the Russian offensive which began last summer around Orel and
drove across the Ukraine to Kiev.
General Vatutin now commands
the 1st Ukrainian Army, which has
pierced the Polish border and shattered German defenses on the

pierced the Polish border and shattered German defenses on the
southern flank of the Kiev bulge.
In addition to winning the acclaim of all Russia and the salute
of thousands of salvos from Moscow's guns, General Vatutin received this credit from Red Star,
the Soviet Army newspaper:
"History has not known such a
swift operation."

# Plane Damages

LONDON — Operational research experts of the RAF are spotting Luftwaffe tactical changes by close

turn damaged by enemy action.

Analyzing tattered fabric, shattered girders or shell-pocked fuselage to determine how the damlage to determine how the damage was caused, these ground sleuths, according to an official RAF statement, can spot changes in tactics by the German air forces, the various Nazi anti-air-craft defenses and the ability of British aircraft to resist various forms of attack.

The experts' principal job is to develop structural modifications which might make RAF bombers stronger. Some of the shell-battered planes examined look as though they couldn't fly a yard, yet they have brought crews home hundreds of miles from the scene of the action.

By reconstructing a picture of how the attack was made, the experts are able to determine the probable maneuvers of the enemy fighters and give the bomber com-

probable maneuvers of the enemy fighters and give the bomber command information on the new tactics used by the Nazis to combat the British night raids.

# French Assembly Plans Rebuilding Of Free Country

By Sgt. DONALD A. WILLIAMS (Stars and Stripes Staff Writer)

Men with faith in the future of a liberated France are currently meeting in Algiers. They have come from numerous parts of the world to draw plans for the restoration of their homeland. Many have been smuggled from France itself been smuggled from France itself—by boat or plane and at great risk—from under the watchful and suspicious eyes of the Nazis. Many are in Algiers under assumed names that their activities may not be hampered when they return to France to continue their work with the undergrand

to France to continue their work with the underground.

This gathering is known as the Provisional Consultative Assembly—today's French equivalent of the American Congress or the British Parliament—a forum for those millions of French men and women opposed to the Vichy regime and the Nazification of France. It might be likened to the Continental Congress of 1776 when a young America, divided against a young America, divided against itself, was struggling for freedom.

### ADVISORY BODY

The Assembly serves as the advisory body to the French Committee of National Liberation headed by General Charles de Gaulle. Technically, it has no authority to support its decrees. But it is no mock body. Its membership is considered so representbership is considered so represent-ative of the organized anti-Vichy French that not once have its "suggestions" been rejected by the de Gaulle Committee. Now in its second session, the Assemb'y was established by the Committee of National Liberation

following extensive correspondence early last year between General de Gaulle and Committee members with General Henri Giraud and representatives of the underground movement within and outside of metropolitan France.

No delegates hold membership n the Committee of Liberation; neither do members of the Committee sit in the Assembly. But the Commissioner for State, Andre Philip, serves in a liaison capacity between the Assembly and the Committee And members of the Committee have the privilege of addressing the delegates in the Chamber. Only last week General Chamber, the delegates the delegates the delegates the delegates the delegates the delegates the delegate the countries contains de Gaulle spoke before the dele-gates voted on the 1944 budget proposed by the Committee and de-clared that the debates had pro-vided new proof of the existence of the French democratic spirit.

### UNDERGROUND DOMINATES

Its membership of 84 increased to 102 at the first session last November, the one-chamber Assembly is preponderantly representative of the organized underground group and other anti-Vichy elements. Of the 102 members, 49 were selected by the Council of Resist-

ance, the directorate of the under-ground movement in France it-self. Subject to recall at the will of the Council, these delegates have been prominent in anti-Nazi ac-

From The Ashes . . .



THE FRENCH PROVISIONAL Consultative Assembly is shown in session. Felix Gouin, Socialist Deputy from Marseilles, is presiding from his seat on the rostrum. Behind him is Emil Katz, Secretary General of the Assembly. Government members sitting in front of the chamber are, left to right, Andre Philip, commissioner for state; Francois de Menthon, commissioner for justice; General Charles de Gaulle, president of the French Committee of National Liberation; Emmanuel d'Astier, commissioner for the interior and Pierre Bloch, deputy commissioner for the interior. Directly behind these officials is Paul Giacobbi, Radical Senator from Corsica and chairman of the Assembly's finance committee.

(All Photos by Stars and Stripes Staff Photographer Sgt. Cyril Hopper)

serve one-year terms.

Prohibited as delegates in this group are those Senators and Deputies who voted the dissolution of the Third Republic and ton of the Third Republic and approved the assumption of dictatorial powers by Marshal Henri Philippe Petain after the fall of France. Excepted from this restriction, however, are men who by subsequent activities have proved their loyalty to the Republic to the satisfaction of the Republic to the satisfaction of the Republic to the satisfaction of the Republic to the satisfaction. lic to the satisfaction of the Resistance Council. One member of tivities in France.
Twenty-one of the delegates gory.
The remaining 12 delegates were the Assembly falls in this cate-

Popular Front was indicated at the time of the Riom trials when Vichy attempted to find scapegoats for the French declaration of war against Germany. Mr. Giacobbi is the Radical Senator from Corsica and is serving as chairman of the Assembly's important Finance Committee.

### RESEMBLES HOUSE

The Provisional Consultative As sembly is organized similarly to the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. House of Representatives, with an elected presiding officer and committees to which bills are referred for consideration. The presiding officer, known as the President of the Assembly, is Felix Gouin, Socialist Deputy from Marseilles. Assisting him are four other delegates, also elected by secret ballot, known as vice-presidents, who retain their right to dents, who retain their right to vote. The clerical, stenographic and other secretarial affairs are supervised by a Secretary Gen-eral, who is not a member of the Assembly

Committees of the Assembly e: Overseas, Finance, Foreign ffairs, National Defense, Education, Health, Youth, Economic Affairs, Social Affairs, State and Legislative Reform and Informa-

Committee assignments made by a method foreign to American politics and were based upon the original 84 - delegate strength of the body. (The 18 adddelegates approved at the November session have not yet arrived.) The 84 members were divided by lot into six groups of eight delegates and four groups of nine. Each of the ten groups then proceeded to select a representative for such that the second select as the sel tive for each of the committees. The committees in turn elected their own chairmen and spokesmen to represent them on the floor of the Chamber.

A characteristic feature of the pre-war French Parliament was

group composed of refugees from France or residents in foreign countries containing sizable French colonies. These members were chosen by the Resistance delegates from France and also are subject to recall.

Twenty of the Assembly delegates are former Senators and Deputies in the last legal French Pariiament and were selected by the recognized political parties of pre-war France in proportion to the strength of those parties. They serve one-year terms.

Chosen by the local government of the jurisdiction of the Local councils of National Libertocolonies under the jurisdiction of the Committee of National Libertocolonies. These members were colonies under the jurisdiction of the Committee of National Libertocolonies. These members were colonies under the jurisdiction of the Committee of National Libertocolonies. These members were colonies under the jurisdiction of the Committee of National Libertocolonies. These delegates are subject to recall by their local councils. Among the more prominent delegates whose names can be announced publicly are Vincent Resistance delegates, who compacted by General Resistance delegates, who compacted political parties of pre-war France in proportion to the Committee of Leon Deputies in the last legal French Pariiament and were selected by the Committee of Leon Deputies in the last legal French Pariiament and were selected by the Committee of Leon Deputies in the Cabinet of Leon Deputies in the Cabinet of Leon Sessions of the Chamber, regardless of the Committee of the Committee of the Senate or Chamber of Deputies, the Secialists next, the Radicals next, etc. No such arrangement has been followed in the Consultative Assembly. The Resistance delegates, who compacted by Ceneral Resistance delegates, who c

the Algerian government building on the Boulevard Carnot facing the harbor, are generally public although closed sessions may be held at the request of a committee chairman. Delegates may take the floor to speak by one of two methods. They may inform the President in advance of a debate when they wish to talk on a particular bill and can speak for 20 minutes. Or they may speak extemporaneously from the floor for eight minutes if they can obtain recognition from the President.

The Assembly retains a feature

The Assembly retains a feature of the European parliamentary system which has been suggested them back in France.

eight-day, bi-monthly session, the sessions to begin on the first Tuesday of the month. However, the sessions may be prolonged by a two-thirds vote of the delegates, as was the case in the first session, which lasted from Nov. 3 to Nov. 25. That has also been the case in the present session, which began on Jan. 4. Many of the daily sessions have begun in the morning. Many have continued into the evening. Committee meetings have been sandwiched in wherever possible. Little time has been wasted. Most of the delegates have important field work waiting for them back in France.



DELEGATES AND SPECTATORS trade informal views during an intermission in the lounge of the chamber. Here, newspapermen that with official representatives in much the same manner as they do in Congressional cloakrooms in Washington.



ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT Felix Gouin, right, discusses governproblems during an intermission with Vincent finance minister in Leon Blum's cabinet in 1936.

# **EM** Bombardier **Leads Formation**

AN ADVANCED AIR BASE— Enlisted bombardiers who lead formations are becoming almost as scarce as Pfc. squadron commanders, but S-Sgt. Morris H. Chambers, Ropesville, Texas, has completed 40 combat missions as an AAF B-26 lead bombardier.

A graduate of bombsight maintenance and automatic pilot schools since he joined the Army Air Forces in August, 1940, Chambers knew plenty of tricks with the famous American precision bomb-sights and took his place with commissioned bombardiers when his group went into combat during Tunisian campaign. Since then he has participated in missions to numerous other Mediterranean

During the first Marauder attack on southern France, Chambers was hit by pieces of an 88 mm. shell which broke his bomber's plexiglass nose and caught him in the shoulder. But he regained his seat and dropped his bombs on the Salon airdrome north of Marseilles

seilles.

He also took part in a running battle from Paoli, Italy, across the Tyrrenhian Sea when 25 ME-109s attacked Chamber's unescorted flight just as he called "bombs away." Two bombers and four Nazi fighters went down in the 35-minute fight before the Germans turned back. Chamber's plane was damaged and had to make an emergency landing, but no one was

# Hello, Hitler Hello

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—The telephone is here to stay and should be used extensively, Maj. Jock Barrow believes, so front-line switch-board operators won't be too surprised if this British officer someday puts in a call for a guy hamed



# **B-26** Marauders Snipe At Nazi Supply Lines

35-minute fight before the Germans turned back. Chamber's plane was damaged and had to make an emergency landing, but no one was hurt.

He has received the Air Medal with Oak Leaf clusters for "meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights."

AT A B-26 WING HEADQUAR-Itask for the Jerries, because Allied planes return again and again many's best weapons have been to tie up supply lines.

Early in December, Marauders bombed rail bridges at Aulia, near bombed rail bridges at Aulia, near the port of Speria; the marshalling yards at Sestri Levante on the main line from France to Rome vital targets in the past three years. yards, highway bridges and other vital targets in the Nazi commun-ications in and into Italy.

May Be Major's Next

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—The lephone is here to stay and should Brig. Gen. Robert M. Webster, Washington, D.C., going up on 14 days, ranged from the Antheor viaduct in the Riviera to within a few miles of the 5th Army front.

Adolf.

If Maj. Barrow placed a personto-person call to Herr Hitler and asked him for the latest "dope" on the Italian situation, he would merely be repeating on a larger scale what he did early in the campaign.

After landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely was at 100 merely was at 100 merely be repeating on a larger scale what he did early in the campaign.

After landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely larger landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was at 100 merely front.

All the main lines in the vast network of Nazi railroads felt the weight of high explosives unloosed by the Marauders in their total of 1,512 tons dropped in 51 missions including 1,560 sorties. The three landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to 1,512 tons dropped in 51 missions including 1,560 sorties. The three landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to 1,512 tons dropped in 51 missions including 1,560 sorties. The three landing at Salerno and the sale was at 100 merely landing that the sale was at 100 merely land to 1,512 tons dropped in 51 missions including 1,560 sorties. The three landing at 1,560 sorties are 1,560 sorties at 1,

# Allies Outmode Nazi Armament

task for the Jerralian lied planes return again and again to tie up supply lines.

Early in December, Marauders study of captured equal the port of Speria; the marshalling yards at Sestri Levante on the main line from France to Rome; a bridge at Cecina on the west coast doubletrack electric line between Leghorn and Rome and the Arezzo marshalling yards between Florence and Rome.

Selection of the most equipment, although the Germans entered the war after 20 years of preparation and with some of the most effective equipment in the history of warfare.

Shortages in vital materials and lossence are forcing the Germans chiefs to develop

After a few days' rest because of bad weather, the Marauders struck a variety of targets—a viaduct at Spoleto, the marshalling yards at Oree, north of Rome; the harbor at Civitavechia, northwest of Rome, and the railroad bridges at Ventimiglia at the foothills of the Alps on the Franco-Italian border.

# **Firemen Combat Shipboard Blazes**

By F. R. KENT, JR. (Stars and Stripes Naval Writer)

Twenty-two years of service with Twenty-two years of service with the Boston Fire Department ought to entitle a man to a little peace and quiet, but Lt. Edward J. Gaughan, USNR, and his colleague were right in there pitching when Sicily was invaded and again at the landings at Salerno.

Gaughan was one of seven officers and 75 men, all professional fire fighters, brought overseas to in-

cers and 75 men, all professional fire fighters, brought overseas to instruct the Navy in the art of combatting blazes. Recruited from departments throughout the United States serving cities of more than 300,000 population the smoke-eaters previously had served as instructors in fire fighting schools at home.

in fire fighting schools at home. When they came to North Africa, the firemen brought more than 1,000,000 dollars worth of equipment to combat fires which might occur during the projected invasions. Gaughan, who won the Navy and Marine Corps Medal when he and a crew were flown 2,700 miles from Norfolk to extinguish a fire on a cruiser, was on board a tug during the Sicilian operations. When a ship was hit, the tug went alongside to fight the flames.

At Naples, the seagoing fire de-partment conquered the flames on a merchant ship after fighting for 55 hours and were subsequently informed that 95 percent of the cargo had been salvaged.

Now Gaughan and 17 of his pro-fessionals are stationed at a naval operating base in North Africa un-der command of Commodore C. M. Yates. They are doing double duty, acting both as firemen and instructors. Their specialty is shipboard fire fighting and they are conducting classes for 35 men six days a

years of preparation and with some of the most effective equipment in the history of warfare.

Shortages in vital materials and obsolescence are forcing the German ordnance chiefs to develop different uses for equipment already produced, it was said. Antitank guns rendered ineffective by new American armored vehicles have been turned into grenade throwers. Some older German tanks are unable to withstand the power of new American anti-tank batteries and now are being used in

# day puts in a call for a guy hamed Adolf. If Maj, Barrow placed a person-to-person call to Herr Hitler and asked him for the latest "dope on the Italian situation, he would merely be repeating on a large grade what he did early in the Affer landing at Salerno and hearing that the telephone line to Naples was still working, Maj, Barrow put in a call to the Italian askill working, Maj, Barrow put in a call to the Italian askill working, Maj, Barrow put in a call to the Italian askill working and hearing that the telephone line to ham been been three days to make the major that the post of the post of the plant of the post o

By Cpl. WADE JONES Stars and Stripes Staff Writer,

WITH THE 15TH AIR FORCE ing of German industry in that with the 15th Air Force:

In Italy — Announcement this week that the heavy bombers of the fast-growing U.S. 15th Air Force were operating from Italy sealed with finality the last hem in the Allied bombing blanket over continental Europe.

In Italy — Announcement this time will have a definite effect on the power of German resistance at the beachhead battlefronts."

The officer also emphasized that with Italy-based fighter planes now able to escort the raiders all the way to many European targets, the danger from enemy fighters is

Tunisia to within range of south and eastern Germany meant that and eastern Germany meant that not only was no German target any longer safe from air attack but that certain targets could be attacked from two directions. Situ-ated some 500 miles northeast of their former bases in Tunisia, the four-motored 15th Air Force bomb-ers can now fold the bomb blanket double over southeastern France double over southeastern France and southwestern Germany in cooperation with planes from Brit-ain. The same two-way attack plan can be directed against southern and eastern Germany in con-junction with Russian bombers from the east.

"The principal gain from our move into Italy," a 15th Air Force officer said, "is that we can now reach that part of German industry which formerly was out of range of British-based planes.

The American Liberators and Front and northward from northward from the danger from enemy fighters is notably lessened. Important also in the strategic picture of future operations is the fact that bases in Italy will permit more operational days per month thore operational days per month than were offered in Africa.

From the standpoint of cloud ceilings, visibility and wind "here we don't have that bad weather

we don't have that bad weather to contend with which used to be encountered over the Mediterranean," the officer said, "and that means a lot, since a large bomber force just can't fly formation through clouds unless they want to get some wings taken off."

The sticky mud of south Italy hasn't been the easiest thing to build runways on, but then there isn't the blowing sand in the en-

isn't the blowing sand in the engines to contend with that there used to be around the African desert last winter. With improvements in runways or with the coming of drier weather, operations against Germany from the lower "And if the invasion of western peninsula should reach a peak prob-Europe doesn't come for another ably impossible to attain from any three months," he said, "our bomb- other direction of attact-

# **Jet-Propelled Planes** Fly Smoothly, Quietly

Assaults were also made on an dromes in the Rome area and other critical communications points which feed Field Marshal Albert Kesselring's troops in Italy.

WASHINGTON—A lack of noise and an absence of vibration characterize the new jet-propulsion combat planes now in production for training purposes in the United States and Great Britain, accord-

States and Great Britain, according to Brig. Gen. Benjamin W. Childlaw, chief of the materiel division, U.S. Army Air Forces.

