

Twin Russian Offensives Sweep to Baltic

Today's Russian Lesson
MAWJ-na pa-loo-CHEET pee-rec-
YAWT-chee-ka?
Can you get an interpreter?

PARIS EDITION
THE STARS AND STRIPES
Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations
1 Fr.

Ici, on Parle Français
Quelle belle journée!
Kel bel joornay!
What a beautiful day!

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Monday, March 5, 1945

First Closing On Cologne As Foe Flees Over Rhine

... And That Was How They Met

By Ernie Leiser
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE NINTH ARMY, March 4.—Men of the 35th Inf. Div. were heading hell-bent to the north. Already they had cut through more than 30 miles of the Rhineland since the Hilfarth bridgehead, and they were all set to keep going straight to the North Sea.

As they raced ahead yesterday, they spotted some troops in front of them, north of the town of Geldern. The doughs were ready to mow them down and continue the march when—"Point those guns the other way," yelled a British voice.

Contact had been established between the 35th Div. and the First Canadian Army. A little farther west, the 17th Cav. Sq. of the 15th Cav. Gp. met other Canadian units. (Some correspondents credited the 17th as being first to meet the British.)

In Geldern, the Englishman who yelled, Lt. Andrew Burnaby-Atkins, walked out ahead of his troops and said hello. A Yank—Lt. William P. Clark, of Wheaton, Ill.—walked out to meet him, snook hands and the northward rush of the 35th was over.

Allies Wipe Out Two Nazi Armies

Nazi forces in the north were in full retreat over the Rhine yesterday, their Wesel-Duisberg bridgehead was crumbling under the combined drive of the Canadian First and the U.S. Ninth Armies and three U.S. First Army divisions were enveloping Cologne.

One task force of the Third Armored Div. reached the Rhine river bank north of the city. Other Third Armored forces—the 104th and the Eighth Inf. Divs.—drove toward Cologne frontally. Advanced forces of the Eighth were two and a half miles from the city limits after smashing through Frechen on the Duren-Cologne highway.

As the confusion of defeat spread over the northern Cologne plain, it was officially learned at SHAEF that the German 15th Army and the elite First Parachute Army had ceased to exist, while the German Fifth Panzer Army, battered in the Ardennes, is now badly mangled.

The three big bridges from Homberg to Duisberg were jammed all day with vehicles fleeing to the east bank, but these bridges appeared doomed today as troops of the 84th Inf. Div. entered the outskirts of Homberg, Stars and Stripes Reporter Robert L. Moora wired from 12th Army Group Headquarters.

Of the five bridges at Cologne, four have been destroyed and the fifth—the Hohenzollern, which was damaged by aerial bombing the day before yesterday—was under shellfire.

Only one other major span is believed usable—at Wesel, (Continued on Page 8)

Reds Split Pomerania, Close Trap on 200,000

Powerful twin offensives in Pomerania by the Soviet Armies of Marshals Gregory K. Zhukov and Konstantin Rokossovsky have carried to the Baltic Sea, isolating large German forces, Marshal Stalin announced last night in two orders of the day.

One of Stalin's orders gave the first news of Zhukov's offensive, which had been in progress for four days. Zhukov's troops breaking through strong German fortifications and advancing as much as 62 miles, reached the Baltic in the area of Kolberg, 65 miles northeast of Stettin.

Large Numbers Cut Off

Stalin's second order announced that Rokossovsky's forces had driven to the Baltic after capturing the city of Koeslin, about 25 miles east of Kolberg on the road that runs from Danzig to Stettin.

These Red Army advances cut off the German forces in eastern Pomerania from those in western Pomerania, and blasted any hope the enemy may have held for the escape over land routes of the German forces in Danzig and the Polish Corridor—estimated to

(Continued on Page 8)

150 Yank PWs Burned Alive, Shot by Japs

GEN. MACARTHUR'S HQ., Luzon, March 4 (AP).—The massacre of 150 American prisoners of war by the Japanese constabulary at Puerto Princesa, on Palawan island, was revealed yesterday.

Gen. MacArthur said that evidence was uncovered substantiating stories that the Japanese had thrown gasoline on helpless Americans, ignited it and then machine-gunned or bayoneted any who tried to escape. However, at least five Americans escaped and reached U.S. lines.

The announcement said that "human bone and bits of charred clothing, covered by a layer of dirt and rubble, were found in one of the air-raid shelters near a barracks—mute testimony of wholesale slaughter."

One of the prisoners who escaped—Cpl. Elmo Deal, of Yuba City, Calif., who was captured on Bataan in 1942—said that "In December the Japs got word that there was a big convoy at sea.

"They thought that the convoy, which was going to Mindoro, was headed their way, and they became crazy with fear," Deal said. "They herded us into underground shelters in the compound near the barracks.

"They threw gasoline on us and ignited it and when we tried to get out the other end of the dugout, they mowed us down with machine-guns."

Allies Land on Piscopi, Northeast of Rhodes

CAIRO, March 4 (AP).—Allied troops landed last Wednesday night on Piscopi, northeast of the Aegean island of Rhodes, it was announced today.

Twenty men of the German garrison were killed and 140 captured. The Allied troops were supported by a British warship and by rocket-firing planes.

Ship Aground; 500 Saved

—The Army hospital ship St. Mihiel ran aground off Bermuda but all 500 patients aboard were removed safely, it was revealed today.

Voice Silent —And 2A-F

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau
JERSEY CITY, N.J., March 4.—Hamlet's headache had nothing on the sea of troubles which today swirled around Troubadour Frankie

Sinatra, his local draft board and his classification.

The Voice said nothing; not even a sharp or flat escaped his million-buck tonsils.

But Draft Board Chairman Ira W. Caldwell talked.

Sinatra was placed in a 2A-F classification until September, a category "necessary to the health, safety and interest" of the nation, he said, for two reasons.

First is the Army medics' finding that a punctured eardrum makes the Voice unfit for combat. Second is the board's feeling that "his singing is a necessary job."

Caldwell added that permanence of Our Frankie's deferment is to be decided by the board tomorrow (Continued on Page 8)

Grozia Named to Form Rumanian Government

Moscow Radio, quoting a Bucharest report, yesterday said King Michael of Rumania has selected Petre Grozia to head a new cabinet. Grozia, a leader of the National Democratic Front, was vice premier in the government of Gen. Nicholas Radescu.



Frank Sinatra

B29s Rekindle Fires in Tokyo

GUAM, March 4 (ANS).—Officially labeled "very large," a force of perhaps 200 Superfortresses today bombed Tokyo. Bombs dropped through clouds started fires which Radio Tokyo said are "being brought under control."

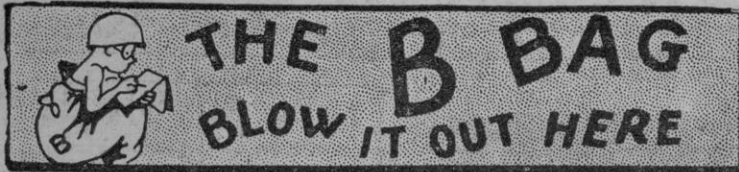
Flying from the Marianas, the B29s attacked the Japanese capital for the 11th time but the blow was the first dealt in the forenoon. A Jap broadcast said the raiders were over Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya and Shizuoki for an hour.

Paris Printers Strike

About 2,000 Paris printshop employes are on strike, seeking an increase in hourly base wage from 22 to 31 francs. The strike is confined to job shops. Newspaper plants are not affected.



Stars and Stripes Map by Baird
Nazi pockets west of the Rhine were dwindling yesterday as Ninth Army troops entered Homberg's outskirts and First Army troops reached the Rhine north of Cologne.



Doctors Like the U.S., Too

S & S records the announcement of 70,000 new beds in general and convalescent hospitals in the States. By whom are they to be staffed? Why not consider the justice of staffing these hospitals and other hospitals in the States with medical and dental officers who have spent a year or more in combat units and are losing contact with medicine?

Wounded and sick soldiers returned to the States should be treated by those medical officers who witnessed the conditions that produced their ills and wounds and can treat them more intelligently. Likewise, it would be healthier to bring medical and dental officers with a fresh outlook and without the weariness of war into combat units.—Capt. Medical Corps.

U.S. Papers Please Copy

I write this letter in behalf of the hundreds of officers and men in the armed forces who are faced with the same problem... a broken home.

Many of us overseas have received approximately the same letter from our wives: "I think it best we get a divorce, our marriage was all a mistake, we have nothing left upon which to build any future happiness."

Certain factors are usually present in each case. The wife, stranded physically and emotionally, becomes hungry for affection and eventually becomes the prey of some wolf, who not content with being spared the miseries of fighting this war, totally without conscience or scruple steals the most cherished possessions any soldier could ever own.

Affects a Minority

In a few cases, the impartial observer may be justified in saying, "you're better off being rid of her now if she's that undependable and fickle." But this evil trait is present in only a small minority of the wives. The vast majority, under normal circumstances, would have made excellent wives for a life-time. Because of their emotional and spiritual maladjustment, plus the general lowering of moral standards that accompany all wars, there comes a gradual weakening of the will to resist the ever-present temptations. At first they grasp at what are innocent friendships, pleasant social diversions to kill the lonely hours... then, sooner or later, comes that one weak moment...

