

Manila Entered by Gen. MacArthur's Troops

Everything
for
the Front

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

PASS IT ON
Help Get This S & S
to the Joe in
the Foxhole

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Monday, Feb. 5, 1945

1st Cuts Main West Wall

Soviet Artillery Pounds Oder Line

Reds Seize Baerwald, 38 Miles From Berlin

With a four-day thaw and persistent German counter-attacks slowing down the advance of his tank army, Marshal Gregory Zhukov called up heavy artillery to support his infantrymen locked in fierce battles for Kuestrin and Frankfurt, keystone cities of the Oder River line.

In fighting for a fortified position on the east bank of the Oder southeast of Kuestrin, Zhukov's First White Russian Army wiped out a German division, killing more than 8,000 and taking 8,450 prisoners.

At Frankfurt, light armored columns stormed the outer defenses of the city against heavy resistance.

Pre-Offensive Barrage

Artillery, firmly fixed in high ground in the Goritz Hill east of the Oder between Kuestrin and Frankfurt, pounded the west bank all day yesterday. German radio said the barrage was the type the Reds always used before opening a powerful offensive.

Other German reports said that Zhukov had twice attempted to cross the Oder northeast of Kuestrin yesterday but added that German reinforcements had "repelled" the attack and inflicted heavy losses.

Baerwald, 15 miles northwest of Kuestrin and 38 miles northeast of Berlin, was captured by Zhukov's troops, a Moscow communique said. This is the closest approach to Berlin officially reported by the Russians.

Sunny weather yesterday saw the Luftwaffe, rushed from the Western Front, come out to attack Red Army columns moving into the "Berlin Bulge." Moscow dispatches said the Red Air Force took the initiative from enemy airmen and dispersed them with heavy losses.

11 Miles From Stettin

Marshal Zhukov also is swinging powerful blows against the German lines protecting Stettin and other ports along the Baltic between Stettin and Danzig.

With Red tank columns within 11 miles of Stettin, the German High Command is faced with the alternative of pulling out troops from the Danzig and northeast Germany areas or risking another encirclement like that in East Prussia.

Pravda, the Communist party's newspaper in Moscow, declared that troops of Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's Second White Russian Army had reached Danzig bay near Bohnsach, less than 15 miles

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Manila Entered 26 Days After Luzon Landing

Gen. MacArthur announced last night that American troops had entered Manila under cover of darkness after carrying out a wide encircling movement against the Japanese.

A communique, sent from Luzon by Reuter, said that elements of the veteran First Cavalry Div. had gone into the city in the dark "in order to secure the safety of several thousand internees held by the Japanese garrison."

The communique added that the First Cavalry units "now stand guard over the internees while the remainder of the division is coming up from the east."

The U.S. 37th Div. was pushing into the suburbs of the Philippines capital and troops of the 11th Airborne Division were driving up rapidly toward the city from the south.

Japanese sniping and demolitions were encountered by the troops who went into the city. The Mallaghan Palace and the Grace Park airfield were occupied by the Americans.

Entry into Manila came just 26 days after the first American landing on Luzon.

MacArthur had moved his headquarters into central Luzon so he would be closer when the time came to make the final thrust into the city that once was his headquarters. On Friday, MacArthur rode in a jeep with advanced patrols.

An NBC correspondent with the advance units said Filipinos had reported that the Japanese were installing tank traps and steel roadblocks and mining buildings in Manila.

On the eastern flank of the Luzon plain, Yanks of the First Corps pushed through the Caraballo Mountains to shell Tumana.

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U.S. Airmen, Hit Near Berlin, Head for Visible Russian Lines

LONDON, Feb. 4 (AP).—Airmen of the Eighth Air Force may be the first Americans to enter Berlin.

Several Flying Fortresses crippled in yesterday's record raid on the capital dropped out of formation and headed toward the Oder River to land behind the Russian lines, reliable sources said.

Radio crews of the flak-damaged bombers informed men of the Forts heading home that they would "try to make a landing or bail out behind the Russian lines," near Frankfurt, some 40 miles away.

"Probably be seeing you in Berlin," they said.

EIGHTH AIR FORCE, HQ, Feb. 4 (UP)—Fighter pilots escorting the Flying Fortresses to Berlin yesterday flew to the Oder River and reported seeing flashes from artillery

duels across the river, indicating the Russians were battling for a crossing.

Maj. Robert D. Long, of Coastal, Fla., Mustang group operations officer, said: "We flew about 30 miles east of Berlin and could see the Oder about ten miles off to the right. There were artillery flashes on both sides of the river—flashes from heavy guns. There was smoke and haze below."

"It looked like the Russians had pushed to the river bank. There was a lot of activity of some sort which we couldn't make out on the river bank. We then were straight east of Berlin and almost at Frankfurt."

Pilots who accompanied Maj. Long said that from the gun flashes it appeared the Russians were laying down perhaps ten shots for every one fired by the German guns.

Allied Armies Slash at a Barrier to Victory



Stars and Stripes Map by Baird

This is the Siegfried Line which forms the western wall of Germany for more than 500 miles from Holland to the Swiss frontier. One of the mightiest fortified zones of modern times, the Siegfried Line has been breached at Aachen by the U.S. First Army. That Army has now torn a new 12-mile gap in its outer defenses where the line is double-tracked south of the Aachen breach, and has penetrated the inner defense line. Southward in Alsace, Franco-American forces are reducing the Colmar salient.

Second Belt Of Defenses Is Broken

BULLETIN

The U.S. First Army has penetrated the last main barriers of the Siegfried Line, eight miles east of Monschau, and is now fighting in the secondary defenses of the German fortified zone in that sector, the Associated Press reported from the front late last night.

A Reuter dispatch said forces of Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' Army had "passed through" the second and main belt of the Siegfried Line.

U.S. First Army, ripping a 12-mile gap in the western belt of the double-looped Siegfried Line south of the Roer River, advanced to within three-quarters of a mile of the second fortified zone yesterday, paced by the four-mile push of the Ninth Div's 47th Inf. Regt.

South of the fractured West Wall, other American troops cleared Krewinkel, last German-held town in Belgium, and U.S. Third Army forces advanced deeper into Germany. Third Army forces, arrayed along the Our River in Luxembourg, faced added difficulties as melting snows swelled streams that poured down the sharp slopes of the Our Valley. The hills surrounding the valley were nearly bare of snow as thaw set in.

In Alsace, the liberation of Colmar was completed by Franco-American forces who were crushing the keyhole-shaped Colmar pocket on the Rhine's west bank. The neck of the keyhole, through which the Nazis hoped to unlock the gateway to Strasbourg and the southern plain, was barely 12 miles wide.

The 47th Regt's four-mile drive was made in the zone of lightly defended terrain lying between parallel rows of concrete pillboxes.

The doughs pushed nearly through this sparsely fortified area toward the Nazi communications center of Schleiden. They took Einruhr, three miles southeast of Kesternich, after

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Fighters Bomb Key Rhine Span

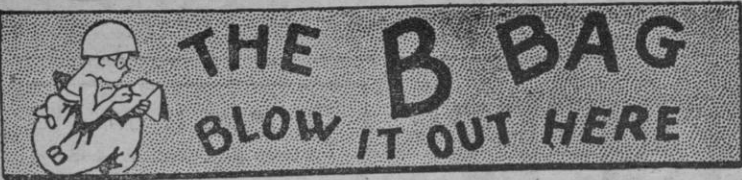
Fighter-bombers of the First TAC AF yesterday scored five bull's-eyes on a rail bridge over the Rhine at Breisach, one of the key spans for Nazi transport to and from the Colmar pocket.

Maj. Daniel B. Rathbun, of 8. Cerrito, Cal., led two formations into the bomb run. "There was so much flak we had to dive in almost vertically," he said. "I saw bomb crash on the center of the bridge and both approaches."

Poor weather hobbled the Eight and Ninth AFs all day.

Skirmishing on Italian Front

ROME, Feb. 4 (Reuter).—German raiding parties, covered by a heavy artillery barrage, attacked Eighth Army positions along the Senio River, but were repulsed by infantry and artillery. Bad weather limited action on the Fifth Army front to patrolling.



Wants Wallace

After three long years of war GI Joe begins to see a victorious end to the struggle. He is thinking of going home and assuming his place of a civilian with all the good things that word connotes. Many want to take advantage of that section of the GI Bill of Rights which will help them set up a little business. He has heard the President in his report on the "State of the Nation" say, "We must make sure that private enterprise works as it is supposed to work, on the basis of initiative and vigorous competition, without the stifling presence of monopolies and cartels." And the GI agrees with the President.

Whether he will be able to do what he is planning on, to a great extent will be dependent on the U.S. Department of Commerce. The man who leads this department of the government must understand the problems of the little man and be sympathetic to his cause. The President has just that kind of a man in Henry A. Wallace. In Wallace, the GI who contemplates a business will find a staunch friend.

On the other hand, those people in Congress who support Jesse Jones are the spokesmen for the monopolies and cartels which we are warned against. Jones cannot and will not take up the cause of the little business man, the soldier returning home, because he himself is a big business man.

The fight in Congress over Wallace is important to us as well as those back home. Let's tell our folks and friends back home that we went Wallace in the job of Secretary of Commerce with all the powers his predecessor had. And it wouldn't harm if we also let the men in Congress know how we feel about it.—T/Sgt. D. W.