General Childlaw, who flew the plane during preliminary tests, declared that the pilot's sensation is one of calmness because of the appreciable lessening of noise in the propellerless craft.

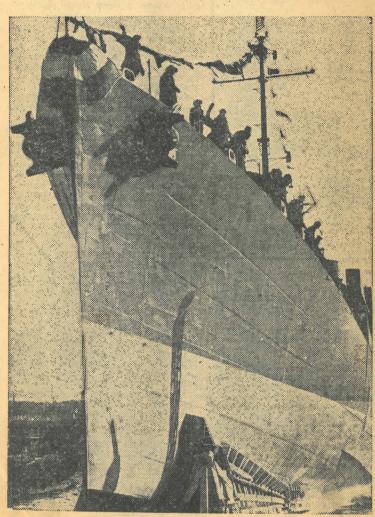
"It's speed possibilities and performance at high altitudes will make it valuable for combat purposes," he said. "Our pilots will find no trouble in operating these planes. We have flown these planes scores of times in trial tests. Now in authorizing their production, it is General Arnold's feeling (General Henry H. Arnold, commander of the U.S. Army Air Forces) that more planes flown by more pilots more planes flown by more pilots will accelerate the further and final testing that is so necessary in building our airplanes for flight forward to victory."

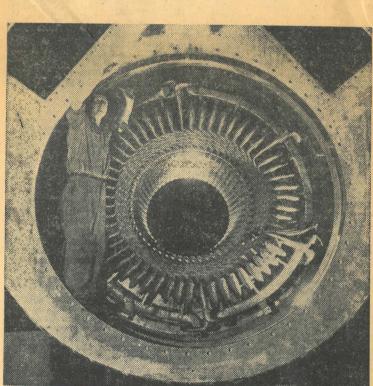
# Information Please



A MOBILE INFORMATION post is manned by 5th Army Military Police at the main intersection in Aversa. Pfc. Arthur Standard, Dover, N. J., directs T-4 William Hart, Shawomet, R. I., while Pvt. Howard Nuss, Harrisburg, Pa., and Pvt. John Gelbert, Reading, Pa., look on. (Stars and Stripes Staff Photo by Sgt. Max Montgomery)

# Civilians 'Fight' In Battle Of Production







Future historians reviewing the turning points of World War II may credit the Battle of Britain or the Battle of Stalingrad or some future Battle of Berlin as the decisive action in the Allied victory. If they resemble historians of the past, they may deal only in a footnote with one of the most important engagements of all—the Battle of Production, waged by the members of America's civilian army and carrying as great a portent of defeat for the Axis as any conflict of fighting troops.

Orders from hard-pressed Britain from 1939 down to Dec. 7, 1941, helped somewhat to ready the nation for post-Pearl Harbor demands, but on the whole industry was as unprepared for total war as the American Army. Like the armed forces, however, it soon shifted into high. Ever-turning factory wheels and streams of materials flowing all over the globe testify to the American genius for production.

On this page are shown some evidence of America's productive might in bringing to Uncle Sam's forces the equipment they need to "hit the enemy harder and harder, wherever he may be."

The aircraft engines at the right top represent only part of one day's output by a midwestern motor car plant.

Below the engines are some of the planes which they power. Fourmotored B-24 Liberator bombers are drawn up as far as the eye can see of one of the several U.S. factories producing them.

Equipment piled on U.S. wharfs is no good to soldiers overseas, but Liberty ships like the nine ranged at one shipyard on the Pacific Coast (right center) bridge the oceanic gaps between the home front and the fighting fronts.

Increased electric power means increased production of war materials so the government has completed the Denison Dam, which will create a reservoir covering 127,000 acres in Texas and Oklahoma. Besides providing power for manufacturing, the dam will also control floods, which, in the past have destroyed valuable crops.

For grain crops which have survived the weather hazard and are ready to be converted into fuel for the United Nations' fighting men, an inventor has developed a one-man harvesting machine which automatically threshes the crop at the same time.

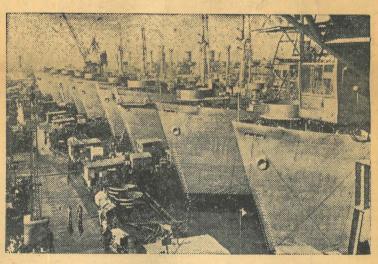
Navy destroyers of the type shown being launched at the left top have conquered the U-boat menace and are guarding convoys in the Atlantic and Pacific.

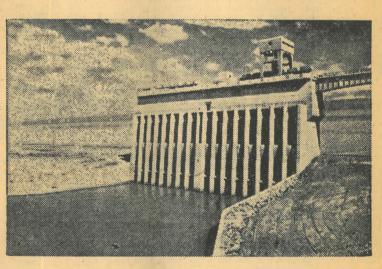
At the time of Pearl Harbor, the United States was caught short on its rubber supply when Far Eastern sources were cut off. The electric turbo-generator (left center), spinning at 3,600 revolutions per minute and supplying 35,000 watts, will furnish power for a large synthetic rubber plant.

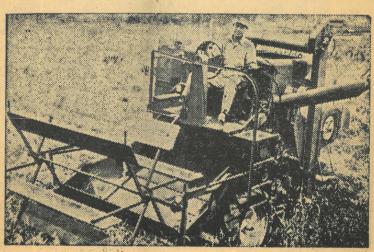
Rubber and steel and precision workmanship went into the manufacture of the 57 mm. artillery pieces at the lower left. Two women workers are seen checking the long row of guns before they are sent to the battlefronts.











# LOST AND FOUND

Pat and Chuck have been left behind by their father, who is somewhere in Italy. They were found alone in a deserted bivouace area and forwarded to us for safe keeping. Naturally, they are anxious to get back in the thick of things and are patiently waiting to sylvester Alfano, Cpl. J. F. Buonaitute, L. Bernson, Set, L. Bernson, Set, Jack Raymond; S.-Sgt. Clarence

The company of the company of

Twins Left Behind

be claimed. If their father will get in touch with this department, the photograph of Pat and Chuck will be forwarded to him immediately.

In Italy, 233 Town Major is attempting to locate the son of Mrs Elvina Angelina Petroro, Lt. Emil Petroro, late of Montreal, Quebec. If you know the whereabouts of the lieutenant, you can contact the son by the lieutenant, you can contact. In Italy, 233 Town Major is attempting to locate the son of Mrs Elvina Angelina Petroro, Lt. Emil Petroro, late of Montreal, Quebec. If you know the whereabouts of the lieutenant, you can contact Mrs. Petroro through AMG, Lanciano. sell.

Arthur Hagen, Pvt. Joseph Paelian; Lt. Norma Hitzeman, ANC, Pfc. Robert H. Sauer; Pvt. Loren D. Hubertz, Pvt. C. R. Johnston: Wcodrow Jeppesen, Pvt. Glen J. Sheen; Pfc. David H. Leal, Pfc. Adelaido M. Kennedy; Lt. James W. Morris, Sgt. Melvin W. Byers; Neil Ruffner, Wm. R. Kennedy; Pvt.Antonio J. Salamone, Pfc. F. D. Brown; Sgt. John K. Varnell, Pvt. W. E. Butler: Pfc. Vernon L. Wansley, Bob Geocke; Pvt. Clifford C. Whitley S-Sgt. Glen Fry; Pvt. Henry Wolff, T-Sgt. Harry Stein; Cpl. Ray Wooten, Pfc. Jack Abbott. Lanciano.

Miss Ruth Gomillion, 14 Seventh Street, Navy Yard 51, S.C., writes that she has not heard recently from Pfc. Henry E. Fontaine. She believes that he is in this theater.

Pvt. Nathan Donald Cobden is being paged by his father, Alexander Cobden, 2337 Medford Court West, Fort Worth, Texas. Since The Stars and Stripes arrives at Medford Court West regularly, Mr. Cobden is wondering why Nathan's letters haven't also been coming in.

Friends of the late S-Sgt. Albert N. Spor, 320th Bomb Group, are requested to write to Mrs. Albert N. Spor, 3350 Fillmore St., Denver S, Col. Anything you wish to write, fellows, will be appreciated by Mrs. Spor, who is much concerned over the fate of her late husband.

"From an article in The Stars and Stripes about a Lt. Robert M. Engel, I am at last able to understand a great many things. My name, you see, is the same. It explains a letter from a bank sending me deposit slips for large sums of money I was supposed to have deposited while in St. Louis. However, I was in Sicily at the time the money was salted away.

"By chance your paper explained."

"By chance, your paper explained the mystery. As I have no idea as to what the other Engel's address is. I would like to contact him. He possibly has letters or packages of mine and doesn't understand where they came from or why they were sent." The foregoing letter was signed by Pvt. Robert M. Engel.