Sure it's wrong!... also human! The desire to be loved can go unsatisfied in some people just so long, especially when faced with temptation.

Relies on Rationalization

Strange as it may seem, it is often the woman's strong moral sense that is a contributing factor to the disruption of the marriage. Once faced with the realization that she is capable of sexually desiring a man other than her husband, she becomes so plagued by her own conscience that, in order to pacify it, she enters into a series of false rationalizations in order to convince herself she's not really "bad." She tells herself that if she feels in "love" with this interloper, then it must be that she never really loved her husband in the first place; therefore, her marriage was all a big mistake, and she ends up by feeling herself a martyr, unbearably shackled by wedlock. Of course, the guy who's

taking advantage of her is ready to agree with these rationalizations, as they help his case along.

The destruction of a marriage has no simple solution in the comforting phrase of "You can always find another, a better woman." A wrecked marriage is not merely the loss of a woman; it's much greater than that. It's those plans you made together, the identity you established in the world as "Mr and Mrs."

It should be made a criminal offense, punishable by life imprisonment, for any man found guilty of having an affair with the wife of any soldier overseas. Put it in the same category as statutory rape!—"It happened to me."

Good Housekeeping Dept.

Typewriter tip:—Just take the machine to the motor pool and use air compressor like a blower on a vacuum cleaner. It does an excellent job of blowing dirt and lint out from where brushes won't reach.—QM GR Co.

Pushed Around

... I'm just another jeep driver and there's a helluva lot of guys jockeying jeeps. The roads are pretty bad. Why don't the jokers that push those GMCs give us little guys a break? The drivers of semi-trailers do—mainly they stay on their own side of the road. I guess those Gimmy drivers like to see how far over they can push a jeep... How high it will bounce when they move it over into a hole. I don't know what they want us to do, after all we're on the road for the same reason they are.—Cpl. Joe Ruskin, AAA AW. Bn.

Freedom—Two

We see by the paper that in Georgia the KKK has started operating again. Why doesn't the government get every member of the Klan, regardless of his age, and give him a rifle, without training, and send him up on the Siegfried Line? There they can kill all they want to without masquerading around at night.—Pfc T. M. McIver, GFRC.

Foe Expected To Spend Fury In V Attacks

LONDON, March 4 (UP).—Renewal of flying bomb attacks on southern England and other significant factors indicate the Germans soon may unleash a final spite attack on London with everything in their secret weapon arsenal.

Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels has threatened a last fling of vengeance with a revolutionary weapon far exceeding V-1 and V-2 in destructive power. Military leaders, aware that Goebbels similarly foretold the first flying bomb and stratosphere rocket attacks, do not take his latest threats as mere bragging.

With the Allies advancing on V-weapons launching sites in northern Holland and northwestern Germany, it is probable the enemy will attempt his last big aerial blow before those bases are overrun.

One threat the Germans may be storing for London is attacks by jet-propelled fighter-bombers. These aircraft attain 600 miles an hour. They might fly over England, drop small bombs and escape by maintaining extreme altitude.

Some observers expect the enemy attack to coincide with the fall of Berlin, partially as a compensating propaganda measure for the Germans. An Allied intelligence officer has said: "We are going to win this war just in time."

Jap War Materiel Found Mediocre

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 4 (ANS).—The Battelle Memorial Institute of Industrial and Scientific Research reported yesterday that metallurgical examination of captured enemy war materiel shows that Japanese workmanship is "consistently mediocre," while German craftsmanship "is just as consistently good."

In a report covering studies for the Army Ordnance and U.S. Navy departments, the Institute described the Japs as being "copycats" in their workmanship but added that "unpressed by a need for metal conservation, they can afford to lag in design and to accept inferior standards in the production of war materiel."

Goldfish Polisher



Statuesque Patricia Alphin has a special part in "Night in Paradise," a movie about love in 580 BC. Movie technical advisers learned that maidens in those days polished goldfish—and that's the part Miss Alphin has in the film.

Jet Fighters Clip Robombs

LONDON, March 4.—British jet-propelled fighters have been in action since late last summer, the Air Ministry discloses.

The Gloster Meteor is the first jet-propelled aircraft of the United Nations to go into combat. The twin-engine Meteor was first employed against robot bombs and downed a substantial number of them.

Speed of the plane is secret but it would have to do over 500 miles per hour to outstep the flying bombs. Britain also has a second jet-propelled fighter in an advanced stage of development.

The Royal Navy's air arm, which has used many American planes, will gradually switch to British craft, according to the Evening Standard. Naval aircraft, the newspaper says, may take precedence over the RAF when the war switches to Japan, and "the time has come when we must ourselves supply aircraft that fly from British carriers."

The Germans have a new jet plane in operation on the Western Front, it was disclosed by Ninth AF bombers who attacked a factory producing its engines, the Associated Press reported.

The new craft is an Arado 234, a twin-jet job similar to the ME262, which the enemy has been using in increasing numbers on this front along with rocket-propelled ME163s. Ninth AF Marauders and Havocs have attacked a factory at Solingen producing engines for both the Arado 234 and the ME262 and destroyed at least half of the big plant.

8th and 9th AF Hit New High In February

In a month that saw a considerable reduction in German fighter opposition, the U.S. Eighth and Ninth Air Forces finished February with some of the most intensive strafing and bombing operations ever undertaken.

The Eighth dropped more bombs (51,500 tons) on German objectives than in any previous month, dispatching 20,700 bombers and 12,800 fighters. Bomber losses were 94, or less than half of one percent of the total dispatched—an all-time low.

Bomber fleets more than 1,000 strong were sent out on 15 of the 20 days that B17s and B24s went out from English bases. Highlights of the month were the two big attacks on Berlin, Feb. 3 and 26, and the raids on rail centers, Feb. 22 and 23, in which 52 different railroad marshalling yards were attacked in two days.

Concentrating on enemy traffic and rail transport, the Ninth Air Force fighter-bombers, medium and light bombers attacked communications targets by the hundred during February. Dispatching 25,192 aircraft to targets from the Saar Basin to the Ruhr Valley, Ninth planes dropped 19,964 tons of bombs and fired 2,164,947 rounds of .50-cal. ammunition. They launched 2,092 rockets in February alone, only 1,000 less than the seven-month total of rockets fired from July to January.

Ninth Air Force operations also helped prevent German counterattacks and withstanding actions when the U.S. offensive in the north began, being credited with stopping enemy mortar and artillery fire opposing First Army crossings of the Roer.

A Hot Time in Berlin When Goop Drops In

WASHINGTON, March 4 (ANS).—Washington officials said today it is likely that the "Goop bomb" is bothering Berliners, after a Swedish dispatch reported that "new type" incendiary bombs had been dropped on Berlin by the U.S. Air Force, causing fires of "unprecedented extent."

The Goop, which the AAF says "cannot be extinguished," is no military secret. The use of the 500-pound missile was disclosed several months ago, but it is assumed here that it has been modified. It contains a mixture of jellied oil, powdered magnesium and other highly inflammable agents.

A report received by the OWI from Stockholm said that the AAF's 1,200-plane raid on Berlin Monday caused 25,000 to 30,000 casualties.

New U-Boat Fleet Reported Massing in Norway Fjords

LONDON, March 4 (AP).—Packs of swift new long-range U-boats are being concentrated in Norwegian waters for a last desperate campaign against Allied shipping.

Norwegian officials reported that more than 300 German submarines and a considerable number of light cruisers, destroyers and smaller warships were based in Norway's fjords.

This fleet—practically the last of Germany's once powerful navy—is protected by concrete shelters, 25 feet thick, built into cliffs. There is room for eight or nine U-boats in each shelter, which, according to Norwegian information, are distributed along the whole coast.

Reports from inside Germany indicate that only about eight U-boats are operating in the present campaign, but that if this experi-

ment is successful the German High Command will throw in the whole force.

Norwegian reports also disclosed that the Germans had concentrated a considerable number of one-man torpedoes in Norwegian waters.

Norwegian officials warned there was danger that when Berlin was captured and the Russians, British and Americans met in northern Germany there still would be considerable German Army forces and the major part of the German Navy in Norway.

Norwegian officials expect the Germans to fight to the last in Norway.

"There are still 12 German divisions in Norway, in addition to a number of special units," one official said. "They have well-developed defenses and strong mountain positions."



"Take off yer hat when ya mention dames here. They're a reverint subject."

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Fallen Krefeld About as Usual --No Massacre

KREFELD, Germany, March 4 (AP).—This Rhine city's 120,000 civilians, engulfed by the swift American attack this morning, were going about their usual business today. The doughboys were too busy rounding up German soldiers to do anything else.

Wide-eyed men and women stood on street corners apparently surprised that they weren't all being massacred. Little children and some of their elders dared wave to the Americans, and if one of them was asked the way, he insisted on going along as a guide.

40,000 Took Off

There were about 160,000 civilians in town yesterday but when the burgomaster, lord mayor and Nazi bigshots skipped out to get across the Rhine when they heard Americans guns in the distance, about 40,000 went with them.

When the American attack began, Krefeld still had telephone communication with Berlin, a matter which was swiftly taken care of. Electricity, food and water were abundant today.

