

Remagen Bridge Caves In

Nazis Reported in Retreat As Third Drives On in Saar

Color Is No Barrier to Service in the Line



Stars and Stripes Photo by Harris

A Negro infantry reinforcement, one of many now in action with U.S. divisions on the Western Front, meets his CO, Capt. Seth Worthington, of Prospectville, Pa., who tells him what to expect during his first combat action. A white doughboy of the same company also listens.

Negroes Fight At Side Of West Front Whites

By Allan Morrison

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH U.S. FIRST ARMY, March 18.—White and Negro infantrymen are fighting shoulder to shoulder in the same units against the Germans.

This break with traditional U.S. Army policy of separation of units according to race became a reality with the assignment of Negro platoons to rifle companies of infantry divisions of the First and Seventh Armies.

Long contemplated, the plan of mixing white and colored doughboys in fighting units was launched not as an experiment in race relations, but as an answer both to the needs of the military situation and repeated requests by Negro service troops for an opportunity to get into the war as combat men.

Special Appeal Made

Negro recruits for infantry training were drawn from thousands of Com Z troops who applied in response to a special appeal issued last Dec. 26 by Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, Com Z commander.

At that time, Gen. Lee offered Negro troops of Com Z, who had had infantry training, the privilege of joining veteran front-line divisions as reinforcements.

"It is planned to assign you without regard to color or race to

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Nijinsky Reported Executed by Nazis

LONDON, March 18 (UP).—The Evening Standard, quoting the Stockholm Morgentidnigen, reported yesterday that Vaslav Nijinsky, once famed as one of the world's greatest dancers, had been executed by the Nazis in Budapest before the Red Army captured the city.

Nijinsky had been confined to a mental home in Budapest for many years, the report said, and the Germans executed all insane persons

Britain Fears Food Crisis

LONDON, March 18 (AP).—Britain today appeared to be facing one of the war's worst food crises, and Sunday papers reflected a generally grave view of Washington's announcement that lend-lease meat supplies would be cut to 25,000,000 pounds in the next quarter. That works out to about an ounce per person per week—one-eighth of the present shipments.

Several London newspapers treated the announcement as sensational news, and the Sunday Dispatch devoted all its editorial space to anxious discussions of British needs and American generosity, continuance of which, the Dispatch felt, was necessary in the sixth year of war.

Japs' Schools, Colleges Are Closed for a Year

NEW YORK, March 18 (AP).—The Japanese government, making a drastic effort to find new recruits for war production and the armed forces, announced today that schools, colleges and universities in Japan will close for one year, starting April 1.

26th Inf. in Merzig, Increasing Threat To Saarbrucken

German forces caught in the Saar-Mosel triangle were reported yesterday to be retreating in confusion before the tank attacks of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army, sweeping toward the Rhine on a broad front between Merzig and Coblenz.

Patton's drive gathered such momentum that there is a time lag on news of Maj. Gen. Hugh J. Gaffey's Fourth Armored Div., which has reached the Nahe River near Bad Kreuznach and by now may have crossed it.

Four Tank Divisions

In addition, the Third Army has thrown another armored division into the battle. There are now four tank divisions which are pounding the Nazis' rear as Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army is slowly forcing the Germans out of their Siegfried Line fortifications between Saarbrucken and the Rhine.

News on all active sectors of the Western Front was bright for the Allies, although it was announced that the Ludendorff Bridge, which was captured intact ten days ago, enabling Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army troops to force a Rhine crossing at Remagen, had collapsed under the cumulative stress of early American bombings, enemy bombings and its usage during the week. The American-built pontoon bridge is still in good shape.

Merzig Captured

On the east bank of the Rhine, bridgehead troops reached a point opposite Bad Godesburg, overran a German airfield near Windhagen and drove to within a mile and a half of another airdrome. The captured field is east of the autobahn, six miles of which is now Yank held, and was used by the Germans in the first few days of the bridgehead. There was no report of its present condition.