Pvt. James W. Rovan is seeking Pyt. James W. Royan is seeking his brother, Pfc. Francis G. Royan, and Mrs. Eldan Powers, Bridgewater, Va., sends the following message to her brother, Pyt. Warren E. Shiflett: "We are receiving your mail, Warren. We all miss you and are thinking of you constantly."

Just one pair of cousins this week: S-Sgt. Lawrence Crandall is looking for Pvt. John Neely.

Capt. W. C. Fayne is trying to find his favorite nephew, Lt. Wal-ter M. Chambers, Jr., who is better known as "Red" or "Curly."

# Postwar Work **Ideas Requested**

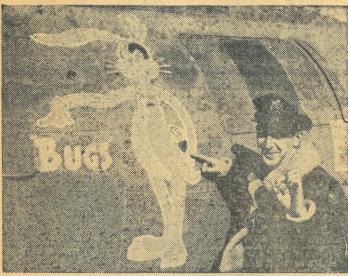
best plans or ideas for postwar employment. Prizes totaling 50,000 dollars in war bonds will be paid—25,000 dollars for second and 15 1,000 dollars prizes dollar prizes.

Manuscripts must not exceed 2,000 words, contest officials said, but may be supported by as much additional material as the entrant wishes to submit. If possible, manuscripts should be typewritten on one side of the paper and the entrant must give his home address, signature and, if possible, present location.

Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight, Feb. 7, 1944, and must be received not later than March 27, 1944. Entries should be mailed to Pabst Postwar Employment Awards, 441 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, New York.

Wansley, Bob Geocke; Pvt. Clifford C. Whitley S-Sgt. Glen Fry; Copies of the winning plans, officials said, will be turned over to government and private agencies which are concerned with the problem of postwar employment.

### Salve For His Wounds



"BUGS BUNNY," late of Hollywood and now adorning a B-17 Flying Fortress of the 15th Air Force, wears the Purple Heart on the spot where he was shot by a German fighter plane. It. Howard J. Blum, Minneapolis, the plane's navigator, points out the "wound" and its covering "decoration." The impish Bugs also wears ribbons for the Purple Heart and Air Medal on his breast and has seen this Fortress through 80 missions.

(AAF Photo)

# Crews Run For Home To Hold Their Clothes

AN AIR BASE OF THE 15TH clothes, Picozzi owns an unusual pair of shoes with a zipper down making for home on the double after a forced landing wasn't just anxious to turn in its report to the squadron operations officer. Each member was trying to get to his own clothes before they were divided among the lucky men who returned from the mission as scheduled.

AN AIR BASE OF THE 15TH clothes, Picozzi owns an unusual pair of shoes with a zipper down the outside. He keeps them shined like a 1942 Cadillac. "The boys kept telling me," Picozzi says, "that they were sweating me out I wore them on missions." Picozzi's mates have watched the shoes come and go for 40 missions. One pilot reported missing in

NEW YORK—Members of the armed forces abroad were invited this week to participate in the Pabst Brewing Co. contest for the best plans or ideas for postwar employment. Prizes totaling 50,000 dollars in war bonds will be paid—

are usually something like those overheard after a B-26 Marauder crew crash landed. "Let's hurry and radio the base that we're all right," the bombardier said to the navigator. "I just got a brand new blouse, and I don't want any of those wolves to get it."

Back in the States—still the land of plenty in spite of rationing—each man's private property. GI or store-bought, was respected as such. Overseas, however, where everything from wash cloths to flying boots is scarce, a practical kind of communism is in effect, and the clothes and equipment of any flier even suspected of being of any flier even suspected of being missing in action are likely to scatter like leaves in an October breeze.

The supply officer usually comes to check in the missing flyer's possessions only to be told that the latter "had taken all his belongings with him on the last mission."

mission."
T-Sgt. Jack A. Picozzi, radioman-gunner from Palmdale, Calif., found how it works when his crew returned to their base 48 hours late after making an emergency landing at Salerno. "The fellows in my tent had already divided up my cigarettes," he declared. "I got them back though."

though."
The clothes-sharers don't feel that they are profiting from any comrade's misfortunes. If their missing friend's equipment can make somebody else more comfortable, they reason, why not use it? They each share the same dangers; it could happen to any-body.

The grim side of the division is balanced by jokes about the

The ARC cable service announces

that the following men in this

that the following men in this theater have become fathers:

Pic. Robert F. Brantner, Robert Edward, Dec. 26; Lt. George L. Parkin. daughter, Dec. 25; Sgt. Houston Item King, Dennis Irvin, Dec. 12; Lt. James C. Barker, Barbara Lou, Dec. 15; Sgt. Walter Fideler, Richard Ward, Dec. 30; Ffc. Alfred Di Russo, daughter, Jan. 2. Cpl.Harry Cole, Robert Michael, Dec. 31; Pvt. Hoover Godwin, Janie Carole, Dec. 19; Pvt. Andrew J. Price, daughter, Jan. 2; 2-C Ralph Snow, Jr., Jeannine Rose Ann. December 2; Lt. Alfred J. De Grazia, Jr., daughter, Dec. 28.

Ens. Joseph Thomas Kenny, Joseph, third, Jan. 3; Pfc. Harold O. Schaeffer, Harold, Dec. 29; Lt. James M. Orsey, Jean Margaret, Dec. 28; Sgt. Roger S. Moore, Jane, Nov. 12; William J. Kelly, Kathleen, Dec. 18; Capt. Ralph W. Dettmann, Daniel Jon, Dec. 7.

Events

Blessed

# By Sgt. ROBERT WADE (Special To The Stars and Stripes)

as scheduled.

The first words uttered as a crew climbs out of a wrecked plane are usually something like those overheard after a B-26 Marauder crew crash landed. "Let's hurry and radio the base that we're all right," the bombardier said secheduled. squadron.

His eagle eye spotted a pair of pants here and a shirt there which had formerly been his own. He finally collected enough to keep him decent on his way home, but his cottons were recorded as

### Roll Of Honor

Three American enlisted men have received the Silver Star for

have received the Silver Star for gallantry in action in Italy.

Sgt. Emill C. Owen, Konawa, Okla., was cited for remaining in his vehicle when a German artillery and machine gun barrage forced a recon party to seek cover. Sgt. Owen relayed valuable information to division headquarters, the citation said.

Under intense enemy fire, Cpl. Edward Cummings, New York, dressed the wounds of a number of injured men and moved them to cover.

of injured men and moved them to cover.

Pfc. Theodore S. Brunt, Pawhuska, Okla., volunteered to lead three ambulances carrying severely wounded men back to a collecting station "although the only road leading to the station was under heavy enemy fire."

The Silver Star was awarded posthumously to George E. Downey, Watertown, N.Y. He volunteered to serve with an infantry platoon

serve with an infantry platoon which was advancing against Ger-man positions without an aid man and administered first aid until he

was killed.

While heroism on the battlefield usually earns decorations, demonstration of outsanding qualities of leadership in combat sometimes wins battlefield commissions for enlisted men. New second lieutenants of the 5th Army, appointed for combat leadership, include 1st Sgt. M. R. Hendon and S-Sgts. C. E. Adams, J. C. Jernigan, H. H. Pitman and T. Triplett.

Pitman and T. Triplett.

Recent recipients of the Legion of Merit medal include: T-3
Willis A. Daily, Jr.; S-Sgt. Lawrence E. Fox; S-Sgt. Alexander W. Kowalski; S-Sgt. John J. Gwozdz; lst Sgt. Frank C. Carpino; M-Sgt. Rermit J. Vinson; M-Sgt. Bruce Lowry; lst Lt. Reinhart W. Jaenicke; Capt. Walter Lund; Maj. Ralph L. Paddock, Jr.; Lt. Col. Robert N. Tyson.

# Fudge In A Foxhole



CATCHING UP ON MAIL, Pfc. James Pappas, Brooklyn, waits in a fexhole near San Vittore while Lt. Thomas A. Lewis, Chicago, makes fudge on gasoline burner.

(Stars and Stripes Staff Photo by Sgt. Max Montgomery)

# MEEKLY ROUNDUP



BASKETBALL NETTINGS: Ordained ministers opposed one another on the basketball court this week as Arkansas defeated Texas Christian, 71-56, at Fayetteville, Ark. Both acquitted themselves nobly as the Rev. Bill Flint scored 18 points for the Razorbacks while the Rev. Joe Wick tallied nine for Texas Christian . . Right in the middle of all the tall-man discussion going on in court circles, Idaho took on Gowen Field and assigned six-root-eight-inch Al Hubinger to guard five-foot-eight Bill Koche. Koche faked Hubinger dizzy and when he wasn't going around him for layups, he was arching high shots over his head to rack up 18 points and lead his club to victory.

BACKSTRETCH BANTER: One

BACKSTRETCH BANTER: One of the strangest mile races ever run at the Bay Meadows, Calif., track came off the other day. In between races Sunny Sundahl, a bartender in the clubhouse, came out and ran the track to win a 20-dollar bet. The loser had bet Sunny that he couldn't run a mile in street dather.