Most of the stores in town that hadn't been wrecked by Allied air raids were open. Overcoated German women rode their bicycles and carried shopping bags. Business men carried briefcases and one old gent made it his business to go around with a can of whitewash painting over all "Heil Hitler" signs that he could find.

Loudspeaker, Guns Bring White Flags As 800 Nazis Quit

By a Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
12th ARMY GP HQ, March 4.—A psychological warfare team, aided by a brief artillery barrage, yesterday brought about the surrender of 800 Germans who were defending two villages after being surrounded by the Tenth Armored Div. in the Third Army's Saar River salient.

At the first village the PW team broadcast a warning that if the defenders—mostly Volksturm—did not surrender immediately the town would be levelled. When no reply came, artillery opened up for five minutes.

"That is just a demonstration," the loudspeaker blared. "We'll give you one minute to surrender or we'll finish the job." After the minute elapsed the voice concluded: "Time's up. We're leaving."

Immediately a white flag appeared and 700 men came out.

As the loudspeaker truck approached the second village another white flag appeared and 100 more surrendered.

Swiss Victims of Error

HQ, USSTAF, March 4 (Reuter).—Bombs were dropped on Swiss territory Feb. 22 by Eighth AF planes through a navigation error, USSTAF Hq asserts. Planes involved were separated from their formations by adverse weather.

Lost Dogs Department, Enlisted Muti Division

Sgt. Jack Calhoun, at The Stars and Stripes garage, says we did a pretty good job tracking down Lt. Gen. Carl A. Spaatz's dog, so he's going to let us find Jerks.

Jerks is strictly an EM dog—medium size, short hair, kinda black and brown. Calhoun passes off the ancestral background with "mixed breed." Also on the slip that was bucked over to the news room via channels was the notation, "Has two courts-martial." It didn't say what for.

Jerks has been with The Stars and Stripes transportation men since Normandy. Call or write Stars and Stripes if you find him.

Marines On the Move on Iwo Jima



Marines drag light equipment ashore over the treacherous beaches of Iwo Jima while under fire from Jap machine-gun nests hidden in the gulches along the shore.



Suribachi, extinct volcano, looms in the background as Fourth Div. Leathernecks move up from the beach toward enemy pillboxes. Suribachi, a beehive of guns held by the Nips, was scaled and captured by Marines.



Corpsmen carry a wounded Marine toward an evacuation boat on the beach at Iwo Jima while his comrades huddle in a foxhole. (Note the invasion fleet off shore.)

Faster Than He Could Say No

2 1/2 Billion Justlikethat

WASHINGTON, March 4 (ANS).—The House appropriated \$2,500,000,000 Friday, with only one-third of its membership present. The reading clerk whipped through the deficiency appropriations bill ten lines at a time. He got through the desultory job so fast that it caught Rep. Robert F. Rich (R-Pa.) offside.

Rich was one member who kept saying through the three days of consideration that this seemed to be a lot of dough and where is it coming from.

The section that Rich wanted to amend came up late yesterday afternoon. The clerk was going like a house afire. Rich had stepped out for a moment and when he got back the section was completed and the bill was up for vote.

Rich got mad and raised Cain but he couldn't get unanimous consent for a re-reading.

All told this year the house has appropriated \$7,000,000,000.

Iwo Marines Deepen Wedge

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HQ, Guam, March 4 (ANS).—Although slowed by a desperate enemy, U.S. Marines have driven close to the edge of cliffs on northeastern Iwo Jima in a move to cut in two the tightly compressed Japanese.

This gain was made yesterday by Third Div. Marines, who are now about 300 yards from the point where the cliffs drop to the beach.

Adm. Nimitz reported that Marines on the west side of Iwo also had advanced, but Marines on the east still were stymied by an enemy pocket at Minami, southeast of captured Motoyama.

The Japanese are compressed into a gourd-shaped area around Iwo's northeastern and northern rim. The area is 1,500 yards wide at the widest point on the east and 1,400 yards wide on the north.

U.S. supply ships are using both eastern and western beaches to speed up the Iwo operation. The first U.S. transport planes landed yesterday on the island's southern airfield.

Ships, Planes Search Pacific Area for Harmon

GUAM, March 4 (ANS).—American ships and planes continued to sweep a large area of the Pacific today in a search for Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, top AAF commander in the Pacific, who is missing with nine officers and enlisted men on a Pacific flight.

Maj. Gen. William S. Hale has taken over Harmon's duties. Gen. Hale formerly served as deputy commander for operations of the Pacific Strategic Air Forces.

Trains, Equips FFI Groups

WITH 94th INF. DIV.—The job of equipping and training more than 25 FFI groups recently fell to the 94th. Food, clothing, bedding and nearly 3,000 captured small arms were distributed.

Yanks Invade 2 More Islands In Philippines

MANILA, March 4 (ANS).—American invasion of two more islands in the Philippines, threatening the Japanese hold on southeastern Luzon, was reported by Gen. MacArthur today. The Yanks met little opposition as they went ashore on Ticao and Burias, just west of Luzon's Bicol Peninsula.

Along the China Sea coast of Luzon, U.S. troops captured the former American air base of Iba, in Zambales Province.

East of Manila, Yanks repulsed a Japanese counter-attack. On the southern side of Manila Bay, other Americans took Ternate.

Japanese threw a bit of air power into the Luzon struggle for the first time in weeks. Four enemy bombers caused some damage and casualties near Lingayen City. One Jap plane was shot down.

U.S. planes attacked targets throughout the Philippines and unloaded bombs on Formosan war plants. Three airdromes in Borneo also were hit.

200 Enter OCS For First Class

More than 200 candidates have been enrolled in the first 13-week class of the first U.S. Army Officer Candidate School to operate on the Continent since World War I. The school is in France.

When the school reaches its maximum enrollment, instructors under School Commandant Col. Harold E. Potter, former executive officer of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., will turn out 1,500 combat infantry officers monthly.

Col. Potter is assisted by 29 other instructors, 52 enlisted men and four Wacs—all of whom were flown from Fort Benning early in January to head the training program and to operate the school.

In addition to the 13-week course to graduate platoon leaders, a special three-week refresher course for officers commissioned on the battlefield and an eight-week course for officers transferred to the infantry from other branches of service are being conducted.

31 Ships Allotted To French Relief, War Supply Cargo

WASHINGTON, March 4 (ANS).—With five vessels newly committed, 31 ships now are available to carry war supplies and civilian commodities to the French, and the number will be increased soon, Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley said today.

First shipments have reached France, Crowley said, and 15 more are ready or en route.

The FEA program is in addition to limited shipments to France and Belgium by the Army.

Cargo on the first 15 ships, Crowley said, includes copper, cotton, sulphur, rice, lard and condensed milk.

Baltics Independent, Is U.S. Official View

WASHINGTON, March 4 (ANS).—The U.S. officially regards Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania as independent nations, though they have been absorbed into the Soviet Union, says Acting Secretary of State Joseph Grew.

President Roosevelt had referred reporters to the State Department when they questioned him on the status of the Baltic States. Grew said their diplomats representatives still are accredited and recognized here.

Speedy End to Tie-Ups in 11 Plants Is Pledged By Dodge Union Chief

U.S. Recruiting For War Plants Gains Sharply

WASHINGTON, March 4 (ANS).—The War Manpower Commission reported sharp gains in the last month in recruiting of workers for critical munition projects.

The agency said that as of Feb. 9 top-priority war plants needed 167,000 workers, compared with the demand for 181,000 on Jan. 12.

Actually, 100,000 workers were added to the rolls during those four weeks, but expanding production schedules in critical plants added new requirements.

Unlike WMC's last report, the new survey ran into no clearance difficulties at OWI. The latest study emphasized, however, that "stepped-up military requirements" overshadowed the marked gains in employment.

This emphasis was lacking in the first version of WMC's earlier report, which played up gains. OWI then insisted that the big task ahead be stressed and labor publications later charged that the policy was dictated by the Army and Navy.

The new report deals mainly with the immediate requirements of critical plants. It indicates that there has been no appreciable change in the overall need for 600,000 workers by July 15.

WMC Chairman Paul V. McNutt cited the needs which he said must be met by midyear: Ammunition, combat and motor vehicles, 180,000 workers; aircraft, 60,000; communication equipment, 50,000; ship repair, 130,000; basic metals and rubber, 30,000.

McNutt gave these reasons for expanding manpower requirements in the next few months: Large withdrawals of workers from war production for military service and mounting demands for farm and food-processing workers.

Home, At Last!



Maj. Ann Davidson, 60, Bataan veteran and one of the 63 nurses held prisoner by the Japanese for three years, is greeted by Nurse Capt. Mary Lohr, as Maj. Davidson arrives at San Francisco from the Philippines.

Son Dead, Army Deducts Laundry from Check

NORWOOD, Mass., March 4.—Mrs. Anna McDonough said today that she would write to President Roosevelt to complain of a \$1.58 deduction for laundry expenses from the final allotment check of her son Thomas, a paratrooper who was killed on D-Day.

"I think when Tom gave his life last June he paid all his debts, including the laundry bill," she said. Her husband died as a result of being gassed in the first war.

38,000 May Return To Work Today, CIO Leader Says

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau
DETROIT, March 4.—An early end to the walkouts that have made 38,000 workers idle in 11 war plants here was promised today by Mike Novak, president of the Dodge division of the United Auto Workers, CIO.