At the western hinge of the Third Army front, Maj. Gen. Willard S. Paul's 26th Inf. Div. captured Merzig, 30 miles northwest of Saar.

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Remagen Officers Executed, Nazis Say

LONDON, March 18 (UP).—A German communique reported today that the five officers who were in command of the Remagen bridge area had been sentenced to death by courts-martial and shot, except for one sentenced in absentia.

The communique said that they were sentenced to death "partly for cowardice and partly for having seriously neglected their duties in the field because of having negligently omitted to blow up in time or determinedly to defend the Rhine bridge at Remagen."

U.S. Warplanes Using Airfields Within Reich

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A NINTH AF FIGHTER FIELD, Germany, March 17 (Delayed).—American warplanes are now flying from airfields in Germany.

Ninth TAC fighters today and yesterday flew from runways stretching between Nazi field fortifications. In other sectors of the U.S. occupied Reich, fighter-bombers have moved up to close-support fields.

Credit for the first mission from a base in Germany is disputed. Earliest claim has been made by the 363rd TAC Recon Gp. Maj. Olynord W. Hansen, of College Inn, Iowa, and Capt. Leo J. Sommer, of Los Angeles, flew their P51s from one base to Dusseldorf and the Ruhr on March 12.

Engineers at Work

Ninth AF engineers from the command of Brig. Gen. James B. Newman, Jr., were still working on the taxi strips of this field today as pilots of Col. Ray J. Stecker's 365th Gp took off from steel runways in their second day of operations inside Germany. Six weeks ago the field was in a muddy American artillery area.

To prepare the way for 1/Lt. (Continued on Page 4)

Engineers Trapped When Span Falls; Many Are Saved

By Andy Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

REMAGEN, March 17 (Delayed).—The great Ludendorff Bridge crumpled into the Rhine at 3:10 this afternoon, ten days to the hour after the Ninth Armored Div. captured it intact and rolled to the east bank of the river.

The bridge fell with no warning. The fall was not due to enemy action at the time. The great center span began to sway, twisted slightly and as its western end fell from the mid-river pier it pulled with it both end sections running from the two piers to the east and west banks of the Rhine.

150 Men Working on Bridge

A large number of men from an engineer battalion were dumped into the river and more were buried under the massive, twisted girders. The center section between the two piers disappeared into the water.

There were an estimated 150 men working on the bridge when it crumpled, among them Lt. Col. Clayton A. Rust, of Seattle, the battalion commander.

Rust and 20 more engineers were swept down the river as they clutched parts of the heavy wooden planking with which they had been flooring the converted rail bridge and were rescued at the downstream pontoon bridge. Some had been crushed or drowned and their bodies pulled out.

Fell 50 Feet

S/Sgt. Roger Willet, of Lake Charles, La., had a platoon of engineers on the bridge when it fell. "I was on the far end when I heard the strange rumbling noise," Willet said. "I looked around and the bridge was gone."

Five minutes after the disaster no one could say exactly how many men or vehicles were on the bridge when it caved in. At the west side, one heavy air compressor truck which had been working with welders and another two-and-a-half-ton truck rode the fall 50 feet to the rock river bed.

Call for Medics

They were within 100 feet of the shore when the compressor hit the water, but the driver, T/5 Leo E. Morgan, of Sheffield, Ala., and T/5 Roy Johnston, of Stockton, Kan., got out of the truck and scrambled up the slanting bridge structure to safety. A crane, which T/5 Gene McGrath, of the Bronx, had been using on the bridge three minutes before, had been pulled six inches off the span.

When the bridge hit the river, men of a signal company on the east bank immediately sent out a call for medics and within less than three minutes aid men were scrambling down the wreckage to grab what men they could from the water where they could reach them and to dig out the men

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Fashion in a Cookie Tin

Sergeant Sets a Hat Style

Sgt. Harry Donenfield, of the 29th Inf. Reg., bought a little green hat with curly red feathers in a Paris shop. He packed it in a cookie tin and sent it to his wife in New York.