The loser had bet Sunny that he couldn't run a mile in street clothes and shoes in 12 minutes. What the bettor didn't know was that, though Sunny never was a trackman, he used to run a mile every day while in training as a fighter. Sunny won his 20 dollars by doing the mile in six minutes.

ICE HOCKEY NETTINGS: Ching Johnson, who starred for New York hockey clubs for 13 years, is back giving the sport another whirl, this time on the Pacific Coast. He plays defense for the Hollywood Wolves, and though he may not be as good as of old, he's still plenty tough for his present company.

ATHLETES IN SERVICE: En-ATHLETES IN SERVICE: Ensign Al Krueger was recently commissioned as a Naval pilot in California. Who will ever forget Al as the receiver of five straight passes from Doyle Nave, the final one of the string going for a last-second Southern Cal touchdown that beat Duke, 7-3, in the Rose Bowl in 1939?

One of the paratroopers decorated and lauded by General Douglas A. MacArthur for their part in the capture of Lae and Salamaua was Lt. Joe Phelan, a former football star at Creighton University.

INSIDE STUFF: The Big Six conference made a far-reaching rule when it voted that any war-

# 1943 Oatburners

money-maker a number of years back, who was unknown when two years old. There was Seabiscuit, who was still in claiming races at three. At the age of two, Exterminator had won only two ordinary races. Cavalcade was no two-year-old sensation and neither was Zev.

Last season the two-year-old divident was a cavaly were overly

sion found many who were evenly matched. They were good enough and closely enough matched to wear one another down. Their times often were quite fast. This could easily lead to a more interesting 1944 season for three-year-olds than any in recent years.

Although Occupy won two big Futurities and was voted the best two-year-old of 1943, a consensus from leading trainers picked Greetree Stables' Pukka Gin as the best 1944 prospect.

According to veteran horsemen, Pukka Gin has more staying qualitiles than most of the others. He likes distance, and Occupy seems to be strictly a sprinter. However, four or five of the others might easily develop into winning entries by spring.

war, if not in a fighting capacity then as a manager or trainer.

HOT STOVE LEAGUE: The Dodgers are depending on Johnny Cooney again to fill one of their outfield spots. Cooney is one of the best ball hawks in the business, but in 19 years in the majors he has driven in fewer than 250 runs and has hit only two homers ... Alarmdriven in fewer than 250 runs and has hit only two homers . . . Alarming news is coming back from the Aleutians tour of Messrs. Frisch, Borowy, Musial, Walker and Litwhiler. According to reports, some of the GIs there would rather talk with big leaguers than with Betty Grable or any other Dish.

HOOKS AND JABS: Heavy-HOOKS AND JABS: Heavy-weight Jimmy Bowden set a record of some sort when he fought Buddy Scott in Beaumont, Texas, one night and Jimmy Carollo in Jacksonville, Fla., the following evening. Scott belted him to sleep in the fourth round but he was revived in time to catch a New Orleans train. There he hopped a plane to Jacksonville. The ride must have strengthened him a lot as he lost a close decision to Carollo.

BOWLING BRIEFS: Seventeen-year-old Henry Rea of Detroit is a sandwich counterman in the Cir-cle Recreation bowling alley. The other night a member of a league team didn't show up, so the rest of the squad asked Henry to sub. Rea is a 152-average bowler, but in his first two games he hit 177 and 186. On his third try Henry hit a per-On his third try Henry hit a perfect 300 and brought his club home in front. He got 25 dollars from the manager of the alley, who is also his boss, and a medal from the

STRETCHING SHOESTRINGS:
Jimmy Toppi, the Philly fight promoter, can't squeeze more than 2,600 customers into his Olympic club without removing the walls, but he hasn't had a losing show in 18 months. Now Jimmy has a rival for smalltime promoting laurels in Sgt. Tex Salkeld and Joe Waterman of Portland, Ore., who started their National Boxing Club with 300 dollars and showed a gross "take" of 175,000 dollars in the first year.

### BASKETBALL

Dartmouth, 56; Boston C.G., 41
DePaul, 55; Glenview Air Station, 50
DePaul, 55; Glenview Air Station, 50
Great Lakes, 59; Lawrence College, 27
Notre Dame, 52; Marquette, 46
Jopenuw, 39; Wahash, 31
Sampson Naval, 51; Villanova, 36
Washington State, 49; Oregon State, 35
Akron, 73; Oberlin, 69
Canisius, 33; Wooster, 25
Long Island, 84; Fort Totten, 37
Purdue, 70; Chicago, 27
Wisconsin, 43; Illinois, 38
Iowa, 37; Minnesota, 34
Northwestern, 57; Michigan, 47
Norfolk Naval Air, 50; Bainbridge Nav., 48
Arkansas, 71; T.C.U., 50
Davidson, 43; Catawba, 31
Oklahoma Aggies, 42; Phillips, 28
Glenview Naval, 54; Chleago, 28
Texas, 55; Baylor, 37
Robbins Field, 38; Georgia Preflight, 31
Carnegie Tech. ASTP, 51; Camp Reynolds, 44
South Carolina, 65; Camp Butner, 30
Camp Grant, 49; Camp Ellis, 36
Columbia Naval, 56; Brooklyn C.G., 28
Fort Riley, 67; Kansas State, 43
St. Mary's, 61; Washington College, 39
R.P.I., 56; M.I.T., 23
Miami, 46; Ohio University, 30
Great Lakes, 76; Fort Sheridan, 52

# Allied Ring Finals Scheduled To Start Feb. 14 In Algiers

Action On Ice



BILL GOODEN (17), of the New York Rangers, goes down amid a flurry of shaved ice, while the puck sails off to the left during the second period of a Ranger-Chicago Blackhawk game at Madison Square Garden. Another Ranger player, left, tosses more ice at Gooden, as he tries to stop, as does the Chicago player at the right. The Rangers took the game, one of their four victories to date, 7-4. (Acme)

# now Or No, Sgt. Wren Wins Army Ski Title By Sgt. LEN SMITH (Stars and Stripes Staff Writer) NA MOUNTAIN TOP IN E MEDITERRANEAN AREA— is swo was sparse and the skis e Scarce, but snow and skis e plentiful enough to convince of skeptic that S-Sgt. Gordon on, Steamboat Springs, Col., is ski champ of the U.S. Army, this or any other theater. The 20-odd officers and men of accompanied Gordon to this of the control of the co Snow Or No, Sgt. Wren

a mere formality.

The names of the competitors would have drawn thousands of spectators to any ski trail back home. Here there was only a handful of persons to watch such brilliant performers as T-Sgt. Peter Pringsheim, Princeton, N. J., star of the German National Ski team until 1932, holder of innumerable Austrian and Swiss trophies and an avid hater of Hitler; Sgt. Fred Peiren, former Swiss Alpine Guide and Swiss Army Skitrooper; and Cpl. Paul Duke, Old Lyme, Conn., who has taught hundreds how to ski on the trails at Stowe and Manchester, Vt.

Jumps of 240 feet and up are Sorensen's specialty.

Rounding out the "competitors" were former national champion Lt Lawson, the first man to make a winter ascent on skis of Maine's famous Mt. Katadhin, and threeyear-winner of the Bald Mountain downhill race; Sgt. Jack Kappler, Seattle. Wash., who has been mo-nopolizing races in the Pacific Northwest for the last five years, and Lt. John Clement, who, incidentally, started fighting the Nazis as a member of the French Foreign Legion and fought his

### Stephens Reclassified

LONG BEACH, Calif.—Vernon, Stephens, star shortstop of the St. Louis Browns, has been reclassified 1-A, taken his physical exam and received his induction papers. Last summer a St. Louis draft board classified him 4-F because of a leg injury suffered several years ago the National Track He is married and has one child. Gotesborg, Sweden.

ON A MOUNTAIN TOP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA—The snow was sparse and the skis were scarce, but snow and skis were plentiful enough to convince any skeptic that S-Sgt. Gordon Wron, Steamboat Springs, Col., is the ski champ of the U.S. Army, in this or any other theater.

The 20-odd officers and men who accompanied Gordon to this mountain top this week didn't have to be convinced. He had beaten most of them at Lake Placid, or Sun Valley or on Mt. Ranier, and the strictly impromtu "Army Championship" here was a mere formality.

The names of the competitors would have drawn thousands of spectators to any ski trail back home. Here there was only a handful of persons to watch such brilliant performers as T-Sgt. Peter

SLALOMS AND HERRING-BONES: When John Lawson was five years old he received a pair of skis for Christmas. During the

Lacked Standout

NEW YORK—The hardest job in racing last season was to find a two-year-old which could wear that rare jewel known as consistency.

Occupy, Pukka Gin, Alorter, Boojiana, Mrs. Ames, Pensive, Dance Team, Professor Lee, Platter, Durazua, Jezebel, Stir Up, Lucky Draw, Weyanoke and several others would win one week, lose the next.