Stockade Material

I'm talking for some fellows who have had a tougher time than myself. Why can't an infantryman who says he can't stand it (the war) any longer be sent to a psychiatrist? As it is, he is sometimes given a 24-hour rest and sent back. In most cases, however, he is called "yellow" or some other name before being sent back. This is the type who goes AWOL and ends in the stockade.

Why can't he see a psychiatrist who can determine if he is a psychoneurotic (battle fatigue case) and save him disgrace and the government worry? The air force has it, why can't the infantry?—Pfc Floyd M. Wilson.

Tsk! Tsk!

Tsk! Tsk! Mr. Editor, on that letter regarding sale and manufacture of cigarette lighters, I know the facts are: On September 1, 1942, the WPB did forbid manufacture of lighters for civilian use. Lighters for use by overseas troops were manufactured in limited quantities. In the spring of 1944, restrictions were partially lifted and permission given to sell to PXs in the States. Late 1944 saw limited manufacture for civilian use.—Sgt. Murray Sherman, P.W.F. Co.

(Enclosed were two lighter advertisements, one assuring readers, "production increased many times... entire output shipped overseas," the other, "entire output requisitioned for forces overseas."—Ed.)

Justice, GI

I read with great delight daily of the constructive criticism of GIs contributed to S. & S. In that light I venture criticism for the manner in which an accused GI is brought to trial via court martial. Its tremendous importance cannot be stressed too much. A fair trial is indeed a sacred heritage and the personal safety of each and every GI depends upon the preservation of the inviolability of the legal process.

I was a witness at a court martial recently. Counsel assigned for the defense was a major. He was not a lawyer and though conscientious and exerting his best efforts, being unfamiliar with, and lacking any knowledge of, legal technicalities and methods, could by no means measure up to the capabilities of the prosecuting attorney, a fiery

lawyer of long standing, able and dynamic.

What chance has a presumably innocent GI accused of crime under such circumstances? Is that the sort of trial guaranteed to American citizens by the Bill of Rights? Is that the fair and impartial trial to secure which governments are instituted among men?

In conclusion, I submit: First, every accused man should be assigned counsel trained in the art of trial, especially schooled in the Articles of War and familiar with the technicalities and intricacies of the law.

Second, the goddess of justice is pictured as holding evenly-balanced scales. It's a pretty picture, but a misleading one. The scales are not even—let's balance them.—Barnet Shulman, Sig. Serv. Co.

What Gives?

A sign over the main gate of a rear-echelon outfit on National Route No. 2, between Soissons and Paris reads, "Positively, NO CHOW, NO GAS, NO NUTHIN'!" My outfit's work extends from Germany, thru Belgium and into France. The damned crust of the above causes us to wonder sometimes just what the hell gives behind us.—Capt. E. V. Chandler, Sig. C.

About Baking & Boiling

Scene 1
The cook at the officers' mess has produced a flock of those choicest products of the culinary art—cherry pies.

Scene 2
Our mess officer discovers one of the pies missing.

Scene 3
After strict search the pie was still listed among the missing and placed on the morning report as being AWOL. The pie pilferer was not caught so the enlisted men were restricted for 72 hours to the area and denied the relaxation of the local beer dispensaries.

Critic's Review
Officers being gentlemen by an Act of Congress and therefore immune to the ordinary desires and frailties of normal individuals, naturally would not have purloined the pie.—48 Field Hosp. Boys.

Smear Campaign

Now, after Gen. Bradley has declared that Allied dispositions of troops previous to the German offensive in the Ardennes were a "calculated risk" and not the result of faulty intelligence, as "leading columnists" wanted people to believe, an epilogue may be written to the smear campaign conducted against the U.S. Military Intelligence Service.

When the part played by this service before and during the winter campaign can be released, it will give credit to the Intelligence personnel, officers and EMs alike, and especially to the one G-2, arbitrarily singled-out by sensational writers. It will be shame for the "leading columnists."—2/Lt. Frederick Wallash, 1st Army.

U.S. War Plants Ready to Turn Out Buzz-Bombs on Assembly-Line Scale

Army Lifts Secrecy Veil From American Type Of Nazis' V-Weapon

TOLEDO, Ohio, Feb. 4 (UP).—Mass production of buzz-bombs to blast targets in Germany or Japan can be started in this country whenever the Army gives the signal.

Disclosure that production of this weapon, a reproduction of Germany's V-1 robot, is ready to go on an assembly-line basis was made by Army authorities who recently escorted newsmen through the Willys-Overland factory here and a Ford war plant in Dearborn, Mich.

Revealed in November

Secrecy had surrounded the Allied robomb program ever since it was announced in November that experiments were under way. Few Ford workers even now are aware of the end product of their work as they build jet-propulsion motor parts.

The 5,100-pound robots were engineered by the Republic Aviation Corp. at Farmingdale, L.I. Motors and housings are made at Dearborn and shipped here for mounting on fuselages built at Willys-Overland.

Although production figures are withheld, both Ford and Willys spokesmen said they were ready to go into mass production immediately.

Travels Over 400 MPH

The American robot's range was said to approximate 180 miles at a speed of more than 400 miles an hour. The speed and range, however, vary with the size of the warhead and fuel loads.

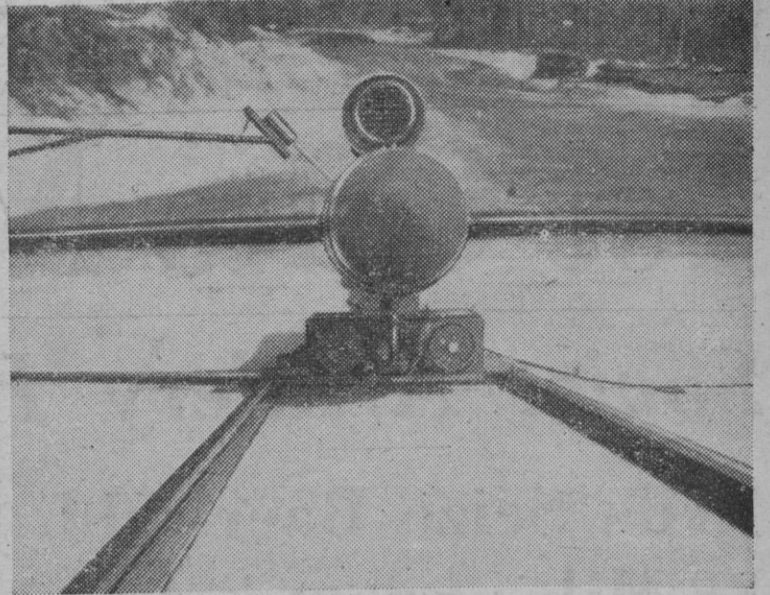
The buzz-bomb is 28 feet long and has a wing spread of 17 feet. A unique construction detail is a pipe-like spar about which the fuselage is built and to which the wings may be fastened quickly. The robombs may thus be shipped compactly and assembled easily upon arrival. The warhead is affixed to the machine just before launching.

The production cost of each robomb has been estimated at \$3,000.

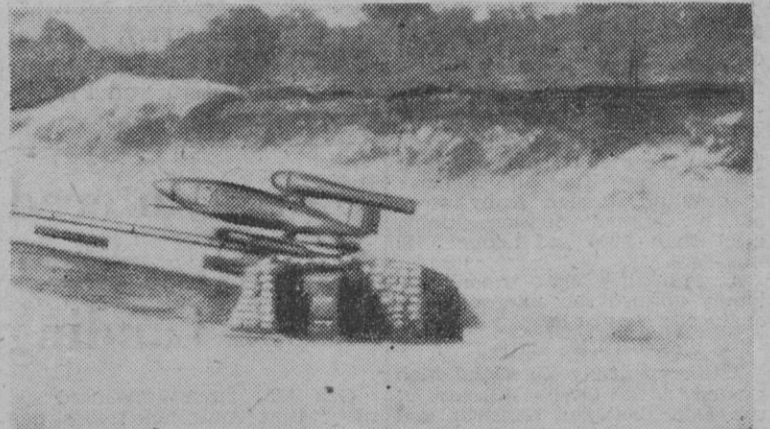
Trunk of Reefer Weed Traps Suspected Ring

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Indictments were returned yesterday by a Federal grand jury against six persons whom the Government accuses of operating the nation's largest marijuana ring. The Government charged the reefer weed was grown on a Missouri farm and shipped to New York to be sold for \$100,000 per ton. Accused are Vincent Pellicer, 45 years old, Detroit, still at large; Robert Williams, 41, and his wife, Eida, 38, accused of growing the weed, and Mrs. Laura Rilo, 35, and Virginia Williams, and Carlos Camino Fernandez, of New York.

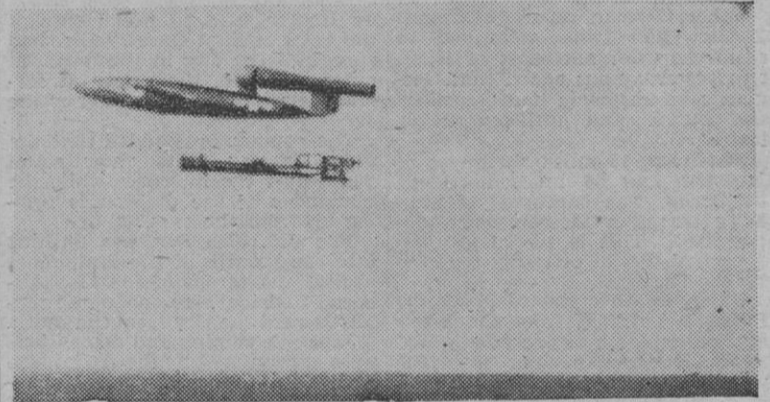
An unclaimed trunk at a Railway Express office marked "furs," led to discovery of the ring. When put up for auction, it proved to contain reefer weed.