Two months later he received some New York papers, one of which carried an advertisement from a Fifth Ave. department store.

"The First Paris Import in Four Years Lands in New York in a Cookie Tin," the ad headline announced. Reports are that little green hats with curly red feathers are in style all over the U.S.





Better Days Are Coming

I don't see why someone don't wise up and put something in a K-ration that we can eat without losing our appetite.

No matter where you go on the front, if doughboys have been there, you find plenty cans of cheese and corned pork loaf. Why can't they put chicken, spam or some other kind of meat in them and mix them up so we will get a surprise when we open them? Another thing we need is more coffee.

If I let all the guys sign this that wanted to, it would take a case of V-mail forms.—Sgt. K. Liming, 406th Inf.

(Brig. Gen. W. H. Middleswart, of the OCQM states:

"Based upon recommendations from the field, such as those of Sgt. Liming and field observers, many improvements are being made in the K-ration. Information from the U.S. indicates that future production will include several new types of canned meat, but at the present time we must first eat up what is on hand. Soluble coffee and sugar have been increased.

"The appearance of these new-type K-rations in this theater is dependent on production facilities in the U.S. and transportation therefrom. ETOUSA cir 4, 12 Jan. 45 authorizes additional coffee, milk and sugar as supplements to the rations for field and Air Force units engaged in operations on the Continent."—Ed.)

Paradox

This Army is one paradox after another. Recently the 736th FA Bn. went through five days and nights of hell. It seems enemy FA had us zeroed in. With this in mind, Cpl. Dale Wiggins rushed to get more ammo for the hard-pressed cannonners. Wiggins, a normally conservative driver, was halted by MPs for driving 40 MPH.

When back at battalion, he was given, as alternative to a higher court martial or summary with \$15 fine. He took the latter.

It stands beyond reason to punish this man for performing his duty. Is there any method to this madness?—Cannoncer.

On the Line from the Line

I believe every line outfit in the ETO will agree with the following solution of how to organize the Army of Occupation. Anyone that has never been within five miles of the front lines should spend six months as occupational forces. From five to ten miles from the front lines six months to a year. Anyone beyond ten miles from the lines should be willing to stay the entire occupational period.

Under no circumstances should an infantry enlisted man or officer, especially in a line company, be compelled to be part of the occupational army. We go through more hell in five minutes up here than the rear area troops go through in five years. After physically beating hell out of the Nazis we should be entitled to beat a hasty retreat to the U.S.A.—George W. McIntyre, Pfc, Inf.

Bread

Recently an article in The Stars and Stripes stated front-line combat units were to receive 45 loaves of bread per 100 men. We are receiving about 20 to 24 loaves per day per 125 men. We have been front-line troops since July. If none of the front-line troops is getting the amount of bread as the article stated we don't mean to

bitch but since the men read the article they are bitching. We have eaten plenty of Ks and Cs through France so we know the score. Please don't print this and leave it hanging. Would like some kind of an answer even if it's just plain T.S.—S/Sgt. Thomas Corigliano, FA Bn.

(You misread the item. It said... "the bread ration has been increased from 39 1/2 pounds per 100 men per day to 45..." The OCQM states that the loaves of bread you receive weigh two pounds, which still leaves you short; changed a few loaves. One of your officers or the mess sergeant can get that fixed up at the ration issuing depot since ETOUSA ration directives specify 45 pounds per 100 men per day.—Ed.)

War IS Hell

The following excerpt from one of my wife's letters concerns the up and coming younger generation; namely my daughters, Anne, three years old, and Prudy, five months.

"Anne is playing with Prudy and has just informed me that Prudy is getting so big that she wants three new babies. I asked if it wouldn't be better to wait until Daddy came home and she said, 'Let's s'prise him shall we?'"

"What is the world coming to?"

—Lt. Charles C. Leneton, Jr., Pcht. Inf.

(Will "35-year-old Com Z corporal" send his address so we can send him the answer to his gripe?—Ed.)