This doesn't mean, however, any drop in three-year-old quality. The facts that we had no Count Filest, Whirlaways, Alsabs or Johnstowns in the two-year-old division is no sign that any three-year-old divisi

Sgt. Pringsheim will be glad to accompany him . . As who wouldn't . . . Besides being Harriman Cup holder, Gordon Wren is Southern Rocky Mountain jumping and cross country champion.

### **Gunder Hagg Believes** He's Past His Peak

STOCKHOLM, Sweden—Gunder Hagg, Sweden's great track star who was named athlete of the who was named athlete of the year by an Associated Press poll, is convinced that he has passeu his peak and will set no more records. He predicts, however, that his fellow-countryman, Arne Andersson, will be 1944's outstanding track performer. track performer.

While Gund r the Wonder was making his triumphal American track tour last summer, Andersson set a new mile record of 4.92.6 at the National Track Festival in National Track Festival in

### Site Not Picked; **Outdoor Arena** Considered

After setting the week of Feb. 14-19, as the date for the finals of the Allied Boxing Championships to be held in Algiers, the Allied Boxing Commission this week anounced that plans were nearing completion for the training center to be established at Palm Beach, 15 miles west of the North African city.

city. The finalists of the sectional championships will be able to report at the center as early as Feb. 7, the committee reported, and can train a full week before their first fight.

The camp will have one officer in charge who will act as the executive as well as the commandant. Each base section will send a maximum. Each base section will send a maximum of 32 fighters—two for each weight class in both the amateur and the professional classes—with the number of trainers and handlers reporting depending upon whether the sectional winners are Army, Navy or Allied men.

### RING EQUIPMENT

nation bouts. In the finals on Saturday, however, an extra round will be fought if no decision is reached at the end of the regulation three rounds. Then, if the judges still are unable to decide the winner, the referee again will cast the deciding vote.

### 96 AMATEURS

If each of the 12 sectors sends full teams, there will be 96 men entered in the amateur division and a like number in the professional division. Reports trickling in to Capt. Al Baggett, NATOUSA Special Service Officer in charge of the tournament, have indicated that the amateur class will be fully represented from all sections.

that the amateur class will be fully represented from all sections.

There is a strong possibility that Marcel Cerdan, European middleweight champion who is now in the French Navy, will top the list of French entrants in the pro division. Along with Cerdan as possible entrants are Koudri, an Arab who is African welterweight champion, and Rene Pons, lightweight champion of Europe. pion of Europe.

PALERMO, Sicily — Ex-Golden Glover Ralph DeLucia, a member of a Coast Artillery unit, tops the list of 31 Army entrants for the Allied Boxing Championships from the Island Base Section. DeLucia, a welterweight, has been boxing for more than five years and took part in several Golden Glove tournaments in New York.

Walter Houston, a middleweight, is also rated high on the IBS list. He is an experienced boxer, having performed as a member of the Sa-

performed as a member of the Sa-lem-Crescent A. C. of New York. Houston is a member of a quar-termaster unit which also has another good entry in Henry Ballard, a senior-welterweight. Ballard got his ring experience in the South

and has fought in the Southern AAU elimination tournaments.
Sicily is holding its preliminaries this weekend and will run off its semi-finals on Jan. 18 and 19, with semi-finals on Jan. 18 and 19, with the finals slated for the following weekend. In addition to the 31 entries from the Army, the Navy has entered 17 men and several contestants are expected to repre-sent the British.

### Whechel Goes To Sea

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—Capt. Charles Humphries has taken over the duties of director of athletics at the United States Naval Academy, succeeding Capt. Charles Whechel, who was assigned to sea duty. Capt. Humphries will not coach the Middles' grid team. A new football coach will be assigned shortly.

### Labor Draft Debates

(Continued from Page 1)

On the opposite side of the fence Rep. Dewey Short (R., Mo.), a member of the House Military Affairs Committee, declared that national service is "Hitlerism" and would take away "the last vestige of the freedom for which our boys are fighting." And Rep. Leslie C. Arends of Illinois, the Republican whip, said: "I've been for a national service of the most inspiring messages of the President's career—the appeal cannot go unanswered."

The Sun also expressed the betional service program for years."

House Military Committee, which held hearings on such legislation last year but took no action last year but took no action, said: "I've never been so hot for national service, and I'm not hot for it

### CONGRESS SPLIT

The Associated Press said that the President's proposal for a labor draft split Congress wide spart and foreshadowed one of the most bitter fights of the coming election year. A cross section of sentiment in both House and Senate, the AP said, indicated that it would be touch and go whether the President's request would be granted or denied with the opposi-tion seemingly having the edge.

Other comment on the message from Capitol Hill:

Senate Leader Alben W. Barkley, (D., Ky.): "I'm sure the President's recommendations will have the prompt and earnest consideration of Congress."

Speaker Sam Rayburn (D., Texas): "The program should appeal strongly not only to the membership of Congress but to the people as well."

Sen. Burton K. Wheeler (D. Mont.): "The message is a clever political document. The President taking a definite if not the final step toward dictatorship in this

Under Secertary of War Robert Patterson declared that enactment of a national service act would result in the stabilization of labor in critical industries and would provide a definite morale boost troops overseas. Patterson said he thought "there would be little compusion" of labor beyond requiring workers to retain jobs for which they have been trained.

### NEWSPAPERS DIFFER

Newspaper comment on the President's message varied as strongly as that of Capitol Hill. The New York Times, declaring right off that it had favored a national service act more than a year ago said that the President's national service act more than a year ago, said that the President's endorsement of such legislation removed "the greatest single obstacle to enactment of a service act" and added that the President such labor draft to prevent strikes when "the government already has the act" and added that the President's arguments for it were "unanswerable."

Ignoring the current bills for a labor draft now being considered, the Times asked the President for a specific plan for such a draft to help Congress since "he and his advisers know best the nature of the problems they are trying to solve."

Finally, the Times asserted that "enactment of a national war service act by the American Congress would give Berlin and Tokio complete and final proof that we intend to fight this war to the full limit of our power and ability.

"If it is fair and proper and wholly in the spirit of democracy for the government to draft a man for military duty and send him across the seas to endure hardships and danger, then it's not less fair and proper to require him less fair and proper to require him posed" to such legislation because, and security if and when the nation's needs demand it."

considered on its own merits

The New York Herald Tribune commented: "The message shows President Roosevelt at his best and worst. There's only one decent and responsible reaction—to accept the

### **Home Subscriptions**

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Ruc Georges Mercie Casablanca

Wright aircraft plant to work for best and forget the rest of it. Naone dollar and a quarter an hour?" tional service with correlated action on taxes, prices and profits is key to all the difficulties, discontents and divisions by which we are now assailed."

The Chicago Sun called the ad-

The Sun also expressed the be-lief that if Congress can draft men

Both the Cincinnati Enquirer and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette chided the President for demanding a service act after two years of war and questioned the need for such legis'ation now. Said the Enquirer: "The average American won't quarrel with the principle of patients of the principle national service, but he will ques-tion its necessity. There can be no glib assumption that this is the time now for such legislation or that it would hasten the war's end."

### FDR TOO LATE

The Post-Gazette said: "Had Mr. Roosevelt proposed such a program two years ago or even one year, the nation would have greeted it with greater enthusiasm." The Pittsburgh paper added: "Most people will want to know whether he really intends to use it against he really intends to use it against those who have impeded the war effort or whether it will prove another device for further regimenting the American people.

The Democratic Cleveland Plain The Democratic Cleveland Plain Dealer termed the President's "second Bill of Rights," as propounded in the message, "his super-New Deal" and went on to say that "there is no doubt that the curtain was sprung on the 1944 Presidential campaign by the message to Congress."

The New York Sun, Republican, pointing out that three of the Prisident's five proposals—the taxes, subsidies and renegotiation recommendations—now run counrecommendations—now run counter to prevailing sentiment in Congress, called the message "more an angry rejoinder to criticism than a formal address on the state of the Union," while the Detroit Free Press, commenting on the labor draft proposal, recalled that poilter in Pritisip per Canada has neither in Britain nor Canada has a national service law stopped strikes, which, according to the President, was the main object of such legislation,

power to stop strikes via the Smith-Connally act," and declared: "The message sounded all in all like the utterance of a Chief Executive who hopes for a fourth term."

### LABOR OPPOSITION

Opposition of labor to any form of compulsory service legislation was not lessened by White House meetings between the President and labor chiefs. Both William

posed" to such legislation because, asserted it would not stop strikes, would not solve manpower tion's needs demand it."

The Times added that contrary to the President's thought, each of his recommendations should be recommended to the proposal as "quack to the proposa medicine," although he favored the other four points in the Presi-dent's program. although

The union chiefs cited figures and statements by war production officials supporting their contention that strikes had affected only a small fraction of war industry and that no national union had sanctioned a strike.