Novak said he would call a meeting of 18,000 striking Dodge plant workers in an effort to have them resume work by Monday morning. He agreed to a return to work, after Chrysler Company officials told him at a War Labor Board hearing yesterday that there would be no discrimination against returning workers.

The union had protested at the hearing against what it said was an unjustified speedup, the United Press said. The management pledged it would not fire men who produced at the rate which prevailed before the strike.

Strike Followed Firings

The United Press said the walkout began because of the company's attempt to increase individual production. Eight men were fired when they did not meet the new standard, and the strike followed in protest.

An end to the strike at the Briggs Manufacturing Co., involving 5,800 men, also appeared possible when union officials said that agreements reached yesterday "improve immensely the chances" of ending both strikes.

Meanwhile, spokesmen for the National Association of Manufacturers, the CIO, and the War Labor Board joined in a radio broadcast, in urging President Roosevelt to call a general labor-management conference designed to end work stoppages in war industries.

Representatives of the United Mine Workers and soft-coal operators closed their public hearings in Washington yesterday and arranged to continue contract negotiations in private.

FDR Asked to Raise Wages To Meet Higher Living Costs

WASHINGTON, March 4 (UP).—AFL members of the War Labor Board today asked President Roosevelt to boost wages 11 percent to meet a 30 percent rise in the cost of living.

The AFL members declared that Economic Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson's policy is "to turn the thumbscrews more vigorously upon wage-earners whenever something goes wrong with any phase of the government's anti-inflation program."

They also rapped the recent report of the WLB's public members which stated an upward revision of the Little Steel formula was not warranted. Wage rates have gone up 19 percent, while the cost of living has climbed 30 percent since January, 1941, they said.

Death of Gen. Watson, Aide to FDR, Revealed

WASHINGTON, March 4 (ANS).—Maj. Gen. Edwin M. Watson, 61, military aide and secretary to President Roosevelt died Feb. 20 at sea aboard a cruiser bearing the Presidential party home from the Crimea conference, the White House disclosed. Gen. Watson became ill as the President and his staff were leaving Russia. He had been on Mr. Roosevelt's staff since 1933.

Senator Moses Dies

ROCHESTER, Minn., March 4 (ANS).—U.S. Sen. John Moses, 59, of North Dakota, died yesterday morning in Rochester Hospital. He had been under treatment at the Mayo Clinic since Jan. 18 for an abdominal ailment. Moses, the first Democrat elected to Congress from North Dakota, defeated Gerald D. Nye in last fall's election.

America Newsreel



Baltimore—GRIPSHOLM PASSENGER GREETED BY KIN—Charles Frederick, one of 46 merchant seamen to arrive in the U.S. aboard the exchange liner Gripsholm, is greeted by his sisters after being repatriated from a German prison camp.



Washington—SUPER CAB SERVICE—Henry Gasque, hack driver, leans back to offer a smoke, one of the ten brands he carries and offers free to pampered fares—just part of his unique cab service. Magazines, cleaning tissues and fresh cut flowers help to bring tips, he admits.

45 Nations to Get Parley Invitations

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AP).—Invitations to the World Security Conference at San Francisco are expected to be sent to at least 45 United Nations some time this week. They will be sponsored by U.S., Britain, Russia, China and France.

It is understood that the sponsors will leave the way open for any country invited to propose changes or modifications in the world organization system worked out at Dumbarton Oaks last fall.

FDR Sends Formal Bids To 8 Frisco Delegates

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AP).—President Roosevelt has formally invited the eight delegates he previously named to represent the U.S. at the San Francisco peace machinery conference April 25.

The bids went to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr., delegation chairman; former Secretary Cordell Hull, senior adviser; Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex.) and Arthur H. Vandenberg (R-Mich.); Reps. Sol Bloom (D-N.Y.) and Charles Eaton (R-N.J.); Commander Harold Stassen, former Republican governor of Minnesota, and Miss Virginia Gildersleeve, Dean of Barnard College, New York.

Truman Enters REA Squabble

WASHINGTON, March 4 (ANS).—Vice-President Harry S. Truman intervened yesterday after Aubrey Williams reportedly declined to abandon his fight to become rural electrification administrator, despite the growing possibility of Senate rejection.

Truman arranged to meet with the former National Youth Administration chief to discuss what his supporters privately concede is likely to be a losing battle.

Truman declined to talk of the forthcoming interview, but his own friendship with Williams raised the possibility that he may urge the nominee to give up.

Williams' nomination was reported unfavorably, 12 to 8, by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

3 Die in Gas Chamber

SAN QUENTIN, Calif., March 4 (ANS).—Three murderers died in the gas chamber here in the state's first triple execution. They were Jory Nagle, 34, merchant seaman convicted of the "thrill murder" of a San Francisco cab driver; and Ernest Keeling and Herschell Glenn, both 26, for the eleven-dollar holdup slaying of a soldier.

A Human Bomb for 47 Days, Gob Made Safe by Operation

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4 (ANS).—After 47 days as a human bomb, Dewey Dupre, 20 years old, can take a hard knock without fearing he will explode.

An operation was performed at the Naval Receiving Hospital here to remove a fused 20mm projectile from the body of the seaman, second class. The Poelousas, La., sailor was the gun loader aboard a battleship at Lingayen Gulf Jan. 9, when a Japanese air attack came.

"First thing I knew," he says, "I was lying on the deck with a broken leg and injuries to my chest."

Convalescing here, he told doctors last Saturday that he felt something inside of him. X-ray pictures disclosed the fused shell.

Because the sensitive projectile might have exploded on contact with operating instruments, bomb disposal experts were consulted before Commander J. I. Hall, undertook the operation.

Even Better Than Before



Mrs. Harry James—or Betty Grable to you—looks all right to us, but her publicity agent makes sure of it with a tape measure just to prove that having a baby didn't affect things. Vital statistics: bust 36 1/2; waist, 25 inches; hips, 36 inches.



This Happened in America Yesterday

Plane-Guided Nimrods Stalk Michigan Wolves

By Phil Bucknell

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 4.—Michigan is fed up on the wolf situation and today 500 hunters, backed officially and supported by planes, are going to do something about it. The hunters will take off from Ironwood, near Lake Gogebic, and, armed with shot-guns, .22s and pistols, will pursue the wolves relentlessly.

The Ironwood Conservation Club sounded the tocsin, pointing a stern finger at the wolves for running in bands and killing many deer. The prey won't have much of a chance—airplanes equipped with loud-speakers will tip off ground stalkers, and everyone expects wolves to die left and right on the frozen lake.

Nobody is getting hot under the collar about wolves in neighboring Wisconsin, but there is some excitement about cheese. Sen. Alexander Wiley (R-Wis.) wants a series of postage stamps to honor the virtues of the state's remarkable Swiss cheese. Wiley took it up with Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, but Frank doesn't seem to grasp the matter's importance.

SPEAKING of food, the cops at Logan, W. Va., are worried about a hungry thief who fled with a 50-pound tin of popcorn. The poor guy doesn't know that each kernel has been treated with arsenic for rat-killing purposes, and that he's a goner with one nibble.

Wanna buy a bomber? The War Department, trying to sell 1,786 old bombers at rock-bottom prices, has been able to sell only two thus far.

They're Just Plain Unfit

TURNING from bombers to the business of cigarettes: Capt. W. H. Waugh, CO of a sub-depot at Omaha, says it isn't so. He means the report that thousands of good smokes are being tossed on a dump heap in Omaha. The cigarettes are taken from old K-ration kits, the captain says, and they are unfit for human consumption.

While we're on the ration subject, we must report that thousands of Detroiters are running over to Windsor, Ont., stores to buy meat and poultry. They don't escape entirely without penalty, because on the return trip they have to surrender ration points on articles they've bought or pay custom fees.



George Gallup, ever the galloping pollster, comes up with results of his latest poll, showing that seven out of every ten persons approve compulsory military training for the youth of the land. George says it's a feeling that cuts across party lines, with both Republicans and Democrats nodding yes to the idea.

That, of Course, Makes a Difference!

SIX dice-rolling Brooklynites found a quiet place to chuck the bones—in a Brownsville funeral parlor on top of a casket. When a shocked magistrate pointed out it was a rather gruesome spot for a game, the gamblers said, "But, judge, it was empty!" They paid two bucks each.

THE Marines score again with a story of a corporal on one of the Pacific isles who was run over by a tank. The corporal, a tough guy, rose, yawned and dusted off his pants. The medics took a hurried X-ray, but he had nary a broken bone.

Ben Kiemholz, Agriculture Department statistician, sat down and figured out that coyotes, foxes and other four-legged meat-lovers bumped off livestock and poultry worth \$1,014,000. If all the little chickens and calves had grown up, he figures, there would have been about 7,180,000 additional pounds of meat for the home folks.



DON'T mention pepper to a certain restaurant owner in Miami. He now views humanity with a cynical eye, because in the last few weeks humanity's children of mature age have made off with 42 pepper shakers.

TELEPHONE operators in New York, Louisville and Memphis got hold of some right numbers. They have been awarded a \$3 weekly pay increase. But in Washington, D. C., the gals got \$4. Maybe it cost more to take the boys out in the capital city.

