

8.D.I.C.

Man Spricht Deutsch

Sie werden abgeholt.
Zee verden upgeholt.
You will be fetched.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Ici On Parle Français

J'en voudrais un de plus.
John voodRAY zan duh plew.
I'd like one more.

Vol. 1—No. 144

1 Fr.

New York — PARIS — London

1 Fr.

Monday, Dec. 18, 1944

Mindoro Japs Driven Inland 7 to 9 Miles By U.S. Forces

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (ANS)—American invasion troops, sweeping seven to nine miles inland on Mindoro Island in the northern Philippines, yesterday captured the town of San Jose and its airfield, Gen. MacArthur announced tonight.

Engineers already were constructing other air bases on excellent sites near the beaches as infantrymen pushed inland from three areas on the southern part of the island. Japanese opposition was negligible to the seizure of San Jose, located on the Bugsanga River at the rail junction running from the north along the China sea side of the island.

24 Planes Shot Down

As transports poured men and supplies ashore under enemy air attacks, American airmen supporting the landings shot down 24 planes while naval units sank a damaged Jap destroyer hidden in a bay within 15 miles of the landing sites.

In Pearl Harbor, Admiral of the Fleet Nimitz announced that American carrier forces destroyed or damaged 373 Japanese planes in three days and nights over Luzon in support of the invasion.

On Leyte Island, the 77th Div. pushed north from Ormoc, closing in from the rear against Jap lines to seize the village of Cogon and its road junction in the mountains. MacArthur said more than 3,000 Japanese were killed during the last two days' fighting in this area.

GIs Get Leave For War Work

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (ANS).—The War Department underscored official alarm at lagging production schedules yesterday by furloughing 4,700 soldiers to work in labor-short plants producing top-priority military goods.

They will be sent to war plants before Christmas, if possible, to help in the production of heavy artillery and mortar ammunition, tires and cotton duck. As soon as civilian workers are available they will be returned to duty.

The soldiers to be selected will be experienced in the type of work involved. Those alerted for overseas duty, assigned to the infantry, or in air crew training programs will not be considered. They will be sent to 180 selected high-priority plants where manpower shortages have curtailed production.

Three thousand will go to ammunition factories, 1,200 to tire plants and the remainder to cotton mills.

Women in Occupation Army

LONDON, Dec. 17 (Reuter).—The Earl of Selborne, minister of economic warfare, told the House of Lords here that some of the women in the British forces would be "required to take part in the armies of occupation" after the war.

Nazis Smash Back Across Border; Luftwaffe Aids Drive on Hodges Line

97 Enemy Planes Shot Down Aiding German Drive

The Luftwaffe came out of hiding yesterday to hurl its biggest tactical force since D-Day at U.S. forces on the Western Front, the Ninth Air Force announced last night, but by nightfall 97 of the 450 Nazi planes encountered during the day had been destroyed by Ninth fighter-bombers.

Thunderbolts, Lightnings and Mustangs of the Ninth flew more than 1,110 sorties against the Luftwaffe and against Nazi counter-attacks on the First Army front, while continuing their blows behind the lines in the Third and Ninth Army sectors. Their 97-plane bag set a record for air action on the front. Thirty-one U.S. planes were reported missing.

Jumped by German Planes

Stars and Stripes Correspondent Jules Grad reported that the gigantic air battle, reminiscent of the dog fights over Britain during the '41 blitz, started yesterday morning, when between 200 and 250 German planes jumped, Thunderbolt formations above the Bonn area, just east of the Rhine and southwest of Cologne. In this fight alone, at least 21 FW190s and ME109s were shot down.

Although this was the biggest daylight battle over the Ninth Army area, Grad reported that the once-wary Luftwaffe made its biggest bombing effort of the campaign Saturday night. From dusk until dawn, the Luftwaffe sent up more bombers than at any time since the Allied offensive started rolling toward the Rhine. At least 300 German planes were plotted.

Dogfights raged in the air all along the Western Front, and one

(Continued on Page 2)

The Front as Counter-Attack Opened



Re-Enter Belgium, Luxembourg at Three Points

German troops, supported by tanks and the Luftwaffe, smashed at American First Army lines on a 70-mile front from Duren to Trier yesterday and drove back across the German border into Belgium and Luxembourg at three points along the invasion route the Nazis took in 1940.

The most powerful counterblow the Wehrmacht has struck since the battle for the Rhine began three months ago, carried fresh German forces westward one to two miles in a sector 30 miles southwest of Aachen. The sector had been dormant for weeks.

Luftwaffe Comes Out

Taking to the offensive simultaneously with ground troops, the strongest formations of Luftwaffe seen since D-Day attacked both First and Ninth Army lines.

The great show of enemy aircraft made it seem apparent that night-and-day air activity was part of the German High Command's plan to create diversion in order that a counter-attack south of the Ninth Army's boundary should have a minimum amount of interference from the skies.

Counter-attacks northeast of Aachen were smeared. The 83rd Div. smashed a German attack

(Continued on Page 2)

Faenza Falls To 8th Troops

ALLIED HQ., Italy, Dec. 17.—New Zealand troops of the Eighth Army seized Faenza today after nearly a week of bitter fighting for the important stronghold on the Bologna-Rimini highway, today's communiqué announced.

Following up this advance, the New Zealanders joined with Indian units to drive further northward to the edge of the River Senio. At the same time, Canadian troops of the Eighth expanded their bridgehead over the Naviglio Canal to three miles in width, despite strong opposition from German armor.

On Fifth Army sectors, only patrol activity was announced.

Pilot Saves Bombardier; Gets Congress Medal

LONDON, Dec. 17 (ANS).—Lt. Edward S. Michaels, of Douglas, Ariz., Flying Fortress pilot of the 305th Bombardment Group, has been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Michaels won the award for heroism during a mission over a German industrial center, when he saved life of his bombardier and flew his flak-torn bomber safely back to its UK base.

Gramp, Gramp, the Boys Are Marching

By Ed Wilcox

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE FIFTH INF. DIV., GERMANY, Dec. 17.—With a rattle of bones, a creaking of joints, and a hell of a vibration at the knees, the Volkssturm, Himmler's



reluctant 4Fs, were ordered into the line at Metz to do or die for Deutschland against the attacking 5th Div.

In what was probably the most unorthodox engagement in military annals, two dozen septuagenarian selectees put on a 15-minute exhib-

ition which looked more like something from an Olson and Johnson show than a last-ditch battle. Ten of the Volkssturmers bit the dust, one shot himself in the leg, and nine others threw down their antique French carbines and yelled "kamarad."

One of the wrinkled oldsters, questioned about the formation of the unit, training and size, said that there were 500 men in the Metz unit but when the call to arms came, 476 were AWOL.

"I am 66 years old," the shriveled gent said, wiping his nose on his sleeve. "I am a clerk and I didn't want to fight and I don't know how to fight. We had only six hours of training before we were ordered to go into the line."

Several of the other men said they had never fired a gun before. The uniform they wore was the same as that of the Wehrmacht

except that they wore no insignia except the armband, which reads, "Deutscher Volks Wehrmacht"—German Peoples Army.

Pfc Anthony Allabello, of Brooklyn, N. Y., said:

"That was the damndest thing



I ever saw. One of them popped up to one side of me, pointed his rifle in my face, clicked the trigger and nothing happened. He dropped the gun and ran like hell. When I picked up the gun to look at it I found that it wasn't loaded. Strictly from Laurel and Hardy."

Rhine Refugees Flee Advancing Allied Armies

ZURICH, Switzerland, Dec. 17 (Reuter).—Almost the entire population of the Rhineland is fleeing before the advancing Allied armies, 20 miles to the west, according to refugees reaching Switzerland from Cologne.

Tens of thousands of homeless Germans are leaving for east and south Germany. Hundreds unable to find transport are fleeing on foot. Scores die of exposure caused by camping out at night under appalling winter conditions. Many are dying of hunger.

Population Shrunk

Cologne's original population of 1,000,000 has shrunk to 65,000. Ration cards are no longer issued in the city, so starvation is the inevitable fate of those resisting the government's evacuation order. Cologne itself is almost totally devastated with only isolated buildings remaining.

Thirty Germans publicly hanged as "dissenters and grumblers" were left hanging 24 hours. An ever-growing number of workers manage to steal weapons and join their comrades underground.

The Hitler salute is answered with stones and several fanatical Nazis have been killed.

Last week 5,000 Rhineland fugitives arrived at Lake Constance. Officials in southern Germany are faced with a serious problem.

Brittany Isle Taken by Nazis

Renewed action by the Germans at Brittany's besieged ports of St. Nazaire and Lorient began yesterday when an invasion force of 200 Germans in six torpedo boats and smaller craft landed on and captured the tiny island of Houat (pronounced What), ten miles south of the French coastal city of Quiberon.

The island was used by Americans as an outpost for observing enemy sea traffic between St. Nazaire, Lorient and Belle Island. Several GIs of Maj. Gen. Harry J. Malony's 94th Inf. Div., who for two months lived undetected on Houat are believed in enemy hands.

French marines and civilian technicians who lived on the island are believed either killed or prisoners of war. The Americans have made no attempt to retake the island.