This is a head-on view of the American adaptation of Hitler's V1, taken at a U.S. Army Air Forces experimental station.



Smoke pours from the undercarriage of one of the new U.S. Army Air Force buzz-bombs as it starts up the ramp.



In the air and soaring toward its destination, the new U.S. buzz-bomb drops its starting carriage.

Wounded's Comfort Is Price Paid for Shortage of Nurses

Shortage of nurses in field and evacuation hospitals has not affected the care given wounded U. S. soldiers, but in some cases has cut down the degree of comfort the doughs normally would receive and nearly everywhere has forced nurses to work longer and harder shifts.

This was the consensus of U. S. Army nurses who came to Paris Friday to participate in a press conference—only to find they had missed it by a day, probably because of pressure of duties.

In the field and evac hospitals, nurses are working sometimes 16 hours a day, they said. There are not enough nurses in reserve to relieve them.

Stress Necessary Care

They paid tribute to enlisted hospital personnel who help out when the going gets tough. At one hospital, one nurse became ill at the same time that another one was on leave. That cut the nursing staff pretty close, they said.

They said that if women at home realized what the nurse shortage meant here, it wouldn't be necessary to draft any nurses.

Wounded men require constant care. The seriously wounded and amputation cases can't turn themselves in bed. A nurse has to do it.

The wounded should have their backs rubbed and baths every day, but with hospitals short-handed in the field nurses have to keep stepping to provide all the basic elements of care, they said.

These nurses were all veterans. Capt. Beth A. Veley, of San Jose,

Calif., chief nurse of the 103rd Evac. Hospital, was one of the nurses who escaped from Corregidor two days before it fell and made the 19-day voyage to Australia by submarine.

There was 1/Lt. Alfreda Muchalight, of E. Hartford, Conn., of the 57th Field Hospital. She has been overseas 42 months.

1/Lts. Ethel Gilbert, of Bangor, Me., and Elizabeth Stuber, of Akron, Ohio, both of the 67th Evac. Hospital, were in the group of five who stayed behind at Malmedy while the hospital moved from the path of Von Rundstedt's counter-offensive. They and 1/Lts. Anna Aslaksen, Nina Baraham and Sally Casement took care of 160 patients when the hospital was moved north to Verviers until everyone could be evacuated.

There were 1/Lts. Delores Buckley, of Prescott, Wis., with the 95th Evac. Hospital, who was wounded at Anzio, and Margaret Hornback, of Shelbyville, Ky., of the 128th Evac. Hospital.

They missed the press conference, but they were getting a much-needed rest.

Key Heads Delegation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (Reuter).—Maj. Gen. William Key, former U.S. Army commander in Iceland, will head the U.S. delegation of the Allied Control Commission for Hungary. The commission is composed of U.S. British and Soviet representatives.

HUBERT by SGT. DICK WINGERT



Only good thing about winter-time is things don't stink like they did last summer.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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Three Minutes to Go

After 10 Days and Nights of Living Hell, Yanks Decide to Surrender, Then . . .

WITH 94th INF. DIV., Germany.—The sergeant glanced nervously at his watch as the hands ticked toward 2200 hours, the time when the platoon had agreed to surrender. It lacked three minutes to the hour . . .

They were in four foxholes in an orchard—23 of them—and around them, in a seemingly solid ring, were Germans. For ten days, despite cold and hunger and shellfire from their own guns as well as German, they had held out against countless attacks. Now their ammunition was almost spent.

It was in the fight to take Butzdorf, south of Trier, that a German counter-attack had cut them off. After three unsuccessful attempts to break through the ring, their platoon leader, 1/Lt. John R. Travers, and two men had crawled out to try to reach the American lines. Those left behind had no way of knowing they had succeeded—and that they had tried to come back with heavily armed patrols, only to be stopped by Jerry guns zeroed in on the orchard.

In the foxholes, T/Sgt. Arnold A. Petry, of Long Beach, N.Y., told them:

"We gotta forget the cold. We gotta kill Germans, that's all."

Patrol Stumbles In

The bodies out front were proof that they had. One night a Jerry patrol stumbled into Petry's foxhole. Sgt. Bill Hansen, of Waukegan, Ill., plugged the leader. Petry machine-gunned the second man. Pfc Charles Wilcox, of Callicoon, N.Y., got the third with an M1.

On the third day German medics approached with a white flag and asked if there were any wounded who needed attention. Reluctantly Petry surrendered the three wounded men he had, and the Germans went away. Five minutes later artillery raked the positions; miraculously there were no casualties.

Later the same afternoon a Cub appeared overhead. The men signaled with mirrors for food and ammunition. The Cub dipped its wings and went away. Ten minutes later 105s rained down instead. Four other times the Cub appeared, and twice artillery fire followed.

Food was a pressing problem. Their seven cans of C rations went the first day. After that there were boxes of crackers from the packs of dead Germans out front. The water shortage was solved by placing snow, halazone tablets and lemon powder in helmets and melting it by sitting on the helmets.

Wait and Watch

Some of the men read prayer books, but mostly they sat waiting and watching and talking. They talked about how the Russians might be doing, and about food.

On the fifth night a German field kitchen set up 300 yards away. Ammunition was too low to do anything about it, so they sat and watched and sniffed the aroma of cooking food coming down the wind.

The tenth night came. Weak from cold and hunger, with ammunition almost exhausted, they huddled together and talked over the prospects. They didn't see how they could hold out much longer.

Suddenly one of the men shouted and pointed to the rear. American doughboys were approaching. The men in the foxholes yelled at them. The doughboys stopped, suspicious, apparently, of the cries in English, then slipped out of sight.

Spirits in the "lost platoon" sank to their lowest. If help did not come by 2200, they decided, there was only one thing to do . . .

Petry looked at the luminous hands on his watch. They pointed to 2200. He whispered:

"To hell with the bastards. Let's stick it out."

The word went out and the reply came back: "Stick."

The clock ticked on.

At 2300 hours, out of the darkness around the foxholes, came men of the 376th Inf. Regt., driving anew for Butzdorf, and the "lost platoon" was relieved.

Most of the men had to be helped back to company CP. There they ate K rations and gulped coffee and then lay down to sleep. In the morning they returned to their own company and fought for three more days before being sent back to rest.

Some of the 23 still don't know about Petry, the sergeant with the watch—how, six years ago, he deserted the Hitler youth movement in his native Germany and went to live in the U.S.

Rear Echelon Soldier of 55 Years for Action Up Front

By James Cannon
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THIRD ARMY, Feb. 4.—Old soldiers never die—because most of them work far back of the lines.

Gray-haired, 55-year-old Andrew Jay Highberger today is up where the artillery flashes red in these snowy hills. The lean-bodied T/4 from Hagerstown, Md., had himself transferred from a railroad battalion to this infantry division. But the division's rear echelon still isn't close enough for the old guy, who is a rifleman in his young heart.

"I am unhappy," said the old guy. "I enlisted this time to get it over with. I belong up there slugging or I belong back home."

Vet of War I

Highberger, who was in action at Verdun, St. Mihiel and the Argonne Forest in the last war, enlisted two years and two months ago, and this time has been overseas 20 months with a railroad battalion. Rear echelon life in the ETO bored Highberger, who had been an engineer with the Pennsylvania, West Virginia Railroad for 27 years.

"I wanted to fight so I wrote a letter to Gen. Patton and told him I wanted the infantry," the old guy said, sitting in the kitchen

of a farmhouse with a white pup snapping at his leggings.

"I told him I was a corporal in the last war . . . we didn't have none of these T ratings . . . and that I wanted action. He didn't take time to write about my transfer. He wired."

The old man reported to the division and told the colonel he wanted to be assigned to a rifle company. The colonel said he himself was 35, and even that was too old for a combat infantryman.

"I told that young colonel, 'You have to look inside a man to tell how old he is,'" the old guy said. "The outside of a man means nothing. I have a brother who is 50 who is in the infantry, and went in when we invaded New Guinea. So you see, it's not a man's outside, but his inside. But the young colonel insisted I am too old, and here I am an electrician, when I should be fighting."

The Road Back to Manila



Yanks march through ravaged Tarlac, one of the largest towns on Luzon in the Philippines, on the road back to Manila.



Troops examine light Jap tank, one of 14 knocked out in a futile counter-attack on Luzon. In the background is shown a Nip medium.



An American patrol and an amtrac search for Japs soon after coming ashore on Luzon against light opposition.



Gen. Douglas MacArthur comes back to Luzon. With him are his chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Richard K. Sutherland, and (behind MacArthur), Col. Lloyd Lehrbas, his aide.

Pilot Takes A Dive—Disastrous for Nazis

A NINTH AF BOMBER BASE, France, Feb. 4.—The concussion of a burst of flak near his A26 Invader the other day stunned 2/Lt. George C. Van Meter Jr., Invader pilot and former Louisville cop.

When he recovered, the A26 had fallen to 7,000 feet. Not only was Van Meter roused, he was damn mad. He regained control of his ship, dove another 500 feet on the one engine still going, and knocked out the guns that had stunned him.

Outfit Year in Combat

WITH SEVENTH ARMY.—The 141st FA Bn., attached to the Third Div., completed its first year of combat recently—a year which took the outfit from southern Italy to the Anzio beachhead, north past Rome, into southern France on D-Day and north in the drive on the Rhine.