Hitler on AEF Radio

The Jerries are now picking up our AEF programs and re-broadcasting them simultaneously on their own frequencies. Thus, the unwary GI who happens to tune his set to one of these German wavelengths will hear the actual AEF program at the moment it is being broadcast, with one exception.

Every hour on the hour, when the genuine AEF station is broadcasting the news, the Jerry station cuts in with the voice of its own announcer, usually some smooth English-speaking female, who then proceeds to read the war news most skillfully "edited."

The entire procedure is a simple one, as any broadcast station operative can tell you. Yet its overall effect is to lend a high degree of authenticity to these Jerry "news" announcements. And, since their station never reveals its true identity, the unsuspecting GI and tomy acquire a distorted picture of the news.—S/Sgt. W. Bergman, Inf.

War's Passage Leaves Frau In New World

By Rhona Churchill

International News Service Correspondent
KREFELD, Germany, March 18.—Life for Frau Schmidt, of Krefeld, a German housewife in occupied territory—begins at six AM, when she climbs out of her bunk in one of the city's many concrete shelters, says "Guten Morgen" to Frau Muller in the bunk beneath her and goes to the communal washtubs to splash cold water over her face and hands.

She has not undressed at night for two years so it is routine for her to slip into her drab blouse and skirt, wrap a cheerless woollen scarf round her untidy hair, pull on a creased coat and make her way through the mass of shelterers out into the street.

Silent Reminder

As she goes out she must pass GI Joe in the shelter entrance, holding his rifle,—silent reminder to her that she no longer belongs to a master race.

She carries her bag and her ration papers to the few battered shops still trading.

She knows it is no use going to the butcher shop. He says he has no meat. She suspects he has a little for his friends but not enough for all.

At the grocery she finds butter (two oz.), margarine, cheese and ersatz coffee (some say it is made from corn, others say barley).

Food is cheap enough, prices have remained static throughout the war. Her mark has the purchasing power of 20 cents as it had in 1933. Butter costs one mark 80 pfennigs per pound, sugar 40 pfennigs per pound. Milk costs 24 pfennigs for just under two pints but is supplied only to invalids and children.

She is permitted to be on the streets only for two hours in the morning and for half an hour in the afternoon.

An Exhausting Day

Back at the shelter she can heat her food on the stoves. During the long day she may play whist with three other women, sew a little, finish some knitting or read.

She climbs back into her bunk early. It has been an exhausting day. Doing nothing is always exhausting.

She says her prayers—rather complicated prayers. She is not sure how to pray any more, but she wants to do so. She thanks God that no one came to bomb her last night.

Frau Schmidt turns over in her bunk, whispers "Gute Nacht" to Frau Muller beneath her. And another day is over.

**An Editorial
Be Gentle to the Germans**



Be gentle to Germans,
Now we've got them on
the run,
Do not say or do a thing
To irritate the Hun;
Forget about Lidice,
Laugh off the rocket gun.
Remember German people
Were cruelly misled,
Of course we mustn't hate
them;
Be kind to them instead—

What's a little matter
Of twenty million dead?
These humane, peace-loving
people
Deserve our charity,
So let us extend to them
The hand of sympathy:
Help them prepare to
murder us
In nineteen sixty-three.
—C. W. W. in the
New York Herald Tribune.

Arnold Says Japs Will Feel Air Tactics Used on Germany

MIAMI, March 18 (ANS).—Bombing tactics used on Germany will be applied to Japan "to deprive the Japanese of everything we can take away from them," Gen. Henry H. Arnold, USAAF commander, said yesterday.

Declaring that these tactics include the destruction of transportation lines, industrial centers and gasoline stores, Arnold outlined a plan for all-out destruction of the Japanese homeland at a press conference held jointly with Lt. Gen.