British Turn Down EAM Peace Terms

ATHENS, Dec. 17.—Lt. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, commander of British forces in Attica, rejected the peace proposals of the EAM (left-wing National Liberation Front party) today because the Leftists' offer failed to provide for immediate cessation of resistance and fighting.

Gen. Scobie earlier this week demanded that all the ELAS (fighting branch of EAM) supporters surrender.

Pledging that the Supreme Allied commander in the Mediterranean, Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, would soon take over the task of ending the conflict within Greece, Scobie expressed hope that the Greeks would unite to establish a democratic government.

Economical With Ammo

WITH THE XII CORPS.—Cpl. Raymond W. Berg of a tank destroyer battalion knocked out a Tiger tank at 1,200 yards range with one round during a storm.

Silver Threads Way Back to Join Gold

AN AIR SERVICE COMMAND STATION, FRANCE, Dec. 17.—Heigh! Ho! Silver Tens of it—in the form of British coins—have just been flown from France to the Bank of England. The cargo, weighing nearly five thousand pounds, was moved in one of the Douglas C-47s of Air Service Command's Transport Wing.

Although GI Joes converted their pounds and shillings into "invasion" currency before embarking for France, many a pocket still jingled with a few odd "bob" and half-crowns. Eventually, these found their way into U.S. Army finance offices on the Continent and into the money bags destined for the "Old Lady of Thread-needle Street."

Tito Wins Last Serbian Town

While the Red Army's muddy campaign in Hungary continued to make slow progress yesterday, Marshal Tito announced that his Yugoslav troops had captured Uzice, last German-held town in Serbia.

Tito's men drove westward from there to the Drina River, occupying the river town of Lubovija, 34 miles northwest of Uzice. At the same time, British and South African medium and fighter-bombers heavily attacked German columns fleeing northwestward through Jugoslavia toward Austria before Russian and Yugoslav forces should bar their path.

In the Budapest area, the Soviets met fierce resistance. Torrential rains, which brought the Danube River above the flood stage, added to their difficulties.

Soviet infantry northeast of the Hungarian capital was closing in on Kassa, German stronghold on the Czechoslovakian border.

MPs Arrest 199 In Paris Roundup

Paris MPs arrested 199 U.S. soldiers during Friday's drive to round up AWOL troops, the Theater Provost Marshal revealed yesterday. The figure, almost twice the normal number of arrests, included 170 men who were picked up without passes.

The "drag net" laid by the MPs included raids on 50 hotels and the arrest of GIs occupying rooms in the hotels without authorization.

Paris Joins Still Jumping Despite the Ban On Dancing

By Ernest Leiser

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Despite an official ban, dancing in Paris nightclubs and cabarets flourished over the weekend, with dance floors open to all comers.

Troops on pass and GIs stationed in the French capital, having read that the police had outlawed dancing in public places, were asking, "What the hell?" last night, as they made the rounds and found nightspots in full swing.

Everyone else was a little confused, too. Cabaret proprietors in Montmartre, hub of Paris night life, said they didn't know anything about any injunction against dancing. They "thought" that the rule applied only to nightclubs on the Champs-Elysees.

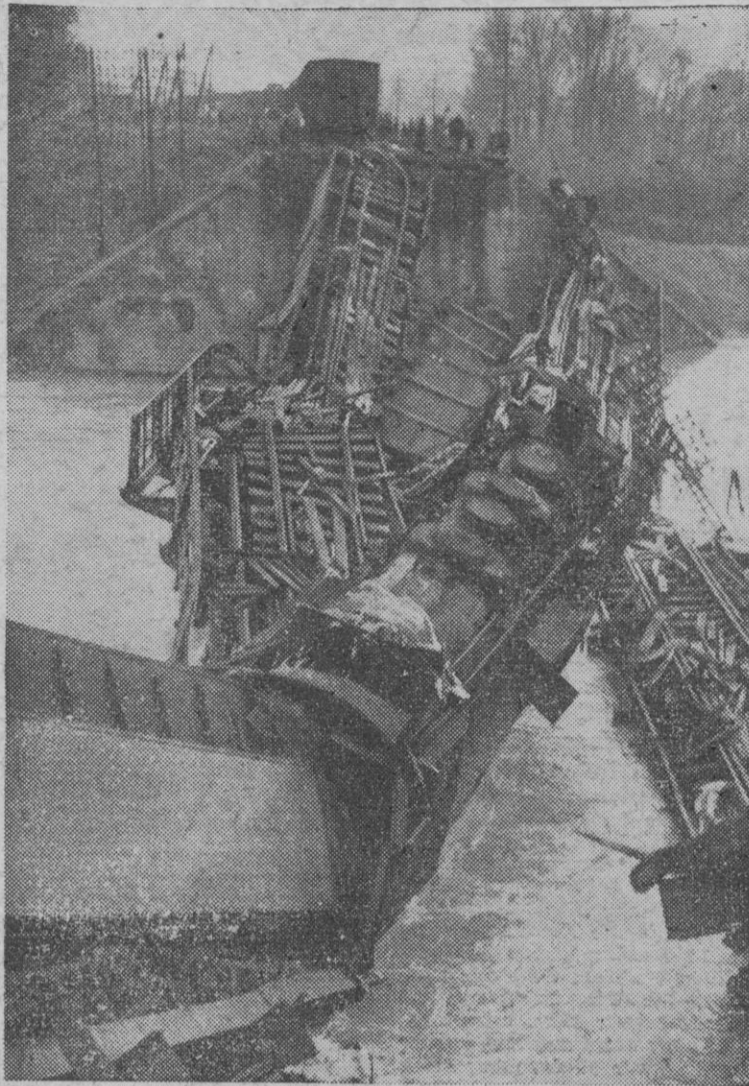
A bartender in a fashionable Champs-Elysees club, asked if the

ban was in effect, shrugged, pointed toward the milling couples on the dance floor, and said, "Oh, that was yesterday. Or tomorrow. Or after Christmas."

Officials in a police station off the Champs-Elysees obligingly displayed the order from headquarters banning "dancing in all public places," and expressed polite surprise that there were violations occurring in their bailiwick.

Even the Paris Prefect of Police, who issued the ordinance against dancing wasn't sure of the situation yesterday. He said that "theoretically" the ban was in effect, but that "practically" it wasn't being enforced yet. The French police, he said, were trying to work out some arrangement with Allied military authorities which would permit soldiers on pass to dance while "not compromising civilian morale."

The Mark of German Retreat



A locomotive and tender lie twisted amid the wreckage of a railway bridge destroyed in the Third Army area by retreating Germans in an attempt to stem the American drive into the Saar region.

Big 3 Meeting Set, UP Claims

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (ANS).—The second Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin conference has been arranged, and is scheduled for late January or early February, the UP asserted today in a copyrighted story.

Dictating the need for the conference were new demands on both sides of the Atlantic for consultations at top levels and grave concern over divergent courses of Allied diplomacy.

The principal factor governing the time of the talks apparently is Roosevelt's schedule, which calls for the fourth term inauguration on Jan. 20. The meeting will be held soon thereafter unless world events force a change in plans.

Luftwaffe . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

U.S. fighter-bomber pilot, 1/Lt. William M. Kerr, of Richmond, Calif., downed two ME109s and two FW-190s in a single action.

One of the outstanding features of the Luftwaffe show was that German pilots chose to fight even when they were in the minority, which gives further credence to a report that Gen. Rundstedt, in an order of the day yesterday, urged the German air force to try for "one last effort."

Near the British-Canadian front in Holland, smaller formations of the Luftwaffe smashed against the RAF and lost eight FW190s and a jet-propelled ME262.

Forces of fighter-escorted bombers of the Italy-based 15th AF, striking in the Munich area and in Upper Silesia, also met strong forces of the Luftwaffe. They beat off the attacking planes, however, and continued on to blast synthetic oil targets at Blechhammer and near Odertal.

3 Snipers Delay Sarge En Route to Get Medal

WITH 35th INF. DIV.—He was late for the ceremony in which the Regt. CO was to award him the Silver Star. T/Sgt. Adam J. Czaikowski, a Milladore, Wis. doughboy with the 134th Inf. ran into sniper fire and an artillery barrage near Sarreguemines on his way to the CP.

63,000 Francs for Ike's Name

Gen. Eisenhower's autograph brought 63,000 francs in a Paris auction held over the weekend for the benefit of the bombed-out civilians of Normandy. Maurice Chevalier took part in the charity show at the Folie-Bergeres, giving his first performance since the liberation of Paris.

Nazis Recross Border in Blow On First Front

(Continued from Page 1)

west of Duren. Other First Army troops broke up German drives in the Monschau Forest.

South of the forest along the winding and thinly held sector down to Trier, fresh German infantry and tanks struck into Belgium in the area near Honsfeld, a frontier Belgian town.

Other enemy thrusts pierced the Duchy of Luxembourg at two points.

One broke across the border in the vicinity of Echternach and another 12 miles to the northwest near Vianden. Echternach is 19 miles from the city of Luxembourg and 11 miles northwest of Trier.