U.S. Columns Enter Manila

(Continued from Page 1)

It is two miles south of San Jose, a town on a highway piercing the Cagayan Valley, where the Japanese are reported to have a strong force.

To the west, 25th Div. troops captured Umingan and Santa Maria and inflicted heavy losses on the Japanese. Units of the 38th and 24th Divs., pushing across the base of the Bataan Peninsula, advanced eight miles from the captured Olongapo naval base.

In Batangas Province, southwest of Manila, 11th Airborne Div. troops took a town 13 miles inland from their landing point.

MacArthur reported that the Japanese had suffered more than 33,000 casualties in the first three weeks of the Luzon campaign, which began Jan. 9. American casualties were 5,589, including 1,271 killed.

In southeastern China, Japanese forces captured Suichuan.

Com Z Troops Already in Line For 104th Div.

By Ernest Leiser

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 104th INF. DIV., Germany, Feb. 4.—Rear echelon soldiers, most of them from Com Z, went into the line today with units of this division, first graduates of the 104th's Battle School.

Former cooks, mechanics, personnel clerks and supply sergeants—now members of rifle companies—completed a two-week course given by combatwise veterans of the Timberwolves.

Supplementing the training courses of the reinforcement depots, with instruction on weapons, night attacks and patrolling, the course is the first given by a division to men sent up to fill gaps in the line.

Kept Stripes If Successful

Half of the men were non-coms, and had the promise of the division commander, Maj. Gen. Terry Allen, that they'd keep their stripes if they did their jobs. Allen was present at the graduation yesterday, and presented the men with their diplomas—the divisional shoulder patch.

Results of the training were excellent, according to Lt. Col. Edward Rager, of Seward, Pa., in charge of the school. "These Com Z men are going to make good soldiers," added 1/Lt. Thomas F. Turner, of Brooklyn, who mapped out the program, "and now they'll have a much better chance to keep alive out there in the lines."

Glad to Learn How

One of the trainees, Pvt. Niles W. Smith, of Watertown, N.Y., had been an Army cook for four years. He admitted he preferred cooking to being a rifleman but said that since he did have to go into the line he was glad to learn about it first.

First Sgt. Wilson Harpe, of Blakely, Ga., in the Army since 1935 but at the front for the first time, said he thought the school was "damn good training—up to now it had been all theory for me."

"Back at Fort Benning," he said, "I had a company of automotive instructors. A rifle company is a lot different."

Yanks and Foe Share Power

WITH NINTH ARMORED DIV.—For more than a month Americans and Nazis shared electric power from the same plant in Luxembourg, it has been revealed by Capt. Andrew Spencer, of Ravenna, Ohio, liaison officer for Hq. Co. of the 73rd FA Bn.

Capt. Spencer, just back from the battle of Bastogne, recalled that several weeks ago when the 73rd was assigned a support task in Luxembourg near the Sauer River the units in several towns had power from a plant that was "untouchable."

"The plant, which was located on the Sauer, east of Beaufort," he said, "was operated by one man who employed a civilian as a sort of go-between for the troops and himself when something went wrong."

Cited for Work In Enemy Lines

WITH FOURTH ARMORED DIV.—2/Lt. Stephen D. Herndon, of Hamilton, Ohio, recently was cited a second time for gallantry in action and awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster to his Silver Star for leading a patrol behind enemy lines to destroy mortar and artillery positions.

One infantry and two tank companies had made a day-long attempt to capture Durstel, France. Lt. Herndon took a patrol into the town at night located four mortars and one artillery position and called for artillery fire against them.

Herndon's men wiped out enemy pockets in the town, permitting a task force to move in next morning without opposition.

Lt. Herndon, then a sergeant, won the Silver Star on Aug. 24, 1944, when his patrol destroyed 25 enemy vehicles and captured 60 prisoners.

Shielded Buddy With Body

WITH 79th INF. DIV.—When Sgt. Walter Carson's buddy was wounded during a barrage, the Milwaukee soldier gave first aid and used his own body to shield the injured man from further hits.

WD Is Accused Of 'Sabotaging' Manpower Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (UP).—Senator Edwin C. Johnson (D-Col.) charged last night that the War Department had "sabotaged the work-or-jail bill" by changing its position on who should administer it.

Johnson spoke at a press conference shortly after the Senate Military Affairs Committee, of which he is a member, deferred final action on the House-approved May bill, which is designed to force deferred men 18 to 45 years old into war industries.

Wants More Time

The committee sought time in which to consider further the question of who should be given administrative authority under the bill—War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes, as provided by the amendment it approved Friday, or the Selective Service and Byrnes, as provided in the bill passed by the House.

"Officially and on the record," Johnson said, "They (the War Department) advocate that powers under this bill be delegated to Justice Byrnes. In private contacts with senators on the Military Affairs Committee they urge that these powers be placed under Selective Service."

War Department Silent

Neither Undersecretary Robert P. Patterson nor any other War Department official would comment on Johnson's charge.

Sen. Joseph C. Mahoney (D-Wyo.) offered a motion to defer final approval. He said that giving the power to Byrnes would be an undesirable "concentration in Washington of power which ought to be exercised by local draft boards."

Camp Ellis Named As Training Site

CHICAGO, Feb. 4 (ANS).—The Army announced today that Camp Ellis, Ill., would become the nation's only basic military training center for men inducted under Mobilization Director James Byrnes work-or-fight directive, but who are unfit for general military service.

Maj. Gen. Russell Reynolds, head of Sixth Service Command, announced that the program would start about Feb. 15.

Camp Ellis opened as an Army Service Forces training center in 1943, with facilities for an estimated 40,000 persons. More than 1,000 buildings cover the camp's 12,000 acres.

Sees More Cigarettes After German Defeat

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Civilian smokers will get scarcer in the next few months but all leading brands will be in adequate supply 60 days after Germany is beaten, Harry M. Wooten, investment advisor for Reynolds and Company, New York Stock brokers, said today.

"One factor in the present scarcity," Wooten said, "is the 615 percent increase in tax-free cigarette exports since 1941, while the production of tax-paid cigarettes for home markets gained only 18 percent."

Baby Is the Boss

FORT WORTH, Feb. 4 (ANS).—One of the oldest priorities held up a plane flight here yesterday. A baby was among the passengers and the mother had left its bottle at the airport. The pilot reported tersely, "Returning to Fort Worth—hungry baby."

Omero Keeps Pure His Record of Firsts

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—It's okay, Omero. Your brother Mike was there when they cut the ribbon last week and let the first car through the 39th St. entrance of the Lincoln Tunnel.

Pfc Omero C. Catan, of Queens, had the impressive record of being first across many a new bridge and through many a new tunnel. Now hospitalized in England, he was so perturbed when he read about the coming opening of the Lincoln Tunnel that he wrote New York authorities to ask if his brother Mike couldn't sub for him.

The authorities agreed.

Over the Hill But Not Far Away

Service Club AWOL's Hideout

ATLANTA, Feb. 4 (ANS).—The Army's Fourth Service Command yesterday told the story of a Pennsylvania private who went AWOL in the late summer of 1943 and spend 15 months hiding underneath the service club at his camp until fire destroyed the building and brought about his capture.

The command's announcement identified the soldier as Henry Bemnowski, of Beaver Falls, Pa., who was assigned to an anti-aircraft battalion at Camp Steward, Ga., when he disappeared in August, 1934. The Army said he was now under treatment at a regional hospital while a military board determines his "mental and physical fitness."

"From information given by the soldier," said the Army announcement, "it appears that Bemnowski hid under the service club after a

dance in August, 1943, and remained in hiding under the club until routed out by fire on Nov. 25, 1944. He claimed to have only seven dollars when apprehended.

"His physical appearance supported his claim of having remained in hiding. His hair was uncut, and he had grown a short beard, although he shaved several times. During this period he had obtained a change of clothing. Where he obtained his food during the period has not been determined. Bemnowski asserted he had bought food in the service club, but this has not been confirmed."

The Army explained that "there was a large number of military personnel in training at Camp Steward, with considerable turnover, a fact which made it easier for Bemnowski to leave his hiding place occasionally without encountering any one who would recognize him."

Pulido's Hot Rock Finds Willing Buyer

DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 4 (ANS).—There's a guy in Dallas who wants to buy the new Mexican volcano, Paracutin.

The prospective buyer for the up and coming hill of hot rock is Fe Morris, who, when he isn't negotiating for volcanoes, is secretary of the Texas Retail Dry-goods Association.

Morris wants to buy it from the Mexican farmer, Dionisio Pulido, who left for California and offered to sell out when the volcano erupted on his land, spoiling it for farming.

The catch is that Morris will buy only if Pulido will sell his farm for what it used to be worth.

Stork Busier In This War

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (ANS).—The stork has been much busier in this war than in World War I. One reason, says Census Bureau expert John Durand, is that various European nations have deliberately granted more furloughs for married men to visit their homes.

Another reason is that European countries and the United States have paid allotments to servicemen's dependents in this war. In the United States, the birth-rate has stayed so high for three years that the population effect of the war has been a large net gain.

For every American soldier or sailor killed, six babies have been born, Durand estimated.

In the first World War the principal belligerent countries, after a short initial boom in births, had very low birth-rates. The birth-rate in the U.S. dropped in the latter part of 1918 and early 1919.