George C. Kenney, commanding Far Eastern Air Forces. Kenney, who arrived here with a confidential report from the South Pacific for Arnold, said: "We would like to get as many bases as we can within striking distance, so we can put a maximum number of planes over Japan." Kenney cited as evidence of American airpower not only the B29 raids from the Marianas but the job done in the Philippines in preparation for Gen. MacArthur's assault.

Duke's Public Life Not Over, He Says

NASSAU, Bahamas, March 18 (ANS).—Revealing that he plans to go to New York, Canada and Europe as soon as possible, the Duke of Windsor said today that his resignation as Governor of the Bahamas "does not mean permanent severance from the war and British public life."

The duke told a press conference that he had asked last December for relief when his term expired.

"Now that the war in Europe is near its end," he said, "I have interests in Canada, America and Europe that need more than the spasmodic attention that I can give them from this distance."

Five War Writers Honored in Death

WITH U.S. FIRST ARMY, March 18.—Standing in a field of 15,000 white crosses, a delegation of war correspondents from the First Army yesterday attended simple funeral services at the Henri Chapelle American cemetery, honoring five writers who have been killed with the First Army since D-Day.

The correspondents honored: were Peter H. Lawless, London Daily Telegraph, killed a few days ago at the Remagen bridge; John J. Frankish, United Press, killed Dec. 23, at Chaudfontaine; David Lardner, New Yorker Magazine, killed near Aachen; William J. Makin, Kemsley newspapers, killed near Paris, and William J. Stringer, Jr., Reuters, killed on the approach to Paris.

HUBERT

by SGT. DICK WINGERT



"Hang around till that medic goes. This guy's got German measles and he'll breathe on ya for fifty francs."

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This Happened in America Yesterday

Spring Smiles on Sons Of Ireland—For A While

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 18.—It was a great day for the Irish yesterday. The weather in most parts of the nation was the best for the day in ten years, with spring's first balmy breezes and blazing sunshine smiling down on the sons and daughters of Erin as they marched up Fifth Avenue in the annual St. Patrick's Day parade. An estimated 1,000,000 spectators cheered them on.

The weather was too good to last. As the N. Y. Irishmen proceeded, the skies clouded, and the end came in familiar pattern—in pouring rain.

In South Boston, the twin celebration of Evacuation Day and St. Patrick's Day lured out more than 100,000. Many of the Southie residents' ancestors came from Ireland and the traditional double-header feature, a parade of 10,000 through the section's winding streets, was thunderously applauded.

One more note in connection with the Irish patron saint—a snarl at the most misleading name of the year, Shamrock, Pa., a little Dutch community of 99 without a single Irishman among them.

IT seems that one of the top tunes of the year, "Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year," is very much off the beam. High temperature records were shattered in scores of Eastern, Southeastern and Midwest communities, with forecasters predicting that the summery spell would continue.

New York's 74 broke the 1935 record, Washington, D.C., shattered the all-time high for February and March with 85 degrees, and Baltimore's 83 was the highest for the day since 1871, when record-keeping in that city began.

Another America weather item: An unseasonable four-hour blizzard in the Wasatch Mountain area near Salt Lake City marooned 60 persons at Alta, the ski center of Utah. Mayor George Watson said that the blizzard came in on a blow of 50 miles an hour and was the worst in the history of Alta.

Quake Somewhere Near Panama

GEORGETOWN University seismologists recorded a "strong" earthquake last night about 2,300 miles south of Washington, D.C., which would put it somewhere in the Pacific near Panama.

Columnist Leonard Lyons came up with a hot piece of information concerning Joes in Europe. He claimed that every American soldier under 28 now working in an administrative post in the ETO will be marked for transfer into the line.

ROCKMART, Ga. cops—all two of them—have a problem. They're even thinking of locking their police station. They were out on the prowl last night and some thief walked into the station and lifted three pistols, 800 cartridges and three pocket knives.

Nobody is much surprised at anything that happens in Texas, but today when the Fort Worth and Denver train arrived at Amarillo, folks were a little amazed at the condition of the hands of Gillette Hill. Hill is a well-known oilman and sportsman, but on the way south the sleeping car porter got sick, so Hill spent the trip shining shoes.