The assault was considered a move to relieve the pressure Lt. Gen. Hodges' First Army has been exerting on the Cologne Plain defenses.

Nazis Drop Paratroopers

The attacks were preceded by heavy artillery fire. CBS Correspondent Richard Hottelet broadcast from First Army that scores of Nazi paratroops were dropped behind American lines.

Other German attacks were reported on the Ninth Army front, but details were lacking.

Reuter reported that Field Marshal von Rundstedt in his order of the day urged German troops to "give all you have in one last effort."

In the Saar, U.S. Third Army forces widened their cracks in the Siegfried Line defenses at Dillingen and Saarlautern.

Resistance in Dillingen was weakening momentarily as 90th Div. men gained 400 yards. In the Saarlautern suburb of Ensdorf, 95th Div. troops gained about 300 yards against bitter opposition.

Move On Nazi Soil

U.S. Seventh Army forces continued their advance out of Northern Alsace into the Palatinate, moving on German soil along an 18-mile front toward the Siegfried Line.

Men of the 103rd Div. reached Rechtenbach, just north of captured Wissembourg. Eastward toward the Rhine, 79th Div. men took Lauterberg and drove on to reach Berg across the border on the edge of the Bienwald Woods.

At the other end of Alsace, the French First Army gained a mile and one-half in the Bonhomme Pass and entered the Vosges Mountains town of Kaiserberg.

Captured Two Forts

It was disclosed that in their dash through northern Alsace, Seventh forces bypassed two Maginot forts. These were the Hockvald system southwest of Wissembourg and the nearby Schoenenburg system.

Both systems were damaged in 1940 by the Germans and were found abandoned. They were built astride the Wissembourg gap, which runs into Germany. To the west, however, in the German-manned Maginot fortifications in the Eifel hills, resistance was heavy.

Gen. Patton Calls Planes 'Co-Equals'

19TH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND HQ., Dec. 17.—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. told a press conference today that air and ground forces were "co-equals," doing their task of killing the enemy with absolute homogeneity. He praised the 19th Tac highly, saying that he and his men knew the reconnaissance planes "would protect our right flank following Avanches by discovering anything the enemy had big enough to hurt us."

New Methods Used to Rebuild Scarred Faces

By Jules Grod

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer.

AT THE 41st EVAC. HOSPITAL, Dec. 17.—“The society of hideous faces”—a group of World War I veterans without noses and mouths, some with gaping holes for cheeks and chins—won't add a new chapter after this war.

Plastic surgeons here and at scores of other evacuation hospitals near the front lines are making sure the wounded soldier will have a chance to return home with a face resembling its former shape.

Specialists like Capt. George A. Freidman, of New York, devote themselves to rebuilding a GI's face like it was when the doughboy put on his first pair of ODs. In the majority of cases they have been successful.

Special Techniques Added

With other plastic surgeons in the ETO, Freidman follows many of the principles of Sir Harold Gillies and Doctors Mac Indoe and Maudrin, three of the world's pioneers in plastics. Special techniques adapted to war injuries have been added.

Tracheotomy, one of the newest methods used in facial surgery, permits the soldier to breathe through a metal tube inserted through a small hole in the neck. It allows the face, neck and throat to remain stationary while the surgeon goes to work.

Extensive transfers of flesh from one part of the body to another are left to doctors at Army general hospitals. At this evacuation center, however, Freidman carefully watches to see that a good start is made so as to improve the patient's chance for complete recovery after he gets facial surgery refinements in England and the U.S.

Tissue Is Preserved

According to Freidman, who had a face-lifting practice in Manhattan before the war, many of the grim distortions resulting from operations in 1917 and 1918, were caused when doctors cut away tissues presumed to be bad. This later led to tension and horrible disfigurement.

Today, surgeons carefully nurture the tissue, preserve it with penicillin dust and then join it together so that various layers of flesh and skin do not misalign themselves and cause ugly scars.

Facial wounds, unlike wounds on the body, are kept open as long as possible while underlying bone and muscular damage is repaired. While this is happening, Freidman preserves the outward tissue by careful surgical stitches. He calls this “vasting.”

Tablecloths Saved Besieged Battalion

WITH THE 80th INF. DIV.—A battalion of this division was cut off on Mousson hill. Ammo was running low and medical supplies were urgently needed. There was a hurried conference at the Regiment CP in a little cafe. Cub planes were available but plasma containers were too fragile. Capt. Roger F. Bone, of Bryant, Ind., doodled on the tablecloth as he pondered. Then he yelled, “Tablecloths! We'll make parachutes out of them.”

Red and white checked 'chutes eased their precious loads to the beleaguered battalion later that afternoon, they were delivered by 1/Lt. Arthur Lindberg, Jr., of San Antonio, Tex., and S/Sgt. Gerald H. Rebensdorf, of White Lake, S.D.

Where There's (Artificial) Smoke, There's Yank Strategy

By Allan Morrison

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THIRD ARMY IN SAAR VALLEY, Dec. 17.

FOR the second time man-made smoke is being employed by the Third Army on a major scale to aid river crossing operations and the establishment of bridgeheads on German soil.

Two Negro smoke generator companies operating with the 90th and 95th Divisions are blanketing long stretches of the Saar with artificial smoke, screening troop and vehicle movements up to and across the rising Saar River.

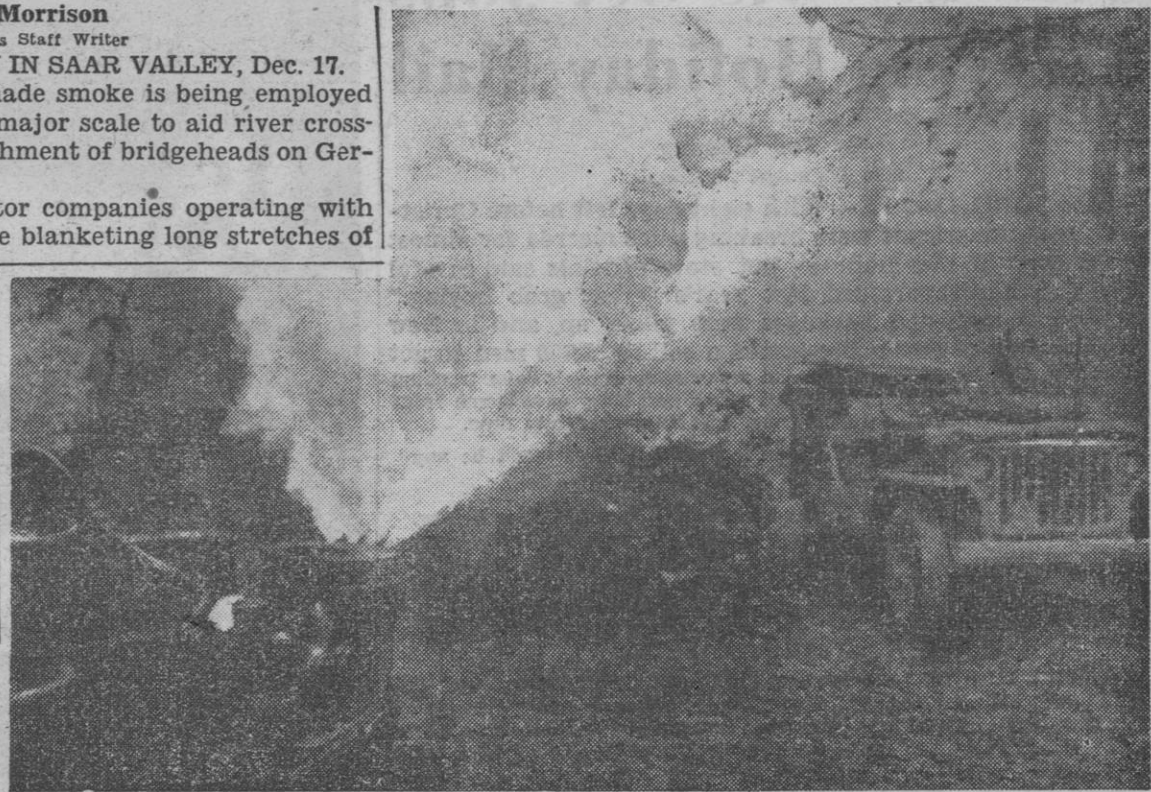
Added to formidable natural difficulties such as sharply shifting winds and valley contours, the smoke men have had to contend with heavy German artillery shelling from the east bank of the river.

Artificial fog vindicated its proponents last September when it materially aided the Fifth Div. during the construction of bridges across the Moselle and the creation of new bridgeheads east of that river.

Proved in Battle

Before that, the opinion among many infantry men was that area screening with artificial smoke was chiefly a function for ports, supply depots and other rear area installations. Both engineers who built the bridges and infantry men who crossed on them admitted that artificial fog was an important factor at Arnaville, Pagny-sur-Moselle and Pont-a-Mousson.

Probably the biggest mass area fog in Europe is being maintained by one SG unit working with the 90th Infantry Div. on the upper Saar. The screening line extends for more than 2,000 yards through the valley and fog made by generators and smoke pots has



A smoke generator of a U.S. Army chemical company in France lays a heavy cloud of smoke over the valley.

clothed bridgebuilding and infantry movements.