Former Governor in Navy

SEATTLE, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Former Gov. Arthur B. Langlie, 45, has been called to active duty in the Naval Reserve with the rank of lieutenant, the 13th Naval District Headquarters reported today. He was defeated for re-election by U.S. Sen. Mon C. Wallgren, D., who resigned to become governor.

Hard, Realistic Peace Terms For Germany Are in Making

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (UP).—The State Department is preparing what it regards as hard, realistic and practicable peace terms for Germany.

These plans, it was learned, contemplate that Germany's war potentialities must be destroyed or at least rigidly controlled;

Allies to Prosecute Nazis for Crimes Against Germans

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (ANS).—The U.S. and Britain today agreed that Allied authorities who control postwar Germany should undertake punishment of Nazi persecutors of German nationals for racial, religious reasons.

Acting Secretary of State Joseph Grew said the system of punishments will apply to German leaders and their associates "for the whole broad criminal enterprise devised and executed with ruthless disregard of the very foundation of law and morality, including offences wherever committed against the rules of war."

The attitude of the British Government previously was stated to Parliament by Richard Law, minister of state.

He drew the same distinction between crimes against other nations and crimes against German citizens, and sought to allay fears recently expressed in the U.S. and Britain that the Nazis might escape through technicalities of international law.

Gloria Swanson Weds No. 5 in New Jersey

UNION CITY, N.J., Feb. 4 (ANS).—Gloria Swanson, stage and screen star, married her fifth husband Monday in Union City. He is William Davey, 52, of 400 Park Ave., New York. The actress gave her age as 45. Her previous husbands were Wallace Beery, Herbert K. Somborn, the Marquis de la Falaise and Michael Farmer.

Miss Swanson is starring currently in "A Goose For the Gander" in New York. When she divorced Farmer in 1934, Miss Swanson was said to have stated that she would never marry again.

Soldiers Go Back to Railroad



Former railroad employes furloughed by the Army to help move freight cars in congested Buffalo, N.Y., railroad yards check in with Sgt. Robert Schumann of the 124th Military Police on their arrival at the terminal center. They began work Jan. 24 and will continue until the situation is relieved.

Less Drastic, More Realistic

Members of the commission drafted proposals after consultation with their respective leaders. Controversy in this country over a soft or hard peace for Germany reached a climax last fall when the so-called "Morgenthau plan" was publicized.

The State Department's ideas are less drastic, but it was pointed out they also were believed to be far more realistic.

For example, most of the nations surrounding Germany are dependent upon her for coal. France, always deficient in coal, could hardly be expected to agree to flooding of German mines, as suggested in the Morgenthau plan.

There is no inclination to give the impression that steps to keep Germany unarmed after this war are near completion or will be in the immediate future. Some saw in the forthcoming return of Leon Henderson, former price administrator who has been making a special study in Europe of Germany's postwar problems, an indication of more progress soon.

Decisions Must Wait

Some decisions about Germany cannot be made until the war is over. It will be impossible to decide which industries are to be destroyed, transferred or controlled until it is known what industries are left.

Political decisions may decide the future of German industry if the Rhine basin, including the Ruhr and Saar, are internationalized as the French and others demand. If Silesia is given to Poland as compensation for lost eastern territories virtually all of Germany's industrial areas would be out of her hands.

300 Veterans Home From Italian Front

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 4 (ANS).—More than 300 veterans of the 34th Div. arrived at Fort Snelling last night after more than three years in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. Some will get 21-day furloughs before reporting for reassignment, while others will spend 30 days at home and then return to their outfits in Italy.

Most of the group still wore the clothing they were wearing in Italy three weeks ago when they were told of their furloughs. Many wore boots still spattered with the mud of northern Italy.

37% of Americans Call Germans 'Warlike'

DENVER, Col., Feb. 4 (ANS).—The National Research Center of the University of Denver said today that the number of Americans who believe the Germans are "incurably warlike" has increased since 1943 when 22 percent considered Germans warlike by nature. Today 37 percent think so.

Anti-Wallace Group Gains Added Support

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Southern Democrats today were reported to be joining House Republicans in support of George Bill amendments, which propose to curtail further the powers which Henry A. Wallace would exercise if he is confirmed as Secretary of Commerce.

The United Press said that such a coalition would assure House approval of the Senate-passed bill in a drastically revised form. Senate concurrence in the revision, some observers believed, might move President Roosevelt to veto the bill. If that happens, the Senate may reject Wallace's nomination when it comes up for action Mar. 1.

The George bill, as passed by the Senate last week, would strip the Commerce Department of the vast lending powers it has exercised through the Reconstruction Finance Corp. It provides for setting up the RFC as a separate agency.

Would Further Cut Power

Rep. Jesse Wolcott (R-Mich.), ranking minority member of the House Banking and Currency Committee, is leading the move to tighten the George bill. He was drafted the amendments which would further cut the powers of the Secretary of Commerce.

Rep. Eugene Cox (D-Ga.) said that in his opinion "more than 85 percent" of the Southern representatives would support the Wolcott revisions.

Rep. John E. Rankin (D-Miss.) indicated he would welcome any move to reduce Wallace's chances of confirmation. He asked the Banking and Currency Committee to table the George bill until the Senate votes on the Wallace nomination.

French Given U.S. Contracts

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (AP).—The U.S. has initiated contracts for military supplies totalling one billion dollars to be produced in France during 1945, the Office of War Information announced today.

The OWI said the U.S. recognizes the gravity of France's needs "and is determined, within the limits and demands of war and the bottlenecks of transportation, to assist France in her rehabilitation."

Contracts have been arranged for: 260,000 American soldiers' uniforms, 2,000,000 tires (some to be produced in Belgium), several million cans and drums, 200,000,000 board feet of lumber, 500,000 drawing instruments, 3,000,000 light bulbs, great amounts of X-ray film, 90,000 tons of cement and 100,000 gallons of paint.

Col. Steraasli Named AAF Chaplain Head

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Col. Gynther Steraasli has been appointed as supervisor of all Army Air Force chaplains.

Now 59 years old, he succeeds Chaplain Charles Carpenter, of Alexandria, Va., who has been assigned overseas.

Maharaja's Ex Weds Again

LONG BEACH, Calif., Feb. 4 (Reuter).—Marguerite Holkar, once married to the Maharaja of Indore, whose yearly income tops \$3,000,000, was wed to W. N. Masters, a 30-year-old California postman. Her marriage to the maharaja was dissolved last July.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival:

S/SGT. George A. Byrne, Austin, Texas—George Anthony, Dec. 16; Cpl. R. Campbell, New York—girl, Jan. 31; Pfc Clarence M. Anderson, Carlisle, Pa.—boy, Jan. 30; 1/Lt. Lewis J. Alessio, Miami Beach—Arlene Marie, Jan. 29; Pfc Ralph A. Puntillo, Great Kills, N.Y.—Virginia I. Dec. 12; Cpl. Elmer I. Thomas, Eugene, Ore.—Ronald Lee, Jan. 6; Sgt. Samuel Shalaway, Boyertown, Pa.—Alex. David, Jan. 30; Capt. William Jacobs, Newark—Jane Ruth, Jan. 30; S/Sgt. I. Koretz, Bronx—Barry Robert, Jan. 27.

CPL. Gene Wilkins Clark, Long Branch, N.Y.—Pamela Noel, Dec. 31; Sgt. E.M. Pierce, Boone, Iowa—William Boyd, Jan. 27; Sgt. John Fontanella, Brooklyn—girl, Jan. 28; Lt. Edward J. Barrett, San Jose, Calif.—Stephen James, Jan. 29; Pvt. Robert K. Bryant, Seattle—boy, Dec. 20; Cpl. Lloyd Smith, Sullivan, Ind.—Elena Rae, Jan. 25; Cpl. Fred Cotnoir, Mount Vernon, N.Y.—Janet Marie, Jan. 28; 1/Lt. Francis M. Achen, Madison, Wis.—boy, Nov. 13; Lt. Eugene J. Hollerbach, Maywood, Ill.—Robert John, Oct. 29.

L. T. Wayne J. Fye, Kokomo, Ind.—boy, Dec. 12; Sgt. Earl T. Mitchell, Springfield, Mo.—Robin Thomas, Dec. 24; Cpl. Robert A. Lemieux, Central Falls, R.I.—boy, Nov. 6; Capt. Thomas Brett, El Paso, Tex.—girl, Jan. 1; Lt. John M. Flowers, Montgomery, Ala.—John M., Nov. 14.

This Was America Yesterday:

Army Buying 12 Million Pairs Of Extra-Sock Boots for ETO

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—Better take this to the supply sergeant right away, with a suitable birthday present. The Army is buying 12,000,000 pairs of oversized boots to ship to Europe. Reason for the extra size is to enable users to wear two or three pairs of thick wool socks.

And another cloak and suit item comes from Fort Worth, Tex. A fully clad clothing dummy tumbled from the show window of a clothing store when fire destroyed the building early today. It disappeared into the crowd of spectators and when next seen was minus the suit and shoes. This is cited to prove you don't have to fall so far to find out all Texans aren't dummies.

THE supply sergeant might also like to know about new styles in Brigade there is now wearing long blue denim jackets, covered with slogans, names of chums and wisecracks.



If all this doesn't get you a new pair of shoes, you can't say we didn't try, anyway.

POETRY is what's bothering them most in Hartford, Conn. Somebody suggested the state ought to have a poet laureate, and now the legislature is debating the matter. Gov. Baldwin is not sure Connecticut needs a poet laureate, and nobody seems to know what his duties would be, but Lieut. Gov. Snow, who teaches poetry at Wesleyan University, has been recommended for the job.