Garson Gams 'Just Average Modern'

GREER GARSON says Earl Wilson's Broadway column remark that she's bow-legged isn't so. Greer says her gams are "neither cabriole, Steinway, spindle, nor French provincial, but just average modern." Some Scripps-Howard reporters, excellent judges of gams, have studied the Garson under-pinnings and have no complaint.

Pennsylvania Health Department men told home folks how to fool themselves into believing there's plenty of butter on their bread. Spread the butter thinly on a slice of bread, they advised, and then eat the slice butter-side down. They claim the palate will be completely tricked.

ELKS in Peabody, Mass., heaved a big sigh of relief at the beginning of the week when they burned a mortgage on their building. But today they shook their heads sadly when the \$15,000 building burned down.

OKLAHOMA City police are investigating the charge of Mrs. Verla Dean Main, 19, wife of an overseas soldier, that a doctor who delivered her baby held the child as a hostage pending payment of a \$150 fee. The baby is now with Mrs. Main.

Curfew Rings



The curfew man is the new fixture in night clubs back home which are staying open anyway. Here, in the Cafe Zanzibar, New York, he rings down the curtain on the gaiety . . .

. . . .After the Curfew



. . . but that only means adjourning to some place else—the Automat. Making merry among the nickel machines, members of the Olsen and Johnson cast down a few "milk highballs."

Abbreviated Saturday Night

Gotham's Cinderella Throng Leaves Bistro Owners Gloomy

By Joe Fleming

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 4.—Broadway marked the end of the first week of curfew early today, with a New Year's Eve crowd jammed in Times Square, two men under arrest for running after-midnight speakeasies, and hot spot owners sadly counting depleted profits.

The first week-end test of War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes' midnight curfew request cut the entertainment business take to half of normal, but packed the midtown area with servicemen and civilians clamoring to enter jammed cafes before the last show went on at ten PM—four hours earlier than pre-curfew nights.

Before the Cinderella Hour struck, thousands of merrymakers were turned into the streets and the simultaneous exit and rush for the subways home gave the Gay White Way a New Year's Eve appearance. More than 250 policemen were sent into the district to handle the crowds.

Under circumstances reminiscent of the prohibition era, two men were arrested and charged with running speakeasies—the first alleged liquor violations since the curfew went into effect Monday.

Cafe and restaurant managers reported that business dropped to one-half to two-thirds of normal last night. At Leon and Eddies, which on Saturday night usually draws 1,400 customers, there were only about 700, co-owner Leon Enken said.

N.Y. Official Is Sued For Banning of Play

NEW YORK, March 4 (ANS).—Lee Sabinson, producer of the controversial play, "Trio," today filed a \$1,000,000 damage suit against Commissioner Paul Moss, who had forced the play to close a week ago, after calling it "lewd, obscene and immoral."

Moss, whose action has been upheld by Mayor LaGuardia, has 20 days to answer the complaint. Sabinson claims that Moss acted, "solely to satisfy personal prejudices and capricious views in ordering the closing of the unique and dramatic play."

Montana Capital Shaken By Series of Temblors

HELENA, Mont., March 4 (ANS).—An earth tremor of strong intensity shook Montana's capital Saturday to bring to eleven the shocks recorded in the last three days. No injuries or major damages were reported.

Capone's Brother, Old College Man, Held as Murderer

CHICAGO, March 4 (ANS).—Al Capone sent his youngest brother, Matt, to Villanova College when he was 19, in the hope that one of the five Capone boys would be a good citizen but yesterday Matt was seized by police while having his hair cut, and was charged with murder.

The charge was tougher than any Al Capone ever faced during his reign as king of Chicago's underworld. Scarface went to jail for federal income tax evasion.

Capone was charged with killing Jens Larrison, 51, a racetrack tout, in Matt's Cicero tavern.

Bill to Guard Navy From Scrap Heap Ready for Airing

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau
NEW YORK, March 4.—A House committee has set out to build a protective fence around the U.S. Navy to guard it from the peacetime scrap heap.

Chairman Carl Vinson (D-Ga.), of the Naval Committee, ordered public hearings on his bill to exclude the entire fleet and appurtenances from control of the Surplus War Property Administration, which will dismantle the nation's vast war machine. A similar attempt was made in the last Congress as a "rider" on the Surplus Properties Act, but that move failed.

Vinson's bill would leave with Congress control over all vessels, shore installations, floating dry-docks and a wealth of other naval facilities.

"We're going to need a strong fleet after this war, probably the strongest in the world," Vinson declared. "We can't run the risk of its being scrapped."

Committee hearings may for the first time develop the Navy's own estimate of needs for postwar strength. The Navy has been working on a peacetime blueprint but it has not yet been submitted to Congress.

Shimmy Dancers According to the Book

What Makes a Hula Girl? WLB Gives the Bare Facts

HONOLULU, T. H., March 4.—The War Labor Board has undertaken the solemn task of deciding who is a good hula dancer and who is only fair, to settle the hourly wage the girls should get for their graceful convolutions.

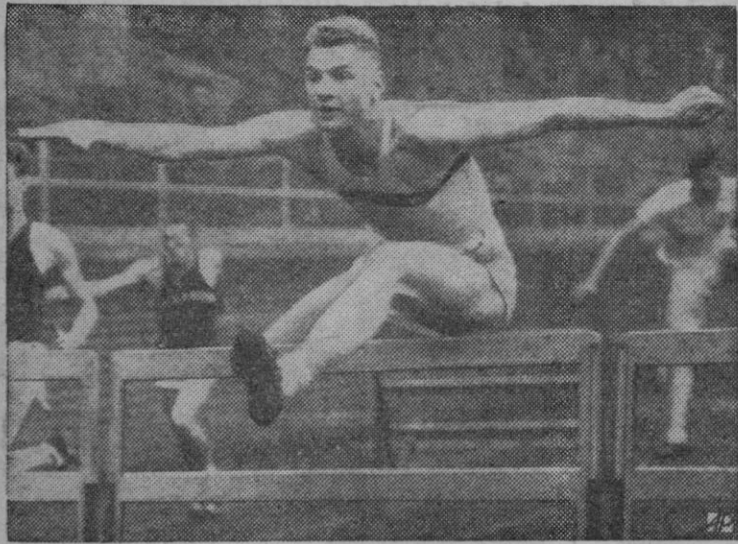


Wages now range from the minimum of a dollar an hour to ten dollars a half hour.

The WLB's bureau of labor statistics, which submitted a job and wage analysis, as it does for truck drivers or other workers, divided dancers into two classes: "Hula Dancer,

Class A, female" and "Hula Dancer, Class B, female." It described Class A as a "young, but experienced worker who . . . performs barefooted and usually scantily attired, the most common attire being a leaf dress or sarong encircling her shapely trunk, with bare skin between the top of the garb and a band six or more inches wide which sometimes restricts short migrations of voluptuous pulchritudinous projections appended to the upper forward side of the worker." The Class B dancer was described as "fully trained, experienced, and possessed with intense desire but . . . speed has greatly moderated."

Won 60-Yard Hurdle Race for Army



Topping the high timbers in 7.6 seconds, Jerry Morrow, team captain, helped Army win the IC-4A championship Saturday night in Madison Square Garden with a record total of 73 1/2 points.

Sea Legs Can't Run

Haegg Last in IC-4A Mile; Army Scores Record 73 1/2 Pts.

NEW YORK, March 4.—Gunder Haegg finished last in the special mile event at the IC-4A Games in Madison Square Garden last night, after his countryman, Haaken Lidman, had won an exhibition 60-yard high hurdles event. Jim Rafferty, of the New York A. C., continued unbeaten in six starts this season by defeating Forrest Efav, of Oklahoma, by less than an inch. Haegg, running after only 50 hours ashore, following a 23-day stormy Atlantic crossing, trailed by 80 yards. Rafferty's time was 4:16.4.

Toronto Sextet Beats Montreal

TORONTO, March 4.—The Toronto Maple Leafs humbled the league-leading Montreal Canadiens, 3-2, here last night in a hockey match which, until the last 10 minutes of the final period, was almost entirely a defensive duel between the National League's leading goalies. Frank McCool, of the Leafs, and Bill Durnan, of the Canadiens.

It was the first defeat suffered by the Canadiens since Jan. 4.

National League

Table with 2 columns: W L T Pts and W L T Pts. Rows include Montreal, Boston, Detroit, and Toronto.

American League

Table with 2 columns: W L T Pts and W L T Pts. Rows include Cleveland, Hershey, and Buffalo.

when the Leafs beat them, 4-2. In the interval since then, Chicago's Black Hawks tied Montreal twice, 1-1, and 0-0, to interrupt a 16-game winning string.

Carr put Toronto ahead midway in the first period on a pass from Nick Metz and for the next 40 minutes the goalies were in command.

Glenn Harmon tied it on a pass from Toe Blake in the middle of the third session and Dave Schriener put Toronto ahead again on a pass from Carr at 11 minutes. Carr came through with the clincher, assisted by Babe Pratt, at 15:52. Elmer Lach converted 40 seconds later on a pass from Maurice Richard.