Hines Due for Questioning

REP. John E. Rankin (D-Miss.), chairman of the House Veterans Committee, wants to question Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, head of the Veterans Administration, about the agency generally and particularly about complaints made against the alleged "intolerable conditions and irregularities affecting hospitalized veterans."

The man who made the complaints, Rep. Philip J. Philbin (D-Mass.), approves of the move by Rankin but said that it isn't adequate. He said that he would press for a rules committee action on the resolution to create a special eleven-member committee to investigate.

At Northwestern University, Dr. Albert Wolfson has thought up a reason why birds migrate. He says that his researches indicate that birds get fatter as the sun comes north and it is this excess of fat energy which send the birds on their spring migration.

SEN. Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) suggests that the Remagen bridge be used as the central design in a stamp honoring the Rhine crossing, citing the move as "conspicuous resourcefulness and daring valor."

Ruth Edna Engle, Dallas nurse who married Lt. Jerry Krong by proxy when he was in an Army hospital 5,000 miles away, received a cable from him today. The cable read, "Our married life will never be any more difficult than our marriage."

WEARY firefighters in Jefferson City, Mo., believe that the forest fire which has been blazing over an area of 800 square miles around the resort-dotted Lake of the Ozarks is being brought gradually under control. So far there has been no reported loss of life.

HOLLYWOOD highlights have Roy Rogers, 33, who was recently reclassified 1A, passing his pre-induction examination. A Republic Studio spokesman said that he understood Roy would be deferred pending completion of his role in a picture.

Changing of Time Confuses Michigan

DETROIT, March 18 (ANS).—Time in its flight ran into new complications in Michigan. Last night at midnight Michigan officially adopted Central War Time, creating further confusion in a problem which already had been more than a little complex.

Under the original wartime state statute, home-rule communities had the privilege of choosing their own time. Under the new one Central War Time became the only "legal" time as far as the state was concerned.

Since there is no penalty for non-compliance, industrial southeastern Michigan communities retained Eastern War Time although county offices and state courts within such cities changed theirs. The new law was the state legislature's answer to a clamor from farmers that "fast" time was interfering with their work.

St. Louis Mobster Strangled to Death

CHICAGO, March 18 (ANS).—A killing in the historic style of Chicago gangdom today eliminated Wincel Urban, "one of the best safecrackers that the town has seen in years."

Urban, 49, and "one of St. Louis' better-known mobsters with a police record extending back to 1922, was found in a ditch yesterday near Kankakee, Ill., strangled to death.

According to the coroner's office, his lips were sealed with adhesive and his body was tightly trussed. Identification was made through fingerprints.

Juliana at White House

WASHINGTON, March 18 (ANS).—Crown Princess Juliana of the Netherlands was a week-end guest of President and Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House. She arrived here from her home in Canada.

Meat Famine Pinches U.S.

End Appears To Be Near in Studio Strike

HOLLYWOOD, March 18 (ANS).—The week-old film studio strike continued today amid increasing signs that the walkout would end within a few days—if not through government intervention, through decision of the strikers themselves.

First definite break in the strikers' front came last night when the Screen Office Employees Guild, after a three-hour meeting, decided to go back to work tomorrow morning. The Guild claims a membership of 3,000 of the 17,000 who walked off the job.

Mayor Fletcher Bowron, of Los Angeles, followed with an appeal to the War Labor Board to intervene and order the workers back pending settlement by some Federal agency.

The strike stemmed from a jurisdictional wrangle between the AFL Conference of Studio Unions and the AFL International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees over control of set decorators. The studio union, which called the walkout, insisted it would continue. The union had previously ignored an ultimatum to return to work issued by William Green.

Other new developments on film's labor front included: 3,000 members of the Screen Actors Guild began a mail vote today to decide whether to support the strike; the Screen Publicists Guild, with 200 members, will go back to work tomorrow; plumbers and blacksmiths have voted to respect picket lines.