"The record shows that free labor in America is more efficient and capable of greater individual and collective production than and capable of greater individual and collective production than forced labor employed in totalitarian countries," Mr.Green said. "Why endanger the high efficiency of production we have achieved? This is the question Congress must answer when it considers the President's proposal."

# The Sun Shines Bright



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, the weatherman says, has a 72 percent possibility of sunshine all year round. While Mt. Maggiore in Italy is capped with snow, Carole Landis plays the percentage on a heach near Los Angeles.

(Acme Photo)

### Stormy Time For Congress (Continued from Page 1)

to the levels sought by the administration.

The subsidies program is almost as controversial as the tax and labor draft proposals. At its last sitting Congress effected a temporary compromise on the issue, but this time it will apparently have to settle the matter one way or another. In both his budget and State of the Union messages the President insisted that the government should employ "judicious use of subsidies."

Subsidies and stiffer taxation are linked, in the administration's view, to the campaign to prevent inflation. In his budget message the President told Congress:
"Let us face the fact—the failure thus far to enact an adequate

fiscal program has aggravated the difficulties of maintaining economic canticutes of maintaining economic stabilization. If we do not pay in taxes all we can, we shall be treating unfairly those who must face the accumulated bill after the war. By June 30, 1944, the public debt is expected to reach 198 billion dollars and, a year later, 258 billion dollars."

The budget message pointed out that estimated expenditures for the fiscal year beginning next July 1 would probably exceed net receipts by 59 billion dollars. "Without further legislation," he said, "the deficit will amount to 49 percent of total expenditures."

and labor chiefs. Both William "the deficit will amount to 49 perGreen, AFL president, and CIO
President Philip Murray conferred
with the President concerning that
part of the message calling for
compulsory labor, with both leaders apparently committing themselves to secrecy on what took
place at the discussions.

Before the White House meetings, however, both Mr. Green and
Mr. Murray issued statements on

# Bulgaria, Rumania Said Panic-Stricken

LONDON- A picture of Bulgaria and Rumania as countries stricken by fear and panic but in no posi-tion to get out of the war because of the presence of Nazi troops was pieced together this week from stories emanating from the Middle

In Ankara, a Reuter's correspondent declared that the Bul-In Ankara, a Reuter's correspondent declared that the Bulgarian government's decision to evacuate the battered capital of Sofia is considered proof of the inherent rottenness of the situation in southeastern Europe.

Istanbul reported that the arrival of thousands of refugees in Rumania from Bessarabia and Buco-vina has increased unrest and fear

The Turkish radio, according to Reuters, declared this week that Rumania and Bulgaria would not wait for danger actually to reach their doorstep before trying to make peace.

without impairing the stability and growth of the national income."

It was pointed out, however, that the national debt would exceed the estimated 258 billion dollars in 1945 unless a stiffer tax program were enacted.

With so much legislation require.

quest for 10,500,000,000 dollars in new taxes will not have a warm reception. Last year Congress showed a firm disinclination to raise taxes to the levels sought by the administration.

The subsidies program is almost as controversial as the tax and labor draft proposals. At its last sitting Congress effected a temporary compromise on the issue, but this time it will apparently have to settle the matter one way or another. In both his budget and State of the Union messages

(Continued from Page 1)

interest payments of 5,000,000,000 dollars in inclined this week to pay little atverage rate. With a national income, "Bill of Rights" which the President inserted in his State of the Union message. The eight points inclined this week to pay little atverage rate. With a national inclined this week to pay little atverate and

ter." Most ter. The national debt would exceed the stimated 258 billion dollars in Most Congressmen apparently felt this week that this long-range program could be safely put off till a less urgent day.

# CROSSWORD PUZZI

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(Answers on Page 16)

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Reprinted from The Kelly Field (Tex.)

# **Bombers Pound Enemy Airfields** In Heart Of Italy

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 14—Heavy and medium bombers combined yesterday in strong formations to strike heavy blows at the heart of the Lutt-waffe's fighter strength in Italy. Flying Fortresses of the 15th AAF Flying Fortresses of the 15th AAF led the attack, bombing the airfields at Guidonia and Centocelle, near Rome. While the targets were still smoking from the B-17 attack, B-25 Mitchells of the 12th AAF showered the same fields with fragmentation bombs. Later in the day, B-26 Marauders of the 15th AAF attacked Centocelle again and the two airfields at Ciampino, south of Rome.

In addition, B-24 Liberators of the 15th AAF, escorted by P-38 Lightnings, attacked the airfield at Perugia, 70 miles northeast of

The Fortresses attacking Guidonia and Centocelle tore up runways and adjacent areas with high explosives to prevent grounded aircraft from taking off. Of all aircraft from taking off. Of all the fields, Guidonia was hit hardest. Direct hits were scored on experimental buildings, workshops and assembly plants. Guidonia is the chief experimental station in Italy, comparing with Rostock in Germany. Various types of aircraft and equipment are tested and approved there.

The follow-up attack on Guidonia and Centocelle ran into intense fiak, but many hits were scored among parked aircraft, dispersal areas and hangars. The B-26 Marauders which attacked the two fields at Ciampino destroyed grounded aircraft and smashed up hangars and military installations. installations

installations.

Light bombers, fighter bombers and fighters pounded supply points and communication lines ahead of the 5th Army line throughout the day, bombing factories, railway yards, equipment and military targets at Isola, Ferentino, Colleferro, Valmontone, Atina, San Elia and San Blagio.

Other fighter bombers attacked shipping and port installations af the Yugoslav port of Sibenik.

### LUFTWAFFE

(Continued from Page 1)

employed was described as similar to that used in the towing of glidto that used in the towing of gild-ers, the mines were released from tow ropes at crucial moments in the battle. Many of the German fighters also were reported to have been equipped with rockets which they fired from considerable dis-

tances as in a naval engagement.
"It was openly admitted for the
first time by authoritative military quarters that some Luftwaffe tary quarters that some Luftwaffe squadrons which so far have been held in reserve went into action to ward off the great American air attack," the German radio said.

"He didn't like take-offs and landings so much—his crazy depth perception probably made him think we were going to crack up. But he really liked diving and climbing, and flak just lulled him to sleep.

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# Decorated By New Chief



AMERICAN OFFICERS, formerly on General Dwight D. Eisenhower's staff, this week received honors from General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, supreme Allied commander of the Mediterranean theater, at Allied Force Headquarters. General Wilson is shown above congratulating Brig. Gen. Benn M. Sawbridge who received the honor of Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

(British Army Photo through PWB)

# Cassino Battle Near

(Continued from Page 1)

est. Direct hits were scored on experimental buildings, workshops and assembly plants. Guidonia is the chief experimental station in Italy, comparing with Rostock in Germany. Various types of aircraft and equipment are tested and approved there.

Hangars, barracks, administration buildings and parked aircraft were hit at Centocelle. Several explosions were seen and fires were left burning.

The follow-up attack on Guidonia and Centocelle ran into in-

large-scale infantry attack along a ten-mile front.

It was all a mountain-goat affair, for each ridge on the way was important and had to be taken first. The infantrymen clambered up one hill, down the far slopes and up the next one—and fighting all the way. Beyond San Vittore, they slugged the Germans out of one ridge after another to get at Cervaro itself—Mt. la Chiaia, Mt. Porchia, Catena Vecchio, Mt. Cicerelli, Mt. de Piperni, Mt. Capraro. They took Cervaro Wednesday atternoon, but not before repulsing a vicious German counter-attack. Meanwhile, other infantrymen were battering their way toward Mt. Trocchio. British troops over the weekend smashed across the Peccia River, 'stablished a bridgehead and held it against enemy shelling. Monday they took Mt. Cedro, an isolated conical feature 400 feet high and two miles southeast of Mt. Trocchio. Other troops closed in on Mt. Trocchio from Mt. Porchia and Mt. Cicerelli. At the same time fighter planes and fighter-bombers made it botter for the Germans sitting on Mt. Trocchio.

(Continued from Page 1)

PARROT IN

P-38

vanced as much as two miles, and each step forward was fiercely contested by the Germans.

South of the Colli-Atina road, the French won better positions as a prelude to an attack on Aquafondata, a tiny mountain-village on the road itself. They captured Monna Casale, the highest point of which is 4,000 feet, and Monna Aquafondata, another 4,000-foot ridge which is more or less an extension of Monna Casale.

The extreme porthern flank of

The extreme northern flank of the Italian line was comparatively dormant except for aggressive pa-trolling and artillery activity by

AFHQ announced today that 8,000 German troops had been captured since the original landings on the Italian mainland Sept. 3.

### RUSSIANS STAGGER

(Continued from Page 1)

day night to the onrushing Soviets So swift was the advance in this sector that the Germans were said to be abandoning huge quantities of valuable equipment and supplies, and finding no time to destroy important bridges. Nazi staff officers were maintaining communications with their withdrawing forces from mobile head-quarters. the lieutenant explained enthusi-astically. The parrot rolled one eye, took a couple of pecks at the string and hopped about on the window sill.