Mikan Spurns Pro Offer

CHICAGO, March 4.—George Mikan, six-foot nine-inch DePaul center, turned down \$5,000 offered him by the American Gears outfit of the National Basketball League, according to Ray Meter, DePaul coach. The five grand was a bonus for signing, in addition to \$50 per week while he finished his education, Meter said.

CAGE RESULTS

- Army 50, Navy 48. CCNY 75, Fordham 38. Geneva 47, Wooster 44. Iowa 43, Illinois 37. Oklahoma 52, LaSalle 38. St. John's (Bklyn) 51, Ellis Island CG 46. SOUTHERN TOURNAMENT (Semi-Finals) Tennessee 41, Georgia Tech. 37. Kentucky 52, Alabama 41. (Finals) Kentucky 39, Tennessee 33.

Iowa Conquers Illinois; Wins Big Ten Title

By G. K. Hodenfield

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

IOWA CITY, Ia., March 4.—The University of Iowa Hawkeyes won their first undisputed Big Ten basketball championship in 44 years here last night, defeating Illinois, 43-37, before a crowd of 14,400 fans. It was the 11th victory on 12 Conference games Hawkeyes bounced off to a lead in for Iowa and atoned for the lone setback by Illinois earlier this season.

In finishing their season with the 17th victory in 18 games, the Hawkeyes bounced off to a lead in the first five seconds when Dick Ives scored from under the rim, and they held the advantage the rest of the way.

The game was one of the roughest in the Conference this season and Iowa, stalling for time, refused six free throws in the last 90 seconds to protect its narrow margin. The Hawkeyes were erratic at the penalty line, converting only 11 of 25 shots, after making 19 in 22 tries against Minnesota Monday night.

Tickets had been sold two weeks in advance of the game and some late comers paid as high as \$25 to get in. One of the guests who got a terrific ovation was the father of Dr. Eddie Anderson, Iowa's football coach, now a major stationed in a hospital in England.

The box score:

Box score table comparing Iowa and Illinois stats including G, F, P, and Totals.

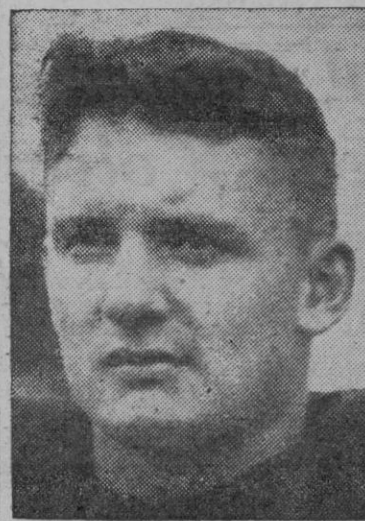
Snead, McSpaden In Golf Deadlock

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 4.—Sam Snead and Harold "Jug" McSpaden shaved six strokes apiece from par yesterday in the third round of the \$5,000 Jacksonville Open golf tournament, and their 66s moved them into a tie for first place with 54-hole scores of 200. Ky Lafoon, of Chicago, belted another 66 and went into second place with 202.

This triple assault on par removed Bob Hamilton, National PGA champion, from the lead which he had held through the first two rounds and left him in third place with 203, after shooting a 71 yesterday. Byron Nelson shot a poor 72 to tie with Sammy Byrd at 206.

The best shot in the tournament was turned in by Leonard Dodson, who hit a 125-yard chip shot into the cup on the ninth hole for an eagle deuce.

Paced the Cadets



Doug Kenna

Army Baffles Navy Dribblers

ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 4.—Army defeated Navy's basketball varsity, 50-48, here yesterday for its 14th victory in a 15-game schedule, the Cadets having lost only to Penn this year, following an unbeaten 1944 season.

With the score 35-all midway in the second half, Navy lost its offensive ace, Perry Nelson, on personal fouls and Army scored five straight points with goals by Ed Rafalko and Bobby Dobbs, plus John Nance's foul. That proved the turning point, though the Middies rallied in the final minutes when Augie Black and Bobby Howe scored field goals that shaved the advantage to two points. Black missed two long shots in the last 20 seconds and the gun sounded with Army in possession.

The box score:

Box score table comparing Army and Navy stats including G, F, P, and Totals.

Cochrane's Pilot Seeks Coast Match With Doyle

NEWARK, N.J., March 4.—Willie Gilzenberg, manager of World Welterweight Champion Freddie "Red" Cochrane, recently discharged by the Navy, announced yesterday that his man probably would defend his bauble against Jimmy Doyle in Los Angeles under the promotional auspices of the former welter champ, Barney Ross, if the price is right.

Ross said he would like to stage the bout in June at Gilmore Field where he made his promotional debut last summer. Gilzenberg wired Ross he was willing to talk terms and congratulated Ross on his efforts to "break the Mike Jacobs' monopoly on championship fights."

Paris Fights Lure 11th Port Boxers

A ten-man boxing team representing the 11th Port will make its Palais de Glace, Paris, debut tonight against opposition from the 19th Reinforcement Depot and the 366th Engineers, in the 15th boxing show of the season arranged by the ARC and Special Service. All weight divisions on the 12-bout card will be filled, including two heavyweight fights.

The Program

- Pvt. David Forbes, 126, Atlantic City, N.J., vs. Pvt. Hubert Marselle, 126, Long Island, N.Y.; Pvt. Frank Colosi, 130, Philadelphia, vs. Pvt. Charles Clark, 128, New Orleans, La.; Pvt. Leroy Williams, 140, New Orleans, La. vs. Cpl. Manuel Cruz, 136, Los Angeles; Sgt. Charles Johnson, 146, Atlantic City, N.J., vs. Cpl. Stanley McCarren, 150, Belleville, Ill.; Sgt. David Jenkins, 152, Columbus, Ga., vs. Pvt. James Feeney, 154, Chicago; Pvt. Robert Booth, 157, Philadelphia, vs. Pfc Earl Judge, 155, Gary, Ind.; Pfc Harold Cadsen, 170, Pittsburgh, Pa., vs. Pvt. Jimmie Smith, 175, Chicago; Pvt. Ervan Stivey, 170, New York, vs. Pvt. James Heitt, 173, Trenton, N.J.; Pfc Beaufort Glover, 156, Cleveland, Ohio, vs. Pvt. Robert Wilson, 155, Philadelphia; Pvt. David Glanton, 190, Newark, N.J., vs. Pvt. Riley Byrd, 192, Independence, Kan.; Pvt. Eddie Carrell, 195, New York, vs. Pvt. Tom Hardy, 200, Detroit; Cpl. Lonnie Scott, 170, Kansas City, Mo., vs. Pvt. Jimmie Wade, 165, Detroit; Pvt. Charlie Perkins, 155, New York, vs. Pvt. Theodore Pritchard, 160, Pittsburgh, Pa. (The first-mentioned fighter in the initial ten bouts represent the 11th Port.)

Covering GI Sports

XIX TAC AIR COMMAND HQ.—Fourteen teams are entered in the XIX Tactical Air Command basketball tournament which is being conducted this week. Winner of the tourney will represent the command in the Ninth Air Force tournament to be held March 26-28. Teams entered are: 100th Century Fighters, 19th Jabos, 14th Hedgehoppers, 81st Gypsies, 367th Lightning Bugs, 448th Snowfalls, 362nd Maulers, 10th Ganders, 368th Thunderbombs, 354th Pioneers, 932nd Wiremen, 83rd Buzzers, Hq. Spitfires, 371st Jive Bombers.

HQ. NINTH BOMB DIV. France.—The 397th Gp. won the Ninth Bomb Div. basketball tournament Saturday night, defeating the 391st, 33-26. In the consolation final, the 386th humbled Bomb Hq., 29-14.

Sparked by S. Sgt. Joe Nosal, forward, who scored 15 points to

bring his four-game total to 52 points, the 397th pulled away from the 391st in the second half, after leading at the intermission, 13-11.

The winners will represent the Bomb Div. in the Ninth AF Invitational basketball tournament, March 26-28.

An all-tournament team was selected. Sgt. Joe Leonatti and S/Sgt. Jim Grubb, of the 391st, were placed at center and forward, respectively. Nosal was the other forward and Sgt. Dan Arnold, a teammate, was one guard, while Pfc Horace Huggens, of the 394th, was the other guard.

The Seine Section Athletic Department will sponsor a basketball tournament, beginning March 12, for units under its command. It will culminate in tourney finals, March 26. The eliminations will be conducted at the Palais des Sports.

Majors Start Training With Man Shortage

NEW YORK, March 4.—Major league baseball clubs will start spring training this week with the smallest player squads in modern history. With the dim manpower outlook, all teams will operate on a day-to-day basis until they learn just what will be done in Washington on the work-or-else legislation.

The Washington Senators will start the ball rolling March 7 at College Park, Md., and the Chicago Cubs open spring drills the following day at French Lick, Ind. The other big league clubs will remain idle until the following week when they will all start limbering up at various training sites.

With the manpower questions still unanswered, the usual springtime ballyhoo over contract signing is missing this year. The clubs are making few announcements on agreements. The New York Yankees, for instance, have announced they have signed 16 players and lost one to the armed services. No names were revealed.

Many of the players have complicated the situation by refusing to divulge their intentions until legislation, one way or the other, is passed in Washington.