EVERYBODY'S getting plastered at the Jackson County, Kans., court house, and nobody likes it. There isn't any money on hand for repairs, and corroded water pipes are causing wet plaster to shower all over the place. The trouble started when a woman prisoner stopped up a drain with soap, let the water run and caused a deluge of plaster in the sheriff's office below. Latest to get showered with plaster was Judge Nick Cave, of the Court of Appeals.

The gals from Wellesley College, Mass., are doing their bit for the Office of Defense Transportation by not going home for spring vacations. They'll remain on the campus, catch up on studies. Travel will be limited to the Boston area.

'AM' Soon in Philly

IN Philadelphia a new daily publication "AM" will make its bow March 5. J. A. Lazar, editor and publisher of the "Tap and Tavern," liquor industry journal, will be boss. "AM" will have a daily two-page news letter, news of all trades, and will receive United Press service. It will be nine by 12 inches.

Chicago's Board of Education is worried about its teachers playing hokey. From the ranks of 13,000 elementary school teachers, 200 are absentees daily. The Board is meeting Wednesday to consider curtailing leaves for teachers who wish to visit service husbands, along with sabbatical leaves.

AND Joseph Weil, better known in Chicago as the "Yellow Kid," may believe in fairies yet. Cops nabbed him the other night, just to check up. He said he'd quit all bad doings, was just on his way to a fight, for which he displayed a low-price ticket. Police believed him—otherwise he'd have the best seat there—so they congratulated him and presented him with a ringside pass.

Salt Lake City cops have a different technique. When a patrol car knocked down Tabby White, an Indian, police took him to an emergency hospital for treatment—and presented him with a ticket for jaywalking. Lo, the poor Indian!

THIS item is put in here to keep us from getting clawed by other stars—notably Dorothy Lamour. Her studio, resenting an affront to Dottie's front, says it never has been padded.

The studio says it was all just cattiness on the part of Marie ("The Shape") McDonald, who recently declared in New York that Miss Lamour wears dirgible sarongs. Edith Head, Paramount designer, issues the denial and we're trying to get assigned out there to find out what sarong.

And you might as well not be in New Jersey, where the churches have decided to give up Bingo. The game was declared illegal by the state, and says Msgr. John C. McClary, vicar general of the Newark diocese, "We are law-abiding citizens."



The life of a fireman ain't so much fun. That's what John Kaczorowski and Ray Beyerle and Jeremiah McCreery, of the Philadelphia Fire Department, think as they try to thaw out with hot coffee after fighting a fire in sub-zero weather.

U.S. Winter Scene—Miami Version



It was two o'clock in the afternoon on January 23, the air temperature was 78, the water 75 and a horde of sun and surf-lovers lolled on the beach at Miami, Fla., while the folks up north were shivering in some of the nation's coldest winter weather.

'Why the Fuss?' Asks Flynn, Admitting That He's Married

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Warner Brothers studio announced yesterday that Errol Flynn had phoned to tell them he was married.

"What's all the commotion about?" Flynn asked. "Sure I'm married, I like it, and it's nobody's business but ours."

To reporters in New York, where he arrived from Mexico Friday, Flynn had nothing to say about his reported marriage to Nora Eddington, 20-year-old former cigar

counter girl in Los Angeles.

Nora gave birth to a baby on Jan. 10 in Mexico City and said the father was her husband, Errol Flynn, whom she had met last February during the screen hero's trial on charges of statutory rape.

Miss Eddington's father, Jack Eddington, a chief yeoman in the Navy, said Tuesday that Flynn and his daughter were married in Mexico last August, where they had met again on a vacation visit to the home of a countess friend of Flynn's.

Financiers OK Close U.S. Ties A World Bank Aim of French

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (AP).—The American Bankers Association has approved the proposed ten billion dollar International Bank for Reconstruction, but rejected its Bretton Woods twin—the international monetary fund.

The association criticized the monetary fund, as "a lending method which is contrary to accepted credit principles" and goes far beyond U.S. practice in approving changes of currency values.

The association recognized the need for some form of currency stabilization, but said currency controls should be handled by the international bank instead of the fund. It recommended that the bank be empowered to make "safeguarded" loans to aid countries in stabilizing their currencies.

Cleveland Plant Ablaze Second Time in Week

CLEVELAND, Feb. 4 (ANS).—For the second time in a week, fire hit the \$2,000,000 benzol plant of the Corrigas-McKinney Works of Republic Steel Corp. and boosted estimated damage to over \$500,000. Flames were confined to a single tank of highly inflammable benzol after firemen fought successfully to prevent the fire from reaching other tanks only 50 feet away containing 100,000 gallons. No one was reported injured in the new fire, which drove more than 400 persons from their homes.

Historic U.S. Documents Were Stored at Knox

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Originals of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and other priceless documents were stored in the U.S. Mint's bullion depository vault at Fort Knox, Ky., from Dec., 1943 until last September, the Library of Congress disclosed today.

Presumably, the material was stored to safeguard it against possible enemy air attacks.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Henri L. Bonnet, French Ambassador to the United States, said yesterday that "France is convinced and determined that nothing will ever separate her from the United States."

The efforts of France "will be directed entirely towards building a structure of peace that no tempest can overthrow," Bonnet told the tenth Metropolitan Opera House victory rally.

"My countrymen as well as yours," he said, "have learned at their expense that they must be efficiently protected everywhere in our shrinking world. They know that good intentions are not enough, that they must be supplemented by a prompt, strong determination to crush aggressions if they come or, better still, to crush all preparations for aggression."

Bonnet also said that treaties of alliance like the one signed recently by France and Russia, "had they been in existence at the time, would have prevented German aggression and avoided the necessity of forming a world coalition against Germany."

Council Asserts War Proves Race Equality

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (ANS).—The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America said today that Negro servicemen who fought alongside whites would "not accept in peace that which in war they opposed unto death."

"Upon a hundred battlefields and in a thousand camps the tests of war have shown that there is no basic difference between men," the council said in a race relations message.

Cole Heads Racing Board

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—The New York State Racing Commission elected Ashley Trimble Cole chairman of the commission to succeed Herbert Bayard Swope, it was announced yesterday. Bayard's resignation became effective January 31.

Cold Weather Is Expected to Abate in States

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (ANS).—A forecast of moderating weather for most of the nation today gave a cheering note to the Mid-West and East, where transportation and fuel services have been snarled for two months by deep snow and cold.

Blocked rails and highways and ice-jammed rivers interfered with the delivery of fuel and food to many communities, especially in New York and New England. A mix-up in gas conservation orders forced the temporary layoff of 50,000 war workers in the Detroit area. In western Pennsylvania fuel and freight car shortages curtailed the operations of 200 industries.

Six New England governors appealed to John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, and Fuel Administrator Harold L. Ickes to keep up coal production and delivery. In Ohio, Gov. Frank J. Lausche asked all business houses to close one day a week until April to conserve fuel.

N.Y. Struggles to Clear Roads

In New York State, where Gov. Thomas E. Dewey last week declared a state of emergency, all available civilian, military and prisoner of war man-power was put to work clearing transportation lines.

Washington tried to ease the situation with a series of emergency measures. These included:

1—Another four-day non-essential-freight embargo in the Appalachian area starting Saturday.

2—Prohibition, until 7 p.m. today, of the use of natural and mixed gas by amusement places in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio and the District of Columbia.

This prohibition was instituted to help relieve the drain on supplies caused by war production and particularly by heavy use by householders who were turning on gas stoves to supplement heating by furnaces and stoves. Householders were urged to discontinue this practice.

Heavy snow which cut off remote towns and farms from supplies also affected metropolitan New York. The Navy released 400,000 barrels of fuel oil to the city and a fleet of Coast Guard cutters was assembled to plow a path through the frozen Hudson and East rivers for freighters.

Liberty ships were carrying coal to Massachusetts.

The layoffs at Detroit resulted from premature invocation of a War Production Board rule under which the Panhandle Pipeline Co. of Kansas City is operating. The company is required to give high priority to gas commitments in the Appalachian shortage area. On Friday the company found that pipe pressure was falling due to heavy demand and informed utility companies in the area that curtailment of service was necessary. Later the company found it would not be necessary to sidetrack gas from Detroit. By that time, however, thousands of workers had been sent home.

At San Francisco, the Interstate Commerce Commission, acting to avoid the eastern jam of snowbound railroad refrigeration cars, last night declared a three-day holiday of fruit and vegetable shipments from California and Arizona.

It Is All in the Mind, Irate Women Find Out

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Feb. 4 (ANS).—Irate women for weeks have been calling Frank S. Goebel, Director of Public Service, complaining that the sodium fluoride in the city's drinking water was causing them to lose their teeth, or the enamel off them.

Three months ago it was announced that the fluoride, which is regarded as a corrective for tooth and gum troubles, would be placed in the water so that its effect on children's teeth could be studied by Federal and state authorities. But that, says Goebel, was all, the fluoride arrived only the other day.

Marine Found Guilty In Rape, Murder Trial

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (ANS).—Marine Pfc Earl McFarland of Tennessee yesterday was found guilty of the rape and murder of 18-year-old Dorothy Berrum, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., a government clerk, in a lonely park near the Potomac River last October.

The verdict carried a mandatory death sentence. The defense contended that McFarland, a veteran of Guadalcanal, was suffering from insanity and loss of memory as a result of malaria.