On the lower side of the Kiev bulge the heaviest fighting raged. Here the Germans were suffering

squadrons which so far have been held in reserve went into action to ward off the great American air attack," the German radio said.

In Algiers, Flight Lt. Fred Backhouse of the RCAF declared that the ability of the Allied heavy bombers to penetrate to the farthest corners of the Reich had forced the Germans to base 75 percent of their fighter planes in the West to meet the Allied threat to key factories.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

"He didn't like take-offs and landings so much—his crazy depth perception probably made him think we were going to crack up. But he really liked diving and climbing, and flak just lulled him to sleep.

"I admit that when we were coming out of a long dive, his eyes a little, and his tail would sort of wilt, but he never blacked out. He and I got in 50 hours of combat in a very few days over Sicily and he loved it."

Then one day, Lt. Clark was transferred to a weather reconnaissance outfit in Italy. Jock came along. But the high altitudes of reconnaissance flying were too much for him and he was grounded because he didn't have an oxygen was and no one knew how too.

Soviet units advancing to the landings so much—his crazy depth landings so much—his key de landings so much—his crazy depth landings so much—his key de limbar and at preventing the cromosus losses in strong counter.

Here the German ver suffering excornes and dat preventing the cromosus losses in strong counter.

Red Then one day, Lt. Clark was transferred to a weather reconnaissance outfit in Italy. Jock came along. But the high altitudes of reconnaissance flying were too much for him and he was grounded because he didn't have an oxygen mask and no one knew how to

Soviet units advancing to the towns of Voronovitsa and Nemriov cut off a branch railway east of Vinnitsa which connects that town with Smela near the Drivines Pires. because he didn't have an oxygen mask and no one knew how to fix him one.

"Unless I get that bird an oxygen mask, I think he's going to pine away," the lieutenant began, but he was interrupted by a mighty squawk. Jock had taken one peck too many at the string on his leg. He fell backwards off the window sill, did a couple of ungainly half-rolls, levelled off and sailed full steam into the branches of an evergreen tree from which he dropped to the ground like a shot.

"See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" see what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" see what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" see what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. "See what I mean!" yelled the lieutenant, running for the stairs to the ground floor. The form Running for the stairs to the ground floor. The form the rear and from Running for the stairs to the ground floor. The form the rear and from Running for the stairs to the ground floor. The form the

# Flashes From The Italian Front Lines

IN THE LIAISON TENT news of the big attack down Highway 6 toward Cassino came in like precinct returns on election night. The liaison officers, sitting on a canvas cot. on C ration cases and on a litter borrowed from the medics, waited for each bit of news and then rushed to the field phone to call it in to their units. The first news—the beginning of the heavy artillery barrage—announced itself and was the property by Compact shelling a few words every Most of the promptly answered by German shelling a few yards away. Most of the promptly answered by German sneiling a few yards away. Most of the reports were read aloud by Maj. George F. Addison, Salem. Mass., liaison officer for the tank force involved in the action. "The artillery's got the Nebelwerfer," he said. "That's for me," exclaimed 2nd Lt. Robert Merrill, Houston, Texas, whose tank outfit was scheduled to cross its line of fire. In between reports, the officers talked and waited. First Lt. Robert Vernor, Coder Rapids Lowe, was busy marking in the First Lt. Robert Vernon, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. was busy marking in the ridge lines in red and the river lines in blue on his map. As the infantry troops crossed their initial phase lines, the news came in and was promptly phoned out in familiar military double-talk. "The infantry has left those two things I told you about," was the way Maj. Ronald Carley. LeMars, Iowa, told his headquarters that the second phase line had been passed.

ON THE NIGHT OF THE JUMPOFF, more than on most nights, men throughout the front were paying close attention to the weather. During the past two weeks, the weather has shown a marked disinclination to make up its mind. mixing up rain, wind and snow. An hour before the infantry left its line of departure, it began to rain again. The subsequent tank jumpoff was held up in at least one place, when a tank bogged down in a snot which had been passable before the rain began. On the morning after, the rain stopped and a blasting wind helped dry up some of the routes of approach. The next day, a light snow fell, with the wind helping to distribute it. "Just like California," observed an MP from Oklahoma. 38

ANOTHER MP, Pvt. John Sidney Bird, Jr., Birmingham, Ala, is less concerned with the weather than the domestic problems which take place day after day on his beat. "First it's a woman arguing with her husband, then it's a husband arguing with his wife," he says. "They always pick my street corner for their arguments. Sometimes I wonder if I'm crazy. I'm interested in this pretty girl named Ada, who lives up in the town, but if I get too serious, what would I get for it? Arguments, nothing but arguments."

MUCH MILDER ARGUMENTS than these go on night after night in the supply tent of a tank outfit's headquarters, where S-Sgt. Lawrence Selak, mess sergeant from Star City. W. Va., and Sgt. James Moray, Sierra Madre, Calif., the supply sergeant, hold their evening sessions. The arguments concern everything from the seasoning that goes into the stew to the armor that goes in the tanks. Selak generally has the best arguments on the latter subject, as he was a tank commander during the Tunisian campaign, when he received a Silver Star for carrying a wounded gunner out of the tank and back to the medics under heavy artillery fire.

AMERICAN TANKS, which had their heyday in the deserts of Tunisia, have felt somewhat slighted in the actions that followed. In the Italian campaign, until recently, they have had few chances to distinguish themselves. For this reason, S-Sgt. Lyman Heiman, a farmer boy from Salisbury. Mo., who now commands a tank at the front, stated that he had been "restless from too much sitting." Perched on the side of a mountain to give artillery support to tanks in the valley below, Heiman's tank was kept busy answering German fire. "After their first few shells landed," he said, "I had my nerve back again." Heiman has also received a Silver Star—for removing a jammed shell from the barrel of his 75 under a hail of enemy artillery and small arms fire.

THE RIDGE ABOVE THE VALLEY where the battle was going on bears testimony to the fighting that has already passed it by. San Pietro and San Vittore, two small towns whose names were put on the map by the present campaign, are shattered wrecks. Many of the houses have been smashed to the ground and those standing are all scarred by artillery fire. Perhaps even better evidence of the total coverage of this area by shelling are the short-growth trees among the grey rocks on the ridges. All the trees have been cut by shell fragments and many of them are bent over or broken. A company commander who fought in the last war and has been through Tunisia and Sicily says that this battleground reminds him more of France in 1917 than any other place he has seen.

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BEFORE THE AMERICANS moved on from San Vittore, Maj. Ray J. Erickson, a battalion executive from Stillwater, Minn., had a few words to say about towns in general. "Towns make the news," he observed. "People think in terms of towns but they're less important to the Army. The most important battle and the toughest might take place on a hill nobody's ever heard of, while the town might not make a fight at all. In San Vittore, it was a little different. We had to take the town to get by it, but at the same time, most of our trouble came from Mt. La Chiaia on the other side of San Vittore."

FOR PFC. FREDERICK G. OLIVER, a jeep driver from Peninsular Base Section, the drive for Cassino also marked his first time under enemy shell fire. "When I jumped for the ditch," he says, "I didn't think of anything, but when the shells started landing, I felt a little jumpy. Now that it's over, I feel much better than when I started out." Oliver, who has four brothers and six sisters back home in Enfield, Conn., says he'll hold off writing them about it. "It'd just get them excited," he declared, "and I think I'll save it to tell them about after the war's over."

FOR THE AVERAGE INFANTRYMAN enemy fire is hardly worth writing home about any more, but five of them spent a few minutes with a German shell they won't forget for a long time. They were bivouacked on the second floor of a battered Italian house when one of the familiar German duds came through the roof and landed in the center of the floor. "Well, what'll we do with it?" said one. "Wait till it cools!" said another. Five minutes later, two of them gingerly picked up the "dud," carried it to the window and dropped it. The resulting explosion knocked them off their feet.

TALK ABOUT YOUR 100 MEN AND A GIRL. In Naples live 400 soldiers and a sailor. The lone salt, Yeoman First Class Nate Fazio, Batavia, N. Y.. is at present the only Navy man attached to an Army base section outfit. "We get along okay," said the 20-year-old sailor. "In fact, I like the Army." Momentarily without bell bottoms Fazio is wearing Army khaki, except for blue belt, black shoes and striped sailor cap. "I get stopped plenty of times every day by MPs telling me I'm out of uniform—but what can I tell them?"

ONE STATION HOSPITAL UNIT found a supply of 200 Nazi flags in the storerooms they took over. The flags were red with a white center on which was a black swastika. "What did we do with them?" chuckled Warrant Officer Albert Kanner, New York City. "We tore them up and used the red section for aprons and the white center for barber towels, and sometimes we use the swastikas to cover "Flying Fortresses." Flying Fortresses in hospital terminology are bedpans, he explained.