“Jerry knows we're using artificial smoke,” said 1/Lt. Gilbert J. Patterson, of Detroit, an artificial smoke battalion officer, “but he doesn't know what we're screening or precisely where it is. This prevention of accurate enemy ob-

servations of our movements and positions is the main function of area smoke.”

The fog has effectively blocked German observation of American traffic along roads leading to Saarlautern and other points along the Saar.

For heroism under intense enemy

shelling, Bronze Stars have been awarded to: 1/Lt. George R. Lamb, Dubois, Idaho; Lt. Frank W. Young, Galveston; Sgt. Albert N. Wallace, Detroit; Pfc. Claud G. Stewart, Columbia, S.C.; Pfc. Frederick Wheeler, Charleston, S.C.; and T/5 Clarence C. Russell, Kalamazoo, Mich.

GIs Offer Tips To Save Tires

GI drivers going the brass one better in responding to Gen. Eisenhower's appeal to save tires, have been flooding SHAEF with suggestions for new methods to ease the tire shortage.

Men who have sent in conservation tips, Com Z Ordnance revealed yesterday, are unanimous in their agreement that fast driving and faulty use of brakes are the two main causes of undue tire wear, but after that, it's every man with his own idea.

Pvt. Eugene Calabi, of New York, for example, a former rubber chemist, wrote that “drivers should prevent grease from getting on their tires, because it penetrates the rubber and softens it up.”

“A lot of drivers put off fixing the inside tire of dual wheels when it goes flat,” declared Pvt. Charles W. Walls, of Allentown, Pa., 11th Port Bn. driver. “They don't think it's important, but that flat gets hot and will go bad in no time.”

“Ration cans cause plenty of trouble,” said Sgt. David Anderson, of Seattle, Wash. “They don't cause blowouts, but they do chip away the rubber and break down the tire fast.”

Recapping Cut by 50%

Because of a lack of raw materials arriving from the U.S., the recapping of Army tires in the ETO has been cut by more than 50 percent, Com Z Ordnance revealed yesterday.

More than half of the tire repair companies are now unable to do any retreading and the rest are forced to operate far under capacity. Each of the repair companies, normally capable of handling more than 1,000 tires a week, now has a backlog of thousands of worn tires piled up awaiting recapping.

Yank Takes Scoring Honors In Julich Sportpalast Battle

By Morrow Davis

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE NINTH U.S. ARMY, Dec. 17.—High scorer at the Julich Sportpalast was T/Sgt. Noah J. Carter, of St. Augustine, Fla., who doesn't play soccer and wasn't playing soccer. Brother, he was playing hell.

Carter was a weapons platoon section leader. From time to time he was put in charge of a rifle platoon. He had it. He was efficient, a good leader, and you better add, brave. He was made both platoon leader and platoon sergeant of the First Platoon by 1/Lt. Chester C. Slaughter, of Mexia, Tex., the CO of B Co., First Bn., of an infantry regiment. B Co. took the Sportpalast arena, A Co. the swimming pool. Carter's platoon was the only one in the two companies to reach its objective on time. Carter lost fewer men than any unit in the assault. That's getting ahead.

When this attack opened up, Carter's mission was to secure the near edge of the stadium wall, an

earth affair about six feet high. To reach it, the platoon had to cross a heavily-mined area. The approach path wasn't 30 yards wide.

Watches Men Gain Wall

Watching through the telescope sight of a sniper's rifle (he'd forgotten his glasses), Lt. Slaughter saw the platoon gain the wall.

“There they were, Jerries dug in on the other side not ten yards away, firing over our boys' heads. Carter had to move—would he stay or go?”

“Well, I saw him crawl to the top of the wall, make a reconnaissance and crawl down. Then I saw him crawl back. He'd picked up a rifle and some rifle grenades. He blasted away and killed two machine-guns, then two automatic riflemen on each flank—six men and three automatic weapons. Altogether he and his platoon knocked out all the automatic riflemen in the arena.”

Among other things, Carter has been recommended for a battlefield commission.

SOS Men Taunt Siegfried Nazis

By Hugh J. Schuck

New York Daily News Correspondent

WITH THE NINTH U.S. ARMY, Dec. 17.—German troops hastily strengthening fortifications on the east bank of the Roer River are being continually harassed by a unit which, oddly enough, is officially listed as a branch of SOS. Every time the Germans get too bold and expose themselves just out of machine-gun range, a forward observer speaks into a telephone and a minute later Jerry gets a mortar shell in his hip pocket.

This “rear echelon” outfit, which sometimes fights less than 100 yards behind the first wave of the infantry, is a chemical mortar battalion firing 4.2 mortars. They can drop shells into the middle of a house more than two miles away and have knocked out six tanks since D-Day.

Fought at St. Lô

The “stove pipe battalion,” commanded by Lt. Col. Ronald Martin, of Batesville, Ind., supported infantry in Normandy so closely it was sometimes just one field behind the front wave dropping shells only 75 yards ahead of the infantry.

The battalion were in on the St. Lô breakthrough and again in the first breaching of the Siegfried Line. Its accurate placing of smoke shells and high-explosives also played an important part in the capture of the Julich Sportsplatz.

Meets Dad in France

As T/5 Harris A. Taylor, of Preston, Iowa, squad leader in the 618th Ord. Ammunition Co., was wading through a rain-soaked meadow in France, he spotted a familiar face in the cab of a nearby Engineer crane. It was his father, T/4 Albert H. Taylor, who had enlisted at the age of 42.

Gadget Saves Tires at Front

WITH THIRD U.S. ARMY, Dec. 17.—A couple of 35th Inf. Div. warrant officers have devised a gadget made from captured German equipment which is aiding greatly in the current tire-saving campaign.

The gadget—an electromagnet road sweeper mounted on a weapons carrier—already is picking up shrapnel and metal debris weighing up to 100 pounds on supply roads in this sector.

The warrant officers, George Huff, of Broken Bow, Neb., and Lawrence Day, of Wichita, built the first magnet from a captured generator and tested it on mud-crusts Adolf Hitler Strasse in a German town. The “take” in that initial run included shrapnel, nails, bayonets, knives and C-ration cans.

This Was America Yesterday:

Off-Duty GIs Get Jobs Carrying Holiday Mail

By Joe Fleming

Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. — With eight days left before Christmas, Americans were breaking sales records for almost every type of merchandise, but store officials said careful selection has superseded last year's "crazy grab buying." Christmas mail and packages were piling up, and in New York alone the post office issued a call for 2,700 men to act as mail carriers at \$7.00 per day. In response to appeals from trucking firms for help in handling mail, the Army and Navy gave home front servicemen permission to work during Yule season off-duty time.

On the cigarette salient: experts predicted there won't be any shortage soon. There just won't be any cigarettes at all.

ETO boys make good in the States: Maj. Gen. William S. Key, returned to Washington for reassignment after commanding Iceland, awarded DSC. . . . Col. Jack Lawrence, former ETO P.R.O., according to Columnist Hal Eaton, will become a civilian in March and open public relations offices in New York and on the Coast.

Maybe He Really Likes Army Life

RIP VAN WINKLE went to sleep for 20 years. And now comes Cpl. George Keisling, member of the 4th Inf., The Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Ga. He couldn't have been asleep—but could he have been entirely awake? He's getting ready to retire from the Army after 30 years without ever having had a day off, three-day pass or furlough or missing a company formation or meal. Furthermore, sleeping or waking, he doesn't smoke, drink or swear. You figure it out.



West frontier on the Home Front

Sgt. Richard Vanderbloemen, of DePere, Wis., is doing all right, too. One of 27 front-line fighting men sent home to boost munitions production, he's touring the war plants, talking to workers. Those workers—despite occasional highly-publicized strikes—have topped any production America ever knew.

Comic pages, like everything else, are determined to show awareness to the war. All the cartoon characters, except LL Abner, Moon Mullins, Mickey Mouse, Wimpy and a few others are in

the Army, Navy, WACs or Junior Commandos. Harold Teen is in the Navy, or at least he's wearing a sailor suit, and Skeeze, clad in a brown uniform and decorated with three stripes, has just stormed ashore on a tropical island.

Blondie and Dagwood aren't in the service, but in the book, "Blondie and Dagwood," published by Smith & Durell, who call it "A Novel of the Great American Family—Democracy's Answer to Hitler."

Gardena VFW Won't Recognize DSC Jap

IN the face of Stimson's statement that it is "wholly incongruous that servicemen of Japanese extraction who have demonstrated their loyalty to America should be subject to unworthy discrimination," the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the Los Angeles suburb of Gardena took a leaf out of the American Legion's Hood River, Ore., post book. The Gardena veterans refused to carry names of Japanese-American soldiers on the service honor roll. One of the ex-soldiers omitted was Pfc Kiyoshi Ourange, DSC winner who lost his life in Italy when, single handed, he destroyed a Nazi .88 emplacement.

Resenting a change in working hours, 1,200 Bendix Corporation night-shift employees, members of the Independent Aircraft Workers' Union of New Jersey, walked out early Saturday in a wildcat strike. The trouble started when the company went from a ten-hour-day, six days, to an eleven-hour-day, five days a week.