HASH MARKS

This Week's Funny Broadcast. "In the year 1940 Germany had better weapons," a Berlin announcer said in a broadcast picked up by NBC. "But now," the announcer continued, "we have better n-n-nerve!"

Our spy on the Home Front sez that even with gas rationing a leak in the tank isn't as bad as a drip at the wheel.

Thought for Today—by Pvt. Sam Elkin:—

England has its countryside,
France its gay Paree,
But anywhere in the U.S.A.
Is good enough for me.

Sage Comment from T/4 Bernard Freeman. "I noted with approval your front page box containing a daily French lesson and would like to make a further suggestion along the same line. With rumors of duty in the Pacific Theater floating around would it not be the essence of foresight to begin a similar department in Chinese and Hindustani?"

Overheard in the Dimout: "No wonder the sergeant talks so much."



His father was a tobacco auctioneer and his mother was a woman."

Overheard after a bout with a bottle of Calvados. "They laughed when I stood up to sing. But how was I to know I was under the table!"

Today's verse comes from Capt. Burt Sims—it's called "Via Air Mail."

So, little envelope,
Tho' I'm ETO-in';
I wish I was
Where you are goin'.

It's a topsy-turvy world. Seabees based in the South Pacific have found something profitable to do in their spare time. They are making grass skirts and selling them to the natives, who have discovered that the Seabee-made skirts are better than the local products.

It Happened in Seattle. Two buses halted at an intersection. The driver of one, a man, climbed out and kissed the driver of the other one, a woman. "She's my wife," he explained to astonished passengers. "We work different shifts and the only time I see her is at this intersection. . ."

And then there was the little moron overseas who became suspicious when his wife wrote that she ate her breakfast with gusto.
J. C. W.

RADIO AFN AEF

(583 Kc. — 514 M.)

Time	TODAY
1200-News	1815-BBC Revue
1215-Guess Who	1900-Johnny Desmond
1230-Home Note	1915-Strings
1300-Music	1930-Duffy's Tavern
1400-News	2000-World News
1410-AFN Extra	2005-U.K. News
1430-Village Store	2010-Canada News
1500-Music	2015-Johnny Mercer
1530-Combat Diary	2030-Canada Show
1545-On the Record	2100-News
1630-Fiesta	2105-Top Ten
1700-News	2135-Comedy Caravan
1715-Music Parade	2200-U.S. News
1800-News	2207-Army Band
1805-Mark Map	2235-Fred Waring
1810-Sports	2300-News

TOMORROW

0600-Rise and Shine	0900-News
0700-News	0925-Music
0715-Bing Crosby	1000-Morning After
0730-'Return Engag.'	1030-Music
0800-Combat Diary	1100-U.S. News
0815-Personal Album	1105-Duffie Bag
0830-Donahue Orch.	1145-Piano Parade

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

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

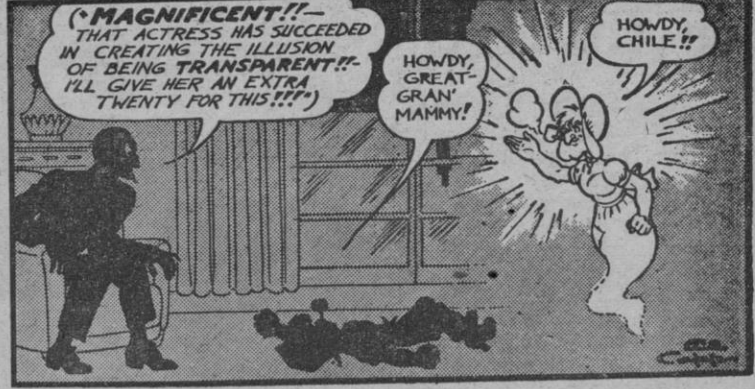
WANTED: 35mm. camera; T/5 N. G. Lampros, Rolleiflex or Rolleicord; M/Sgt. Gustave E. Bachofner. V616 or 116; Sgt. Joseph J. Hackowski. Speed Graphic or Graflex; 1/Sgt. Anton Erecgovich. Leica or Contax, 1.9 lens; Capt. E. J. Emanuel.

SWAP: Agfa Karat 35mm and duration film supply, for Contax, Leica, Rolleiflex or Iconaflex—Pvt. Vail Kaufman; Remington fourhead razor for Weston Junior exposure meter—Lt. Col. Abbott; Prism binoculars 8X, case, for sale, or swap for 35mm camera—Lt. Dean F. Hewitt.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features

By Al Capp



Terry and The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate

By Milton Caniff



Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features

By Raeburn Van Buren



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate, Inc.

By Chester Gould



Male Call

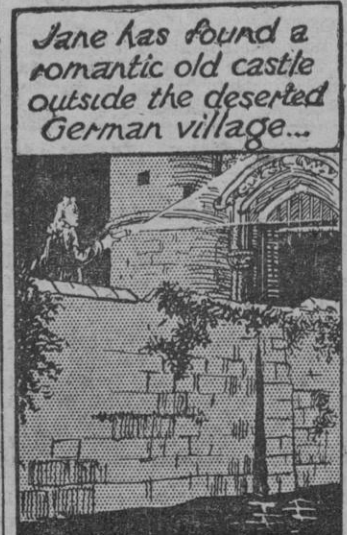
By Milton Caniff



Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett



U.S. Weapons Top All, Says Ordnance Boss

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (ANS).—The Army Chief of Ordnance, answering critics of American armament, says he has assurance from top-ranking generals and scores of enlisted men that we need apologize for no item of American ordnance in comparison with that of the enemy—"We're leading them all."

Returning from a tour of the European and Mediterranean theaters, Maj. Gen. Levin H. Campbell told the Associated Press that "the only real criticism of American ordnance that was made by Gen. Eisenhower and the rest was that they haven't as much ammunition as they'd like to have—but I can assure the American public that the matter will be adequately cared for under a jopped-up program dating from Dec. 1."

Points to Tanks

Referring particularly to published reports that our tanks are not big enough to cope with the Nazis' vaunted Tiger Royal and Panther tanks from a standpoint of armor and firepower, Campbell asserted: "I could build a tank as big as the Pentagon if the generals in the field said they wanted one. But there is no evidence to date that they want or need tanks larger than those we now employ. Those men know what they want. They're good judges of horseflesh."

"Gen. Eisenhower told me that to date the Germans have lost two tanks to every one of ours. How could we have such a record if our tanks were inferior?"

Calls Tiger Big, Clumsy

Campbell said that the 73-ton Nazi Tiger Royal, which packs an 88mm gun, was "big and clumsy, with a lack of maneuverability, plagued by a great deal of engine trouble and subject to being caught in the mud, where it's like a sitting duck."

Campbell added that Gen. Patton told him that our tanks in combat with the German Tigers had proved to be "the best tanks in the world."

His Two-Gun Fire Protects Company As It Moves Back

WITH 26th INF. DIV.—When 1/Lt. Charles F. Haile, of Natchez, Miss., crawled out of a no-man's-land during a recent Luxembourg battle the only living thing he left was a voracious vulture and dead Nazis to feed it.

Troops of Co. G of the 104th Inf. Regt. found themselves pinned down by a bracket of Jerry mortars, artillery and MG fire. They prepared to withdraw. Lt. Haile, an MG platoon leader, volunteered to cover the withdrawal.

When one of his gunners was wounded, Haile manned the gun and kept it hot. The gun jammed. He dashed across open terrain to another MG and resumed firing. When the last man of the company had safely withdrawn, Haile ordered his own MG crew to leave—and he stayed behind to cover.

Then—the last man left alive in that shell-pocked hell—he picked up his gun and went home. He now wears a Silver Star.

Raise Bail on Van Wie

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4 (ANS).—With three counts of bigamy against him, 58-year-old Francis Van Wie, who police say had at least 12 wives, was held for Superior Court today. The case was not expected to go to trial for several months and bail was raised from \$500 to \$3,000 cash or \$7,500 bond.

S & S Writer Reported Prisoner After Flight With Airborne Unit

ON THE BRITISH FRONT, Oct. 25 (Delayed) (AP).—Pfc Thomas Hoge, 32, of Bayville, L.I., veteran Stars and Stripes war correspondent who has been missing since he flew into Holland with airborne troops Sept. 17, 1944, has been captured by the Germans, according to reliable information.

A Dutch eyewitness to his capture related how Hoge had walked into the arms of the Germans the day he landed. Hoge told the Dutchman the plane he was in was shot down by ack-ack 12 miles from its objective. Hoge parachuted to safety and hid in a ditch until near dusk, when he dashed into a farmhouse to evade a searching party.

Bouncing Over Belgium In a One-Jeep Open Sleigh



Pilots at a snowy fighter field in Belgium take an old-fashioned toboggan ride to a speedier, deadlier kind of transport. They've

just left the briefing hut, on their way to the air strip from which their fighter planes soon will be speeding toward Nazi targets.

Raid Leaves Berlin's Heart Mass of Ruins

LONDON, Feb. 4.—The 1,000-bomber, 3,000-ton air assault on Berlin Saturday left the heart of the city a mass of smoking ruins. Eighth AF reconnaissance photos indicated today. Pictures showed almost unbroken fire and smoke over an area about two miles wide and a mile long, with smoke billowing more than two miles high. Summary reports called it "one of the war's best jobs."

Neither important military headquarters nor communications lines were spared. The German Air Ministry received eight direct hits and 18 concentrations of high explosives blanketed an area occupied by the German War Office, Reich Chancellery, the Air Ministry, the Propaganda Office, Gestapo headquarters, the Ministry of Agriculture and other important structures nearby, an Eighth AF communique reported.