The rundown on sixteen major league clubs reveals all clubs suffering manpower difficulties:

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Browns—Cape Girardeau, Mo. Apparently less affected than most. Will start practically the same lineup that won the first pennant for them last year.

Tigers—Evansville, Ind. Suffer loss Dick Wakefield, but Trout and Newhouse are returning.

Red Sox—Pleasantville, N.J. The entire coaching staff, plus Tex Hughson and Bobby Doerr, are gone. Prospects poor.

Athletics—Frederick, Md. Face loss of first baseman Bill McGhee and rely on discharges for pitching.

Senators—College Park, Md. Same old story. Trying to play American baseball with Cubans. Prospects dark.

White Sox—Terre Haute. Relief Pitcher Gordon Maltzberger lost to draft yesterday. Have 39 hopefuls on the roster.

Indians—Lafayette, Ind. The report that Lou Boudreau is considering work for the duration horrible thought to Cleveland fans.

Yankees—Atlantic City—Depending on Stirnweis, Borowy and Lindell.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Cardinals—Cairo, Ill. Looks like the draft boards will break up the champs. Musial gone, Walker Cooper, Max Lanier slated to go and Martin Marion probably will go.

Pirates—Muncie, Ind. If they can take up where they left off last year, they will take Cardinals. Very few changes in roster.

Reds—Bloomington, Ind. Lost Catcher Ray Mueller and will depend on strong pitching this year.

Cubs—French Lick, Ind. Still hoping Bill Nicholson is 4P. Dallesandro and Les Fleming gone.

Giants—Lakewood, N.J. Young pitchers. No important player changes. Bill Jurgens sniffed at contract and threatens to retire and the Giant office says go ahead.

Dodgers—Bear Mountain, N.Y. Likely to lose Mickey Owen to draft and still raiding the kindergartens for players.

Phillies—Wilmington, Del. Lost best player, Ron Northey, to draft and signed Gus Mancuso. Poor swap.

Braves—Washington, D.C. Haven't suffered many player losses but still need everything.

Wartime Baseball Good, Meusel Says

REDONDO BEACH, Calif., March 4.—Bob Meusel, who played left field for the Yankees in 1927, called the best team ever, said today that baseball in wartime is almost as good as it was 20 years ago with two notable exceptions—Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig are gone from the diamond.

"There were lots of thrills in those days," said the rifle-armed outfielder, "but I guess the tops of all was being in the same lineup with those guys."

Meusel forgot to mention the thrills he must have gotten on his own hook in 1925 when he led the league in homers with 33 and runs batted in with 138.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 4.—Lt. Charley Gehringer, newly arrived at the Jacksonville Naval Air Station, said today, "I'll play second base for the Fliers, unless there is a better second baseman around."

PUP TENT POETS

Ode to a Buzz Bomb

Wing'd messenger of Death, Diver from the skies— Whither are you bound? Can you not see that we are here Beneath you, Waiting. Pack all you can into your war-head! Trust your wings They will carry you far— A gyroscope will keep you true to course. Bomb of destruction, Metallic monster— Shake terror with thy blast! We know from whence you come. Enemy of the people, Sinister killer— See how this heart is torn to bit-terness! This hole—thy wound Left gaping by thy blackened blast— Swift stalker of prey, Here is the shattered soul— Some mother's lass, Who yesterday Smiled. Is this your way to victory? Plane of Propulsion, Flame spurt shell— Look at thy devastation Through eyes other than thine own! How often have we gazed With anxious eyes; Or jog-lost—listened, Felt our way alone Lest sputtering you drop. Wing'd messenger of Death, Diver from the skies— Come if you must! Choose your path well, For we are here, Beneath you— Waiting.

—Pfc Stanley Eugene Raber.

Dance

The lotus-eaters dance in light, A nimbus wreathes upon the air; Loud tambour chafes the battle-night, Hysterical, in sharp despair. Entrenched beneath the whining shell The battle-weary fix their eyes On cleaving visions of a hell More sure than any paradise, While from these casements women thrust Warm laughter to the stars and moon As if the dead with ears of dust Can hear the laughter or the tune! —Sgt. Roland DeMunbrun.

AFN Adds to Listing Of U.S. Style Programs

The American Forces Network has added 18 hours of exclusively American entertainment to its weekly schedule. The programs will be heard by front line troops through First and Seventh Army stations and the Ninth Army station, which is to open next week-end.

AMERICAN FORCES NETWORK

Table with columns for Time, TODAY, and TOMORROW. Lists various radio programs and their scheduled times.

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' Slats

By Courtesy of United Features

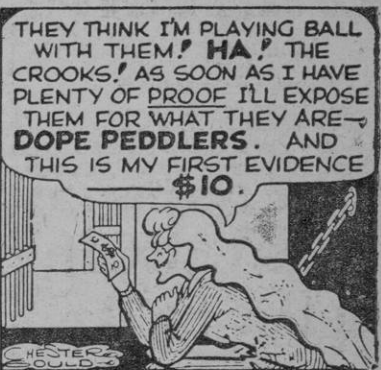
By Raeburn Van Buren



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.

By Chester Gould



Male Call

By Milton Caniff



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Connally Hails Renewed Unity Of Hemisphere

MEXICO CITY, March 4 (ANS).—Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, declared today that the Act of Chapultepec, which guarantees the frontiers and independence of American nations during the war and provides for a lasting treaty afterward, was "the forerunner of what we hope will happen at San Francisco," where the World Security Conference meets next month.

"This conference gives unity of purpose, so that all republics of this hemisphere are united to resist interference from abroad in the Western Hemisphere," Connally told the Inter-American Conference, now drawing to a close.

Protects Weak and Strong

"But it goes beyond that," he continued. "No ambitious power in this hemisphere can contemplate conquest of another republic in this hemisphere. The act recognizes equality of states. It protects both the weak and strong."

The firm unity established by the 20 republics which approved the Act of Chapultepec paved the way for a statement on Argentina which may come up Monday. Indications are that it will be made without heated debate.

The statement is expected to look toward the return of Argentina to the strong American system now perfected, but leave the action in that direction to Buenos Aires.

New Monroe Doctrine

Connally called the act the New Monroe Doctrine, backed by all the Americas instead of just the U.S. It states that the security and solidarity of the continent are affected to the same extent by an act of aggression against an American state by a non-American country as by one within the hemisphere.

However, provisions for using force to quell disputes in this hemisphere are to be geared to the World Security Organization. Precise definition of how much power the regional system will have remains to be taken up at the United Nations meeting at San Francisco.

The act is carefully worded so as to meet the participating countries' constitutional requirements, especially those of the U.S. It takes effect immediately, and it is based on the President's war powers to order U.S. armed forces anywhere they may be needed to promote the United Nations war effort.

Unions Call Off London Strike

LONDON, March 4 (UP).—Union representatives today recommended immediate resumption of work at London's docks, where 7,000 dockers and stevedores were on strike yesterday.

Unions are arranging an inquiry to deal with workers' complaints through constitutional machinery.

The strike, which had no union authorization, is reported to have started over the suspension of some workers for absenteeism. Yesterday, 150 British troops were sent to unload vital cargoes.

The Voice . . .

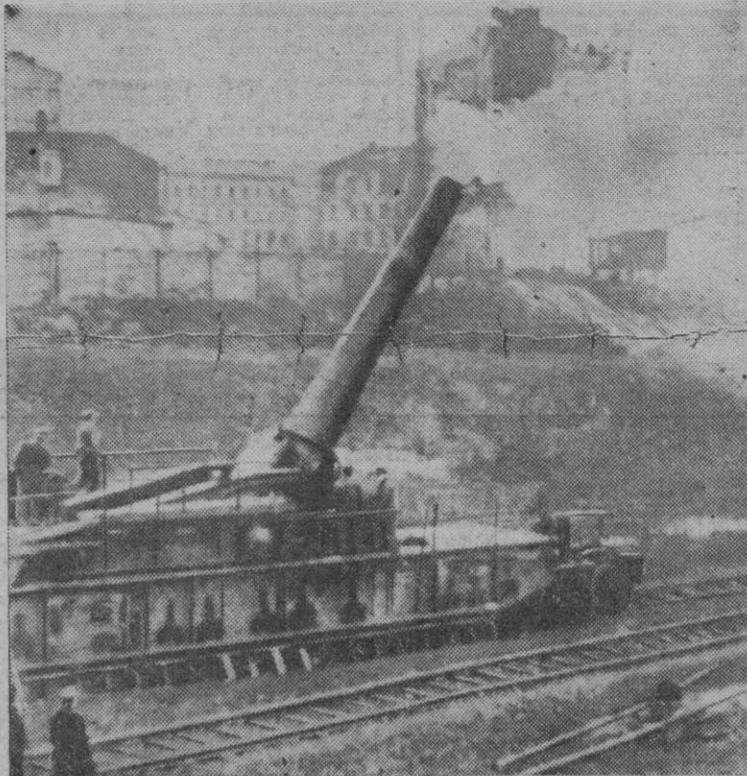
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night. State draft officials say they will investigate the new classification.

Lt. Col. Paul E. Schwem, state Selective Service executive, said lack of a work-or-fight law makes the 2A-F classification the same in effect as 4-F. The 2A-F category was created when manpower draft legislation seemed certain to pass. Schwem said the local board may call Sinatra back "anytime."