Churchill's Speech Draws Comment

IN bullish atmosphere, New York's stock market chalked up its first 2,000,000-share day since July 5. Bond sales of \$19,380,500 were recorded. Par values were the best since Feb. 17.

Churchill's Poland speech had the blood pressures of some editorial writers soaring to new heights. The New York Sun said his statement "knocked the Atlantic Charter into a cocked hat," and World-Telly's Philip Simms said the prime minister "drove another nail into the coffin of Dumbarton Oaks." But the New York Times said, "Polish frontiers are neither sacred nor unalterable."

The Christian Science Monitor was disturbed by Senate approval of five-star rank for four generals and three admirals. The Monitor was willing to have top American officers rank with any in the world, but was reluctant to see "an increase of brass in the hats."

She Says 'No'—No Baby



Linda Darnell, who says people never pay much attention to her figure, denied last week that she was going to have a baby. Linda told newsmen: "I'm not pregnant. In fact I'm probably the only one on the studio grounds who isn't, except George Jessel."

Shooting for the Moon, Joe? Here's How to Stake Claim

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (ANS).—The land rush may be some time off, but the Department of the Interior is all set with advice on how to file claims on the moon.

From Glen Ellyn, Ill., and specifically from R. L. Farnsworth, president of the U.S. Rocket Society, Inc., came this query:

"Many of our members write in and ask us how they go about filing a claim to land on the moon. As strange as it may seem to you, it may be a reality within a generation. Consequently, we would appreciate either your telling us how this is done or advising us to whom to direct our inquiries."

Land Office on Job

Demonstrating that the Department's Land Office has an ear to the ground, its nose to the wind and its mind on the future, Commissioner Grew Johnson replied:

"New lands which may be designated as public domain under the sovereignty of the U.S. are subject to jurisdiction of the General Land Office. Consequently, those por-

tions of the moon which may become public domain are susceptible of acquisition under more than 5,000 public land laws administered by this office.

"Relating to mineral developments, homesteading, grazing or other types of land use if acquisition of land is to be sought under the Homestead Law, any application must be accompanied by an affidavit declaring that the applicant has personally examined the land and is well acquainted with its characteristics.

"The applicant must be prepared to establish his permanent residence upon the land to the exclusion of a home elsewhere within six months after entry has been approved."

No Strings Attached

DETROIT, Dec. 17 (ANS).—The little woman won't have to take the cord off the post-war flatiron to hurl it at hubby—it's not going to have any. The go-ahead signal has been given by the War Production Board to a company for production of a cordless electric iron.

WPB Freezes Production of Civilian Goods

Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—In a move to meet vital war needs and discourage the labor shift from war plants to other work, the War Production Board has ordered all civilian production frozen at the present levels.

In effect, a "hold the line" ruling, the order was dated Dec. 7 and circulated within the board but not announced until Saturday, the AP said. The ruling instructs the WPB staff neither to increase civilian goods production nor to relax existing orders if an increased output would result.

A slight margin for expansion is left, however, through a provision that an output increase may be sought if a "positive demonstration" is given that a program is clearly below "essential requirements." A little leeway also is given in continuance of the "spot" plan, which allows consumer goods production by individual factories not needed in war work.

Seeks a West Point For U.S. Diplomats

Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. — John Coffee (D-Wash) announced today that he would introduce a bill to set up a "West Point for diplomats."

The proposed institution would be operated jointly by Congress, the War, Navy and State departments. A four-year course would be offered. Only graduates passing competitive tests would be permitted to rise to senior rank in the State Department.

Coffee estimated it would cost \$25,000,000 to build the academy, and \$1,000,000 annually to run it.

Asks Competitive Tests For Vet Job Preference

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (ANS). War veterans should be required to pass competitive tests before being entitled to preference for government jobs, the Civil Service Assembly committee said today.

In a report to the Assembly, composed of government personnel administrators, the committee also recommended that veterans' preference policies should recognize the principle of open competition for public employment on the basis of merit and fitness and should not exclude the rising generation from opportunity for public employment.

Chaplin Case Adjourns With Jury Incomplete

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 17 (ANS).

—After a day and a half of quizzing, prospective jurors for the Charlie Chaplin paternity case trial still hadn't been chosen yesterday, and neither Chaplin nor Joan Berry had appeared in court as the case recessed for the weekend.

Twenty-four-year old Miss Berry is seeking a court decree establishing the comedian as the father of her 14-month-old daughter, Carol.

Worry Over Shortage Drives GIs to Smoke

CAMP LEE, Va., Dec. 17 (ANS).—The Camp Lee Traveler, post newspaper, surveying the cigarette situation here reported some soldiers said they were smoking more because of "worry over the cigarette shortage."

Dixie Walker's .357 Wins NL Batting Crown

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—It will come as no surprise to the majority of baseball fans to learn that Fred "Dixie" Walker, Brooklyn Dodgers' outfielder, won the National League batting crown. Today's announcement made it official.

For the second straight year the senior circuit batting title went to the holder of a .357 average. Last year's champ, Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals, finished ten points behind Walker in '44.

The 34-year-old native of Villa Rica, Ga., has competed for 17 years in organized baseball and he's played with 13 clubs. He entered the big leagues with the New York Yankees in '31, but was returned to the minors for more seasoning. He returned to the Yankees in '33 and, with the exception of a short stay with Newark in '35, has been in the majors ever since. From the Yankees, Dixie went to the White Sox, then Detroit and was finally waived from the American League in '39 when the Dodgers grabbed him.



Dixie Walker

Dixie has become one of the most popular ballplayers ever to cavort at Ebbets Field. He has earned a place in the hearts of the Flatbush faithful with such greats as Zack Wheat, Dazzy Vance, Jacques Fournier and Floyd "Babe" Herman.

Parker, Betz Get Top Net Rankings

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Frankie Parker, National amateur tennis singles champion, topped the 1944 ratings announced today, but it won't be official until approved by the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association, which meets in January.

Pauline Betz, women's singles queen, was ranked No. 1 among the ladies for the third straight year.

Happy Issue Sets Track Mark in Gold Cup Race

INGLEWOOD, Calif., Dec. 17.—Happy Issue stretch-running filly, obtained for \$3,500 in a claiming race by C. H. Pinon, won the fifth running of the \$75,000 Gold Cup in track record time of 2:01.3 minutes for the mile-and-a-quarter distance.

Paper Boy, backed down to 9-5 by 37,000 players present, finished fourth behind Bull Reigh and Okama. Happy Issue, with Jockey Hedley Woodhouse up, paid \$12.50.

Rams Retain Donelli

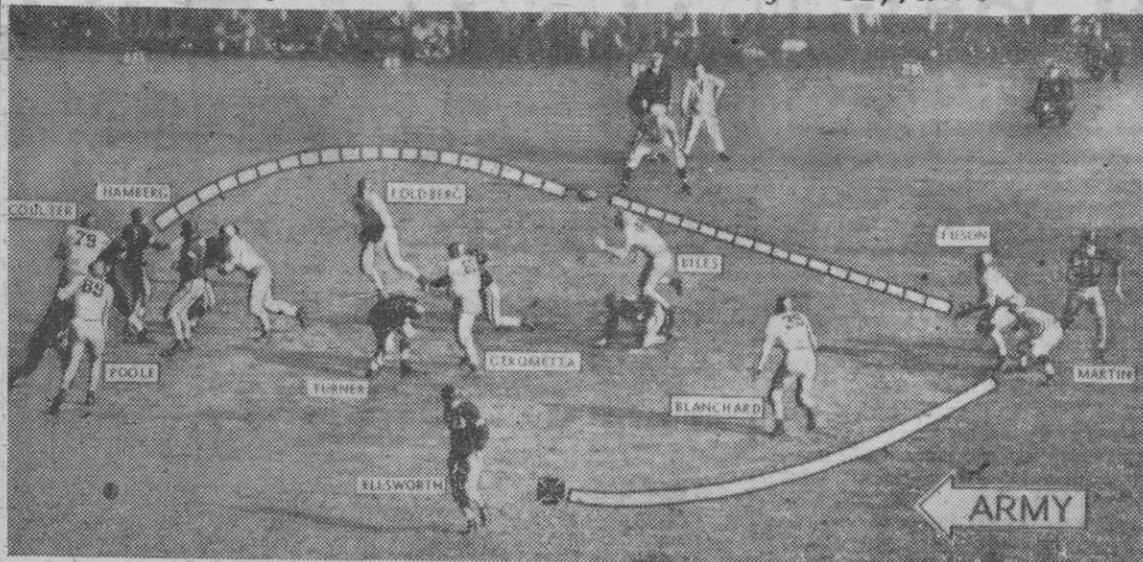
CLEVELAND, Dec. 17.—Aldo "Bluff" Donelli has been signed for three more years as head coach of the Cleveland Rams in the National Football League.

Browns, Cards Play 7-Game Spring Series

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 17.—A city series of seven games between the Browns and Cardinals, World Series principals, highlights the spring training schedule of both clubs. They'll meet early in April.

The Browns will play the Chicago Cubs a three-game set at Cape Girardeau, Mo., the front office announced today.