Railroad Stations Hit

The Potsdamer, Friedrichstrasse, Anhalter, Goltzer, railroad stations and adjoining railroad lines—the vital life-line of Nazi military through-traffic between the western and eastern fronts—definitely were hit.

Tempelhof marshalling yards and Tempelhof airfield were reported hit several times. The Deutsche Gesellschaft Gas Works, near the center of the city, was said to be severely damaged.

The Berlin-Stockholm telephone line was cut for six and a half hours, Reuter reported from Stockholm. The Transocean News Agency, which the United Press said customarily blasts out propaganda almost continuously over the German radio, returned to the air at 10:30 PM after nearly eleven hours of silence with a short commentary on the Luzon situation.

A Stockholm report to Reuter said thousands of refugees were killed in the Nazi capital when they were unable to find shelter in the crowded city.

First Convoy Arrives Over Stilwell Road

KUNMING, China, Feb. 4 (Reuter).—The first supply convoy to travel over the Stilwell Highway from India to China arrived here today, lifting the three-year-old land blockade of China.

The Governor of Yunnan Province, of which Kunming is the capital, presented a large red banner to Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Pick, who built the L.S. section of the road. On the banner were the words "Road to Victory."

The convoy was made up of 133 vehicles, including jeeps, weapons carriers, two-and-a-half-ton trucks and ambulances. It travelled from Ledo to Kunming—more than 1,000 miles—in 24 days.

The civilian said he saw Hoge afterward cautiously leave the house and turn the corner only to come face to face with the enemy. The civilian said that the Germans took Hoge to Bokstel and then carted him off, presumably to Germany.

Hoge covered the Third Army for The Stars and Stripes up to the time it reached the Moselle front, then returned to England just in time to go on the paratroop mission to Holland.

A newspaper man in civilian life, he was inducted into the Army in May, 1942; came to the ETO with the 29th Inf. Div., and served as a rifleman and clerk until transferred to The Stars and Stripes in March, 1944.

Twelve Hours Face Down in the Snow Pilfering Nazis Search 'Dead' GI 19 Times

WITH FOURTH INF. DIV.—When S/Sgt. Doyle C. Hopper of the 22nd Inf. Regt. heard footsteps coming his way, he knew they were German, decided to play dead and lay face down in the snow. His heart beat wildly as two Germans rolled him over and slowly went through his pockets, but he managed to maintain his lifeless appearance. When the Nazis left, Hopper sighed with relief. During 12 hours in that position, he was searched

19 times by souvenir-seeking Jerries. Several of them felt his pulse.

"I had my biggest scare," Hopper said later, "when two big Krauts gave me the once-over. One of them pulled out a knife and pointed it in the general direction of my throat, but I guess they figured it wasn't necessary because they finally walked off."

Hopper sweated it out there on the snow until nightfall, when he made his way safely back to his battalion CP.

Red Drive Lifts Stalin Prestige

Russia's powerful offensive into Germany has assured Marshal Stalin greater prestige and influence at "the Big Three meeting, the unofficial Army and Navy Journal in Washington declared, according to the Associated Press.

"Striking so powerfully as he has done on the eve of the meeting of the Big Three, it is clear to diplomats here as well as to our own military leaders that Marshal Stalin has come to a position where his views must receive even greater consideration than in the past," the publication said.

In London, the United Press reported that Sunday newspapers had speculated that the Big Three was already in session. The Sunday Observer indicated that President Roosevelt is probably playing a dominant role.

"Hints from big American officials," the Observer declared, "suggest that Roosevelt is going to play—or is perhaps already playing—the most active part at the Big Three conference."

Sioux a Captive—But Not for Long

WITH FIFTH INF. DIV. Luxembourg.—Manning a light machine-gun on an outpost near Beaufort, Luxembourg, Pfc Grover C. St. John, of Ft. Thompson, S.D., a full-blooded Sioux Indian of Co. L, 11th Inf., was captured by a German night patrol. So sudden and silent was the capture that when the 40-year-old soldier reached for his carbine he found that one Jerry had already relieved him of it.

St. John was being led away as a prisoner when he bolted—dashed toward his gun and scrambled into the pit. Before the astonished Germans could act, St. John's machine-gun had begun to chatter. Not all the enemy patrol got away that night.

Taking Arms With ELAS Not Punishable Offense

ATHENS, Feb. 4.—As the ELAS and the Greek government began peace talks last night, the government announced that the act of taking up arms with the ELAS has been removed from the list of punishable offenses.

This was granted as an act of grace, the Associated Press said, to assist in the speedy pacification of the country. As a result, there will be no prosecution against persons involved in the civil war, although individual acts contrary to the laws of war or the normal criminal code will be punished.

Air Corps Specialists Called Up by French

The French Government has called up specialists in the Air Corps Reserve, including all classes from 1924 to 1942, the Associated Press reported.

They will be part of France's new "air army," thus far confined to French pilots flying American-made planes.

Senators in Favor Of Disarming Axis

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (ANS).—The New York Times, in a special Washington dispatch by James B. Reston, said today that more than two-thirds of the members of the Senate had indicated in the last two weeks that "they would favor promulgation of treaties among the major United Nations to keep Germany and Japan permanently demilitarized." Most of the senators polled said that they favored Sen. Arthur Vandenberg's proposals along that line.

Many of the members, the newspaper reported, emphasized that such treaties should not interfere with the war or the creation of an international security organization.

Soviet Artillery Pounds Nazis

(Continued from Page 1) from the Free City, after some of the "most savage fighting of the winter offensive."

In East Prussia, Gen. Ivan Cherniakovsky sent his Third White Russian Army troops down the Samland peninsula to capture Crnaz, an important rail station on the line used by the Germans to evacuate Koeningberg.

Bitter struggles were still in progress for the almost encircled Prussian capital.

On the Silesian front, the thaw which turned fields into seas of mud and sent the Oder River over its banks in several places also appears to have slowed Marshal Ivan Koniev's First Ukrainian Army.

A new threat on the southern gateway to Germany appeared developing southwest of Budapest, where troops of Marshal Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian Army resumed the offensive, driving back the German lines 11 miles to a point near Gardony.

UP reports from Moscow said that the Germans, facing the threat of a frontal assault on Berlin, will not be able to spare reserves to check Tolbukhin's drive once it is rolling with full power.

Enthronement in Moscow

MOSCOW, Feb. 4 (UP).—Alexius, the new Metropolitan of Moscow and Patriarch of All Russia, was enthroned this morning in the Velokhovskiy Cathedral.

Jerries Fire Away But—

Outpost Joes Get the Pies

WITH THE 44th INF. DIV.—1/Lt. Daniel W. Bradshaw, Tremonton, Utah, is proud of his cooking—so proud, in fact, that he will go through mortar and machine-gun fire to deliver samples of his art.

Lt. Bradshaw had whipped up some raisin pies one night, and his fellow workers at 2nd Bn., 114th Inf., sat around and said "Isn't that nice?" and continued to munch their C-rations and boxes from home. "Anyway," Lt. Bradshaw said, "the doughfoot on outpost duty would love these pies." So he took off.

On the way he passed through three areas that the Germans were busily machine-gunning. Each time he slid to the ground without damaging the precious pies. Three times spent fragments of mortar shells hit his coat but didn't hurt him or the pies.

The happy ending to the story is that the "doggies" in the outposts happily devoured all the pies—and even asked for more.

West Wall Cut By First Army

(Continued from Page 1) crossing the Kesternich-Schleiden road.

On their flank, 60th Inf. Regt. men smashed a Nazi counter-attack of infantry and five tanks near Herhahn, two and one-half miles southeast of Gemund and a mile and three-quarters from the eastern belt forts.

Second Div. men, also ploughing through the zone between the pill-box rows, advanced along the road to Schleiden and took Ettelscheid in gains of 2,500 yards. Ettelscheid is about one mile west of Schleiden.

First Div. troops to the south were still battling for the town of Ramscheid, where Germans appeared to be putting up toughest resistance. First Div. doughs cleared ten pillboxes at a cross-roads three-quarters of a mile from Hollerath which is southwest of Schleiden.

Men of the 82nd Airborne Div. plunged east of the first line of fortifications after clearing all pillboxes along a 3,500-yard front south of Undenbreth, just to the south of First Div. operations near Hollerath.

U. S. First Army forces in this sector yesterday were seven to eight miles east of pre-break-through positions. They have made the farthest penetrations of the Siegfried Line yet made south of the Aachen breach. As they approached the rear defenses of the double-rowed fortifications there appeared no indications that the Germans were slowing them down.

All Belgium Cleared

Other American troops to the south who cleared Krewinkel, advanced across the frontier a mile inside the Reich to take the village of Roth. It was officially stated that all Belgium had been cleared of the enemy.

Units of the 78th Inf. Div. drove ahead three miles to get a toe-hold over the Roer River. They took the town of Ruhrberg on the river's edge.

Third Army infantry advanced two and one-half miles and entered the Schnee Eifel forest to reach Halenfeld, eight and one-half miles southeast of St. Vith. It was reported they found Germans holding on to strongpoints up to the last minute, then hurriedly retreating.

North of St. Vith, Third Army forces were approaching the Siegfried Line. However, units of the Third had not reached the line up to last reports. While they were advancing into Germany from Belgium north of the Luxembourg border, their lines ran west of the German frontier through the duchy.