Caldwell had one last remark for furry-voiced Frankie: "We would give him a chance at a defense job if it came to a choice between that and placing him in some limited service branch of the Army."

Huge German Gun Belches Smoke and Fire



The caption accompanying this photo from Germany describes it as showing a heavy German mortar, on rails, on the Western Front. Smoke may be seen pouring from the barrel after a projectile was fired.

Baltic Reached Finns Declare War on Reich

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number between 200,000 and 300,000 men.

Marshal Zhukov, keeping other powerful forces poised on the Oder River line east of Berlin, made his northward breakthrough in Pomerania in the area east of Stargard, which is 20 miles southeast of Stettin.

Zhukov's men rapidly overran 10 important communications centers and defense points—Baerwalde, Tempelburg, Falkenburg, Dramburg, Wangerin, Labes, Freienwalde, Schievelbein, Regenwalde and Koerlin. Of these Koerlin, about 14 miles inland, is closest to the Baltic.

650 Places Taken

Altogether, more than 600 Pomeranian towns and villages were captured in Marshal Zhukov's new offensive, the Soviet communique said. Marshal Rokossovsky added more than 50 towns and villages to the list of those taken by his Second White Russian Army.

One of the places taken by Zhukov's First White Russian Army is only three miles east of Stargard, which is a stronghold in the German defenses guarding Stettin. South and southwest of Stargard, Soviet troops captured Pyritz, about 23 miles from Stettin, and more than 50 other places.

In East Prussia, Soviet troops continued to gain in their battle of annihilation against the Germans trapped in the Koenigsberg area. Northwest of Graudenz, in Poland, about 60 miles below Danzig, Russian troops also advanced.

LONDON, March 4 (UP).—Finland last night became the last of Germany's former satellites formally to declare war against the Reich.

Finland actually has been fighting against the German Army since last September, when the armistice with Russia was signed, but it has been almost entirely an effort to get German troops out of Finland.

The formal declaration, according to London observers, means that the Russians will be able to use Finnish bases. According to these observers, the action apparently was almost solely inspired by the military situation in the east. At any event, they say, Finland will not be entitled to a seat at the San Francisco Conference.

German Planes Raid UK First Time in 9 Months

The Stars and Stripes London Bureau

LONDON, March 4.—For the first time in nearly nine months, the Luftwaffe Saturday night sent an undetermined number of planes against towns and villages in the north and east of England, the Air Ministry announced.

At least one German plane reached the London area and an explosion was heard during an alert.

The latest reported assault on the UK by planes occurred on June 13, 1944, a few days before southern England came to grips with Hitler's robot weapon, the buzz bomb.

1st Army Closing on Cologne As Nazis Flee Across Rhine

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15 miles above Duisberg and east of the British-Canadian salient.

German forces in the area of the Allied offensive, 75 miles long from north to south, were cut into four segments by the American thrusts to the Rhine and by the American-British linkup in the north, Moora, said.

These segments include:

1—The forces pocketed west of the American and British columns now joined above Geldern.

2—The troops in the north, with the Rhine at their back, who are caught between the Ninth Army advancing northward and the British and Canadians coming east and south.

3—The troops in the pocket formed by First and Ninth Army extensions to the Rhine.

4—Those south of Cologne.

The full evaluation of the German collapse could hardly be determined immediately. Nazi resistance has proved elastic in the past. The Seventh Army which the Allies destroyed at Falaise reappeared five months later in the Ardennes.

Events, however, foreshadowed an early fulfillment of Gen. Eisenhower's plan to destroy every German west of the Rhine.

20-Mile Strip

On the northern plain, the Nazi Rhine bridgehead had been squeezed to a 20-mile strip along the river from Duisburg to Wesel and was eight to ten miles deep. There were numerous pontoon bridges and ferries in this sector.

Resistance was officially described as scattered and light. The enemy had been cut off from all but the Admiral Scheer Bridge at Duisburg and a road bridge and a rail bridge at Wesel.

So far, only scattered elements of armor and self-propelled guns have got across the river.

Reports have not indicated large-scale Allied air assault on Germans retreating over the Rhine. This area is one of the most heavily-defended flak areas in the Reich.

East of captured Krefeld, Germans continued fighting in Urdingen after blowing the Rhine bridge there. A German force reentered Sevelen, southeast of Geldern, on the central plain after the town had been mopped up. Sevelen had to be cleared again.

The city of Geldern was mopped up jointly by Tommies of the First Canadian Army and doughs of the Ninth Army's 35th Inf. Div. after the two armies linked up 1,000 yards north of Geldern.

Other Canadian forces broke out of the Hochwald forest and smashed into the bridgehead to the east.

Eighth Armored Div. forces of the Ninth Army who drove toward the Rhine between Krefeld and Geldern took the towns of Aldekirch and Rheurdt north of Duisburg, while Fifth Armored Div. men swept nine miles north from Krefeld to reach the town of Mors.

The 84th Inf. Div., smashing eight miles north and west of Kre-

feld, ripped through Mors and kept going to the outskirts of Homberg, western terminus of the Admiral Scheer Bridge.

East of Krefeld, the Second Armored Div. by-passed Urdingen and entered Kaldenhausen, two miles from the Rhine.

Meanwhile, 83rd Div. doughs who cleared Neuss advanced three miles along the Rhine. They could look across the river into Dusseldorf, which was reported to be in good shape.

Other troops drove south of Neuss and cleared three more villages.

Striking to the northwest of Cologne, the Third Armored advanced to points five miles from the city on the northwest and three miles from it on the west, taking five towns.

Driving frontally on Cologne, the 104th Div. cleared two towns and pushed to within three miles of the city astride the road from Julich.

Southward, the Ninth Armored Div. cleared Weilerwist on the Erft River and drove the enemy out of Derkum in a joint operation with doughs of the Ninth Inf. Div.

Zulpich was cleared Saturday by First Army forces.

Civilians in Panic

Throughout the Cologne Plain, civilians were milling in panic as U.S. civil affairs teams worked to organize order. White flags were flying from houses still undamaged.

Neuss was reported badly smashed up and Munchen-Gladbach also wrecked, although reports reaching SHAEF indicated that Munchen-Gladbach had not been nearly as torn up as Aachen.

U.S. Third Army forces, meanwhile, advanced steadily in the Mosel Valley against varying resistance. In the Saar, Seventh Army forces renewed their attacks on Forbach and made gains in the southwest and north central sections of the city against fierce resistance, while other troops seized more high ground north of Bubligen in the Sarreguemines sector.

The Forbach attacks, however, dwindled later yesterday.

600 Bombers Buck Weather to Raid Reich

Approximately 600 heavy bombers of the Eighth AF bucked through adverse weather yesterday to bomb industrial and rail targets at Ulm and in southwest Germany. Nearly 400 Forts and Liberators turned back to their bases because of weather.

Air operations were also limited along the western war fronts, but approximately 175 Marauders, Havocs and Invaders of the Ninth AF bombed railyards northwest of Dortmund in the Ruhr. Another target of the Ninth was at Winterswyx, in Holland.

The First TAC flew a total of 271 sorties on the Sixth Army Group front. One attack by Thunderbolts set afire a German train loaded with tanks northwest of Karlsruhe.

U.S. Casualties Placed At 813,032 by Stimson

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AP).—U.S. Army and Navy casualties since Pearl Harbor have mounted to 813,032—an increase of 11,870 over last week, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson announced today. Army losses in killed, wounded, prisoners and missing were 722,695 and the Navy's 90,337.

Stimson disclosed that Army losses in Italy from invasion day, Sept. 9, 1943, to Feb. 24, 1945, totaled 100,790, including 19,889 killed, 70,402 wounded and 10,499 missing.

British Link Up in Burma

CENTRAL BURMA, March 4 (UP).—British Second Div. troops have crossed the Irrawaddy River, 20 miles west of Mandalay, and linked up with the 20th Div.

The juncture formed a continuous bridgehead 20 miles long and six miles deep, which is being steadily expanded.

'Doughs Will Do Anything'

Toppers and Umbrellas Go to War

By Andy Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH FIRST ARMY, March 3 (Delayed).—Yesterday it was top hats and today it was umbrellas.

Somehow the same fad seems to hit doughs all up and down the line the same day. About every fiftieth man trudging along the roads east of the Roer yesterday wore a topper he had picked up from the debris of German houses lying in the streets.

Today every fiftieth man seemed to have an umbrella over his shoulder and walked along with M-1 slung over arm and pack and shovel on back, just as if he weren't the silliest looking guy in the world.

"Damn doughs will do anything," Pfc Edward Anastas, a dough himself, remarked as he watched

three Eighth Div. friends canter through Galzheim on big work horses. Each of the three men had a black ladies' umbrella over his head, shielding him from the rain, and the last man in the horse show clutched a cigar between his teeth.

The only thing the average infantryman takes from the houses themselves is maybe a mattress, if night is approaching and his outfit isn't moving out.

Thousands of German mattresses are cushioning German foxholes tonight—and there is not a commanding officer on the front line who will order a man to return something soft and dry to sleep on.

Four inches of mattress with good down stuffing, laid in about three inches of mud, makes a pretty good place to sleep and no one is labeling mattress-lifting "looting."