Army Takes a Hand in Navy's Affairs



Hal Hamberg, Navy's left halfback, huris the ball to intended receiver, Ben Martin, but Herschel Fuson, Army center, waits with hands extended for the toss, which he intercepted and ran back eight yards.

Randolph Tops Bombers, 13-6, In Bond Bowl

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The undefeated Ramblers of Randolph Field, Tex., second only to Army in the national football rankings, closed a perfect season with their 11th straight victory here yesterday by subduing the twice-beaten Second Air Force Superbombers, 13-6, in a \$17,500,000 Bond Bowl game that drew a disappointing crowd of 8,000.

Touchdown passes in the first and third periods gave the Ramblers the edge in a bone-crushing battle between powerful lines and hard-running backfields. The Superbombers, of Colorado Springs, moved 60 yards along the ground in the fourth quarter for their only score, narrowly missed another by a foot on the last play of the half and reached the two-yard line before they were checked with seconds to play in the game.



Bill Dudley

Snow started with the opening kickoff and before the first quarter was half over the Polo Grounds turf was a sodden mass. Nevertheless, it failed to prevent the Texas fliers from going into the air to score.

Layden Passes 53 Yards

With 29 seconds left in the first chapter, Halfback Pete Layden shot a 53-yard pass to end Harry Burrus, who gathered it in on the five and stepped over. In the third period the Ramblers plodded 81 yards along the ground only to be stalled on the four, whereupon Bill Dudley fired a bullet pass to Halfback Johnny Goodyear in the end zone and Dudley converted.

Ray Evans, former Kansas star, who was tackled on the one-foot line by Layden on the last play of the first half, led the Bombers' touchdown drive in the fourth and after carrying 48 yards in five plays sent Steve Susic over from one foot out. Evans spearheaded another drive in the closing minutes, but the Ramblers held on the two-yard line.

Despite the small turnout, the game was a financial success since a number of New York banks and merchants underwrote the 75-million-dollar quota during the week.

Despite the small turnout, the game was a financial success since a number of New York banks and merchants underwrote the 75-million-dollar quota during the week.

Cocoa Kid Suspended; Charge He Took Dive

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—The California Athletic Commission today suspended Cocoa Kid, New Haven middleweight, for six months on a charge that the Kid took a dive.

Cocoa Kid's fight with Billy Smith of Oakland, Calif., here Nov. 24th ended in the third round when the referee declared it "no contest." It was alleged the Kid went into the tank and his purse was forfeited.

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN
Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, The Stars and Stripes, Paris, France, APO 887.

We do not publish advertisements for lost jeeps and other AWOL vehicles.

A CHRISTIAN SCIENCE Service Center will be opened at 12 Rond-Point des Champs-Elysees, Paris, on Dec. 19. It will be open daily from 3 to 9.30 PM for use of Allied forces.

CAMERA EXCHANGES
WANTED: Super Baldina with F2 lens or Kodak Retina II. Major Gordon P. Weber.

WANTED: Portable developing and printing kit. Pvt. Chas D. Kuhn.

Gophers Caged By Great Lakes

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 17.—Great Lakes Navals' basketball team defeated Minnesota, 46-42, in a rough game here last night. Matt Sutton, Gopher guard, was forced to retire with a knee injury and Paul Cloyd, Great Lakes forward, lost a tooth.

Razorbacks Trip CCNY

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Arkansas University defeated CCNY, 59-47, and Muhlenberg trounced St. Francis, of Brooklyn, 56-18, in the basketball double bill at Madison Square Garden last night. George Kok, six-foot ten-inch Razorback center, scored 25 points to ruin the City College chances.

Irish Cagers Trim Badgers

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 17.—The Notre Dame basketball team, led by Vince Boryla with 18 points, scored a 57-46 victory over Wisconsin here last night. It was the fourth straight victory for the Irish.

Temple, Dartmouth Win

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17.—Temple staved off a last-minute attack by the Oklahoma Aggies to win, 46-44, and Dartmouth trimmed Penn, 50-35, in a cage double-header at Convention Hall.

'Cats Stop Marquette

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—Center Max Morris scored 19 points as Northwestern defeated Marquette, 58-44, the Wildcats drawing aways in the final minutes.

CAGE RESULTS

- Akron 64, Wesleyan 37.
- Arkansas 59, CCNY 47.
- Bainbridge Naval 50, Norfolk AB 45.
- Bowling Green 57, Ohio U. 45.
- Cincinnati 66, Wilmington 21.
- Colgate 78, Union 45.
- Concordia 44, Dana 30.
- Cornell 50, Columbia 35.
- Cornell Midshipmen 48, Ithaca 38.
- Dartmouth 50, Penn 35.
- Denver 42, Peru Tehrs: 37.
- Dubuque 33, Cornell College 31.
- Geneva 76, St. Joseph's 59.
- Great Lakes 46, Minnesota 42.
- Gustavus Adolphus 52, S. Dakota St. 30.
- Illinois Tech 56, Camp McCoy 39.
- Iowa 69, Nebraska 45.
- Kentucky 61, Indiana 43.
- Marshall 44, Seranton 42.
- Muhlenberg 56, St. Francis 18.
- New Mexico 55, New Mexico A & M 27.
- Notre Dame 57, Wisconsin 46.
- N. Dakota 48, Moorhead Tehrs. 37.
- Northwestern 58, Marquette 44.
- Princeton 73, Fordham 51.
- Rice 40, McCloskey Hosp. 25.
- St. Lawrence 45, Hobart 26.
- Stevens Tech 32, Drew 30.
- Temple (Tex.) 46, Oklahoma A & M 44.
- Texas Tech 41, TCU 36.
- Utah 44, Canisius 31.
- Valparaiso 61, Loras 41.
- VMI 47, Lynchburg 10.
- Ward Island Navy 47, Texas A & M 42.
- Wayne 53, Albion 33.
- Westminster 45, Carnegie Tech 36.
- West Virginia 39, Penn State 34.
- Worcester Poly 51, Connecticut 49.
- Yale 57, Brown 49.

Agua Caliente Really In Hot Water Now

TIAJUANA, Mexico, Dec. 17.—Local police officials acting on orders of the Supreme Court of Mexico, today seized the Agua Caliente racetrack in the name of the Arguella estate, which has battled for possession of the famous racing strip for 12 years.

McSpaden, Ott Rip Par Apart

RICHMOND, Calif., Dec. 17.—Harold "Jug" McSpaden shattered the course record with a seven-under-par 64 and Len Ott of Denver carded a 65 as the Richmond Open golf tournament reached the 54-hole mark yesterday.

McSpaden's sensational round boosted him from a tie for 19th to third place. Sammy Snead's second straight 69 put him in the lead, while Charley Congdon of Tacoma, who had a 67, was second. Snead entered the final round with a 208 total.

Jimmy Dykes Raps Unlimited Arc Ball

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—Jimmy Dykes, White Sox pilot, said today the American League will have plenty of trouble trying to make the Sox agree to play an unlimited number of night baseball games.

Dykes said the White Sox would play only 14 night games at home and added he would have no part of Clark Griffith's reported plan to play every game, except weekends and holidays, at night in Washington.

"I'll go along with any club on lights," Dykes stated, "but we won't play a night game before we leave one city for another."

Texan Seeks 4th Win In Paris Bouts Tonight

Jimmy Johnson, light heavyweight from Fort Worth, Tex., will be seeking his fourth victory when he meets Paul Stewart, of Chicago, tonight in the feature event of the weekly American Red Cross and Special Service boxing show at the Palais de Glace, Paris.

135-pound Charles Siler vs. Johnny Lopez, both of Los Angeles; 175-pounds Ferris Selly, Albany, N.Y., vs. Fred McKenzie, Chicago; 180-pounds Joe Smith, Detroit, vs. Joe Beitle, Freeland, Pa.

National Hockey League

Montreal 8, Boston 5
Toronto 1, Detroit 1

American Hockey League

Hershey 3, Cleveland 3.
Pittsburgh 6, Buffalo 3.

Thunderbolts Win 5th Game

The Thunderbolts of the Second AADA registered their fifth straight football triumph yesterday, defeating the Bomb Group Invaders, 13-6, at Jean Bouin Stadium. SHAEF upset the Ninth ADC defenders, 6-0, in a rough game won in the last 20 seconds. Fourth Service Group's Blue Devils blanked Ninth AAF Headquarters, 18-0, for their first victory. First General Hospital defeated 217th General Hospital, 19-0, with Mike Demchak, Tom Foti and Joel Meredith scoring touchdowns.

Feature of the Thunderbolts' triumph was a 75-yard run by Rudy Petrina, after he had caught a 15-yard pass thrown by Bob Anderson. A 31-yard heave, Joe Prano to Henry MacDonald, produced the other tally. Lone Invader touchdown resulted when George Tweedy intercepted a pass and ran 14 yards.

The SHAEF score was made by Wilson Brooks just after the Defenders, due to a bad pass from center, lost possession of the ball on their own ten-yard line. During the third period, the Defenders claimed the referee had overlooked a "fifth down" utilized by SHAEF.

Joe Abrams scored twice and Tony Scarbella once in the Blue Devils' game.

Georgia Tech Engineers Toughen Up for Tulsa

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 17.—Rough scrimmage sessions were ordered today by Coach Bill Alexander as Georgia Tech prepared for the New Year's Day Orange Bowl game against Tulsa at Miami.

Bowen, ace running back, sat out contact drills with a leg injury and probably won't have any tough work before the game.

Boxer Sentenced to Die

Francois Apetit, former amateur boxing champion of France, was condemned to death by a Paris court justice yesterday. It was stated Apetit had assisted Gestapo agents and denounced numerous French Patriots.

Question Box

Boys of 380th QM Trk. Co.—Figures not available, but basketball definitely has greater gate receipts in States for each season than football or baseball.

1/Sgt. Jack Chaille.—The first basketball game ever played in the States was in 1891 at Springfield (Mass.) YMCA College. Opposing teams were made up of students of the school.

Pfc J. Deutschberger.—Washington Redskins beat New York Giants, 49-14, '37.
Cpl. Willie Rose.—Notre Dame played Minnesota once between '38 and '41, Irish winning, 19-0, in '38.

THE B BAG BLOW IT OUT HERE

Looking Ahead

It may seem premature to bring this subject up before the war has been won; but foresight now will save a lot of heartaches later.

What does the Army have planned for the soldiers who will remain in Germany for one, two or more years after peace comes?

If non-fraternization with enemy civilians is to be strictly enforced (as it should be) will the Army allow wives (and children) of married soldiers to come over here—as was done after World War I?

If not, the easily predictable skyrocketing of the AWOL, venereal disease and fraternization rates will bring to a shameful ending the valiant efforts of the A.E.F.

And how about the single man? Has anyone a sound suggestion that will alleviate his "misery" in the army of occupation?—**Capt. G. B. O'C., MC.**

* * *

Joe Pro

As I recall, the Regular Army before the war totaled about 300,000. Subtract from that the men who have definite reasons for going back to the States (married, engaged, etc.) and you have a figure too small for an army of occupation.

But Sergeant Harner wants an army of occupation from the regular army. Okay. Form a nucleus from volunteers from the United States Army and the remainder from the AUS. It will be run the "army way" and a volunteer army of occupation will outdo an assigned army of occupation. Besides, everybody will be satisfied.

Save place number two on that volunteer list for me.—**Sgt. A. E. Rice.**

In his letter to the B Bag, Harner offered a curious argument to urge that Germany be occupied by professional soldiers. His contention that professional soldiering reaches a height that civilian professions rarely attain, and offering as comparisons the doctor and lawyer, is enough to make anyone snicker. In time of war the professional soldier comes into his own, and the man temporarily in uniform had better speak with caution.

All the same, there are things that must be said. One of them is that the very best thing one can say for the professional soldier is that he is a necessary adjunct to our sorry civilization. But why gild the lily? The professional soldier is trained to inflict death and destruction. That is the basic reason for his existence. To assert that he reaches a height rarely attained in civilian professions is deliberately to spit in the eye of intelligence.—**Cpl. J. L. Bonney, Ord.**

* * *

Snafu

I am in a so-called rest camp in France, having come here after some two months of hell in Holland.

My bitching would fill your paper if I wrote of the OS deals that we have gotten since coming here, so I'll just stick to this past weekend. Saturday evening, while I was on

my bunk in my "rest" camp, a corporal came in and called out four of us GIs. We went to the officers' quarters and had to wash down the walls, floor and windows of two rooms. Well, this wasn't too bad.

Today, the same corporal came in and called off four more names. I was one of the four that went to the guard house and built bunks and filled mattress covers with straw. When I came here I had to fill my own cover.

Why did this job have to be done on Sunday? Why didn't at least the prisoners have to fill their own mattress covers? Why did we even have to do any of this work at all?—**Sgt. O. M. Nelly, 307th Airborne Eng. Bn.**

* * *

Bearable Mud

Why wouldn't it be feasible to give each man in the line an opportunity to take a hot bath at least once every week or ten days? The mud we literally live in would be more bearable, and it would raise our morale immeasurably, making for better soldiers.—**Pvt. L. Merritt; Inf. Div.**

* * *

Think It Over

How about an all-out appeal for a mass cancellation of subscriptions to periodicals coming by mail which serve only to bog down the service?

Let's get the letters through, fellows! Let the Alumni mags and other tabloids wait till we get home. A month is too blasted long to wait for that letter from the ones we want most to hear from.

What do we need with a four-pound, months-old newspaper with 3.99 lbs. of advertising in them? If the news is important to you, have the folks clip out the article and send it in those precious letters.

There are more than a million of us over here and if each gets an allotment of daily papers—well, guys, it's a lot of weight and bulk that's hogging shipping space more recent letter mail could be using.

Think it over, men! With the new year coming up, it's a good time to drop that subscription.—**Sgt. Berle J. Hess.**

HUBERT

by SGT. DICK WINGERT



"Some joker told me all you had to do was stand on a corner and beat 'em off with a club."

An Editorial

Now Listen To Me, Mr. P.

READING from left to right, the four GIs in this picture are: Sgt. Richard O. Vanderbloemen, De Pere, Wis., Pfc Vincent J. Romano, Brooklyn, N.Y., Sgt. Alvin F. Jankowske, Chicago, and Sgt. Clarence W. Alexis, Falconer, N.Y. The Pfc in the center is Robert P. Patterson, Undersecretary of War.



What brand of mahoska the boys are dishing out we don't know. The main point is—the GIs are doing the talking and the Undersecretary of War is bending the ear.

It's a neat little pre-view of the future. America—politicians, presidents, professors, policemen and John Q. Public—all listening to the hero home from the wars.

Harking to his views on the British Commonwealth, De Gaulle, what to do with war criminals. Hanging on his words about French wine

and women, American foreign policy, military training in colleges and schools.

Bowing to his wisdom on tactics, strategy and gunnery, on foreign trade, democracy, fascism and the outlook for peace and war.

Listening to the veteran soldier—eleven or twelve million strong. The most vital, vibrant element in the nation. The maker or

breaker of our national strength.

The man who—if he's sour, selfish, destructive or dumb—can futz up the future. Or who, if he's on the beam—with an understanding head, a tolerant heart and a searching soul—can build a better world.

Anyway, America will listen. It will, that is, if and as long as what he says makes sense.



SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE



Doctor Protects Patient

Pvt. Raphael P. Betit, of Whittingham, Vt., doesn't know the name of the medical corps captain with the Fourth Armored Div., but he would like to thank him.

Slightly wounded in action back in October, Betit lay on a litter in a clearing station while the captain dressed his wound. Then the Germans began shelling the aid sta-

tion. The captain's foxhole was nearby, but instead of diving in, he flung himself across Betit to protect the 19-year-old casualty from the flying steel. A piece of a shell which otherwise would have struck Betit wounded the captain.

Pies Like Mother's

Men at the Fifth Inf. Div.'s rest camp say that Pvt. Stanley Gillette, of Watertown, N.Y., is almost like a mother to them. It's on account of the pies Gillette makes. He turned out 44 of them in one day recently—apple and custard.

Busy Victory Div.

The 95th (Victory) Inf. Div. wasn't committed to offensive action until November, but already it has bagged more than 8,000 prisoners, including a lieutenant general, has captured 103 towns and villages plus 16 forts, and has taken intact a bridge over the Saar River.

Early Bird Gets It

The PX officer said two watches would be put on sale at 8 AM, first come, first served. Pvt. James C. Dodge, Jr., of Northumberland, Pa., and the 705th Ord. of the Fifth Inf. Div., got up at 2 AM to be first in line. He got a watch.

Quite a Difference

Correction.—The Stars and Stripes, in a recent bouquet to the First Division, gyped the boys out of 29,800 German prisoners. That might have been okay with the Germans, but not with the First Division, which captured 32,000 rather than 3,200. (Typographical

error.) A battle not mentioned in the First's imposing list was the Mons Pocket, in which destruction of 20,000 Germans in four days of fighting enabled the Third Armored and the First to smash through the Siegfried Line.

Six-Man 'Battalion'

Ordered to keep a German company tied down in its holes on a strategic hill in eastern France, S/Sgt. James S. Koizumi and the five remaining men in his 442nd Combat Team heavy weapons sec-



tion simulated a battalion for six hours by rushing all over the slope shouting and firing. With the assistance of a rifle platoon, they then routed the Nazis, killing more than 50, wounding many more and capturing 11.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival:
 T/4 Edward Collings, Bridgeport, Conn.—Edward John Jr., Nov. 29; Cpl. Thomas J. Cunningham, New York—Patricia Mary, Dec. 6; Cpl. M. A. Cosillo, New York—Victoria Eugenia, Nov. 22; 1/Sgt. Maurice M. Campbell, New Cumberland, Pa.—John Thomas, Dec. 2; T/5 George F. Chevero, New York—Barbara Ann, Nov. 29; CWO Walter M. Dooley, Leavenworth—boy, Dec.; Lt. Virgil Donze, El Paso, Ill.—boy, Nov. 28; Sgt. Roland O. DeLauncey, Baltimore—Roland Clay Jr., Nov. 18; 1/Sgt. James W. Dick, Coalinga, Calif.—June Louise, Dec. 4.
 SGT. Emory S. Grove, Covington, Ky.—Deanna Maxine, Dec. 3; Pvt. Robert Herg, Brooklyn—boy, Dec. 8; Lt. Frank Fabbie, Kingston, N.Y.—girl, Dec. 6; 1/Lt. John P. Lopreste, Warren, O.—Carol Ann, Dec. 8; Cpl. Martin N. Wilson, Los Angeles—Martin Theodore, Nov. 18.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Printed at the New York Herald Tribune plant, 21 rue de Berri, Paris, for the U.S. armed forces under auspices of the Information and Education Division, Special and Information Services, ETOUSA. Tel.: ELYsées 40-58, 41-49.

Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors. Entered as second class matter, Mar. 15, 1943, at the post office, New York, N.Y., under the act of Mar. 3, 1879. Vol. 1, No. 144

HASH MARKS

Embarrassing moments. Pvt. J. M., a switchboard operator for an engineer aviation battalion, was busily engaged placing calls and chewing the rag with a buddy named "Pop" who possesses a typical "middle age paunch." The CO enters and the buddy makes a hasty exit. Thinking his pal is still standing behind him, the operator taps the CO on the stomach and quips, "Say, Pop, you're doing okay for yourself on K-rations." (Pvt. J.M. now sez it doesn't pay for a switchboard operator to get his wires crossed.)

This week's Sad Sack. A corporal was drowning over a beer in a Paris café and his buddy gave him a hot-foot. The manager immediately



rushed up, tapped the gyrating GI on the shoulder and said, "I'm sorry, but there's no dancing allowed in this establishment."

Signs of the times. Sgt Milbourne Christofer, magician in the GI show, "Broadway In Khaki," sez it has become so difficult to get paper for his torn-paper trick in the show that he is currently using old German marks.

Comment by Lt. N. S. Rosengarten: "I see by your paper that the Army is testing a plane that may dwarf the Superfort. What will the new plane be called—Super-Duper-Forts, perhaps?"

A recreation center hostess introducing a GI to his WAC date remarked, "Your date is the camp's best pistol shot and teaches jiu-jitsu. Now go ahead and have a good time."

Who said that? A second lieutenant starts at the bottom and works up. A private starts at the bottom and works.

How to lick combat fatigue. We dropped into a French barber shop for a quick haircut and next to us sat a rough, tough sergeant just in on pass from his combat outfit. And he was really shooting the works. Haircut, shave, oil shampoo, manicure—and when we left, a lovely blonde was applying a green mud-pack to his ruddy puss.

After weeks of K-rations in Normandy, Cpl. Ward Carhart got a package from his mother with a note saying, "This is something new, just out. They are grand in your coffee and full of vitamins." The "something new" was a case of 500 malted milk tablets.

Shed a tear in your beer for Pfc Joseph T. Joseph. In the first four Christmas packages he received the contents were: can of spam, can of beans, jar of honey and almond cream, first-aid kit (and he's a medic).

J. C. W.

AEF-RADIO-AFN Program

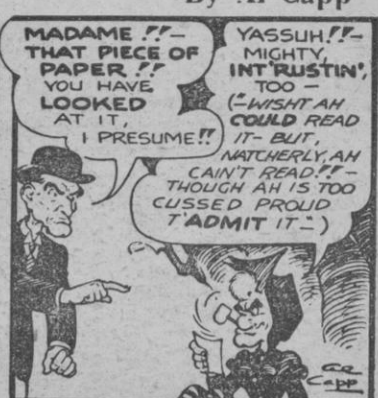
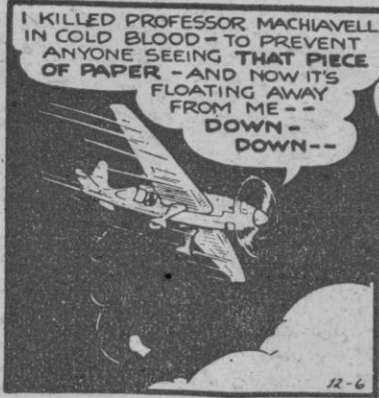
Time TODAY
1100—Duffie Bag.
1901—Strings With Wings.
2135—Duffy's Tavern.
2235—Hit Parade.

TOMORROW

1545—On the Record.
2030—Maj. Glenn Miller's Band.
2105—Charlie McCarthy.
2235—Dinah Shore.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features.



Terry And The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate.



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.



Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features.



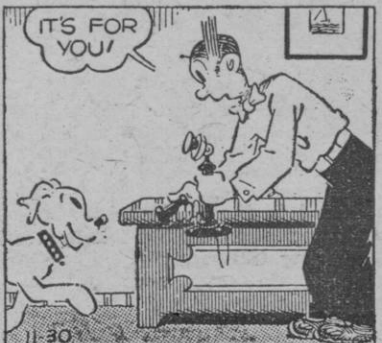
Popeye

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate



Blondie

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate



Fire-Fighters Save Hellcat and Flier



Like a meteor, this Navy Hellcat burst into flames as it approached its carrier, the U.S.S. Cowpens, during Pacific operations. In these spectacular pictures the teamwork of the carrier's fire-fighting unit is shown. Both plane and pilot, Lt. Al Magae, of Pittsburgh, were saved. Moments after the bottom picture was taken, the smoldering plane had been rushed below, leaving the carrier's deck open for other planes.

Shell Hole—Jap Grave



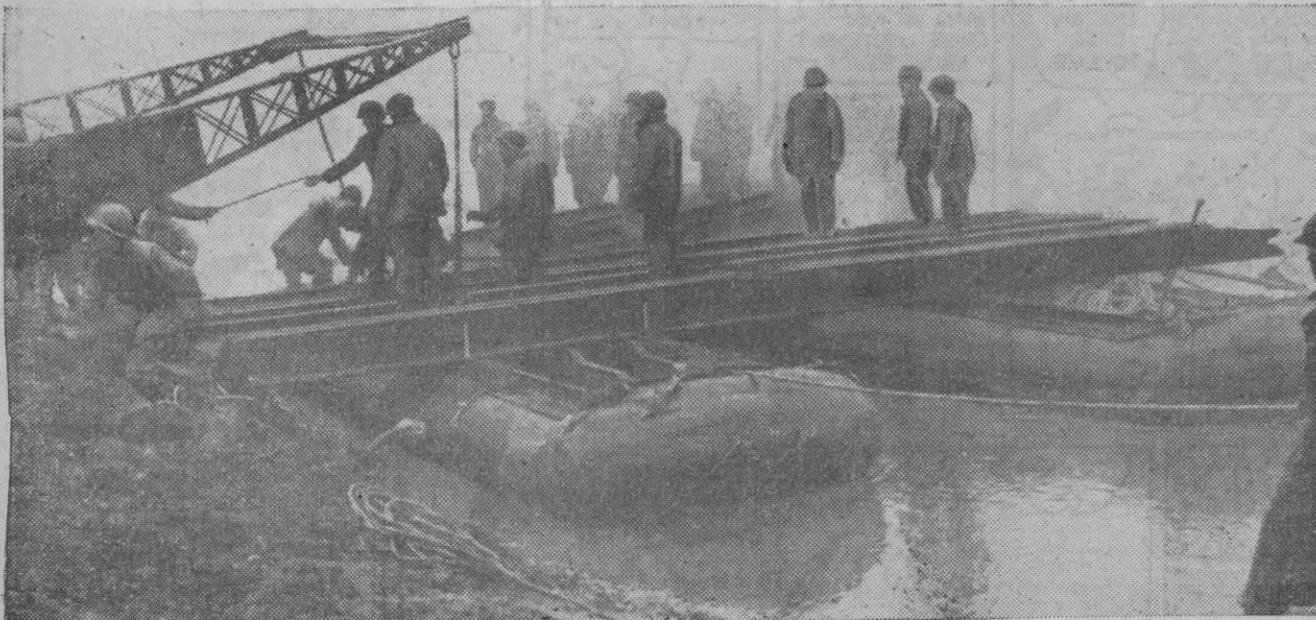
Japanese snipers, who attempted to filter through American lines in the Leyte jungle lie in a water-filled shell crater where they were killed by these 32nd Div. infantrymen, looking over their victims. This picture was taken near Ormoc.

Wading for Prey



Rainfall, melting snow, lashing sleet have turned this road in a First Army battle sector into a sea of mud. Here, an infantryman splashes ahead of a jeep to feel out the depth of the water, while on the alert for the enemy, south of Aachen.

You Name It—And the Engineers Will Build It



The first section of a pontoon bridge is completed by combat engineers, attached to the Third Army. Scenes like this are taking place all over the Western Front this winter as the Allies edge their way deeper into the Reich, crossing rivers where bridges have been blown up by the withdrawing Germans.



With infantrymen clinging to the sides, tanks roll down a dirt road, across the Cologne Plain, and toward the German lines. Other doughfeet, huddled in slit trenches, await the word to move up. Scene is from the Ninth Army front. South of this sector yesterday German troops launched a series of counter-attacks.