The walkout has forced the eight major studios to curtail production but none has closed. The studios completed 25 pictures during the past week.

Col. Richard Park Jr. Roosevelt's New Aide

WASHINGTON, March 18 (ANS).—President Roosevelt has a new military aide, Col. Richard Park Jr., successor to Maj. Gen. Edwin M. Watson, who died at sea Feb. 20 while returning with the President from the Crimea Conference.

Watson was secretary as well as military aide, and the post of secretary remains to be filled. Park had been assistant military aide at the White House for a year.

Tornado Strikes Mississippi

ATLANTA, March 18 (AP).—Red Cross headquarters announced that a tornado swept through a section near Greenwood, Miss. Reports indicated at least three killed and 30 injured.

The Commando Kellys



T/Sgt. Charles (Commando) Kelly, CMH, ex-member of the 36th Div., with his bride, the former May Frances Boish, after their marriage last week in Pittsburgh.

Five Die Fighting Fire Aboard Abandoned Ship

MUSKEGON, Mich., March 18 (ANS).—Fire Chief Chris Smith reported yesterday that five men were killed when they entered a gas-filled hold while fighting a fire aboard the abandoned lake steamer Illinois at a dock here.

The dead were Lt. Jay Siethema, John Kraus, Capt. Harry Bolton and William Dykema, all firemen.

Number One for Daughter of La Grable



Victoria Elizabeth James, daughter of Actress Betty Grable and Band-leader Harry James, huffs and puffs but can't blow out the candle on a huge cake for her first birthday. Neighbors shared the cake.

Civilian Supply Cut 12 Percent For 3 Months

WASHINGTON, March 18 (ANS).—The government today told the home front, already hungry for beef and pork, that it would have to get along with 12 percent less meat during the next three months.

It blamed the worst meat famine since the drought and dust-storm blight of ten years ago to a four percent increase in Army and Navy requirements, and a six percent drop in U.S. meat supply for the first quarter of the year.

Six government agencies are rushing emergency measures to improve supply and distribution but the War Food Administration said bluntly that there is no reason to believe that the civilian supply picture will be any better six months from now.

Not until the fall livestock marketing, the WFA said, will there be any substantial improvement in the meat supply situation. And maybe not then.

The United Press said the shortage is so serious that there will be a substantial reduction in lend-lease meat shipments, with only Russia, and Great Britain receiving any shipments.

5 Industries Win Draft Deferments

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Liberalized draft deferments for five major industries—coal-mining, transportation, steel, synthetic rubber and mining of copper, lead and zinc, were announced today, permitting deferments to exceed the 30 percent limitation which had been in effect for one month on men 18 through 29.

A Selective Service spokesman said that more men past 30 will have to be drafted to meet increased draft calls.

Grand Jury Accuses Cigarette Wholesalers

NEWARK, N.J., March 18 (ANS).—A Federal grand jury here charged that wholesalers and sub-jobbers "can be directly blamed for the acute shortage of cigarettes" in New Jersey.

The jury, which heard testimony from representatives of the tobacco industry, said the shortage is "based largely upon maladjustment of distribution and from lack of proper regulations for control of same," resulting in distribution through "other than normal" channels.

Civilian Leather Supply Is Cut Sharply in U.S.

WASHINGTON, March 18 (ANS).—The WPB disclosed a deep slash in the supply of leather for civilian shoes in April, May and June. Men's shoes and various children's types will be particularly affected.

Figures indicated that only 10 to 15 percent as much cowhide would be available for civilian shoe uppers as at present, most of the rest going to meet enormously increased Army demands for footgear.

WPB said plans are being made for greatly increased production of fabric shoes.

Torpedo Tube Open, Sub Sinks at Pier

BOSTON, March 18 (ANS).—A Navy court of inquiry today investigated the sinking of a U.S. submarine which was flooded at the Boston Navy Yard pier when a workman opened a torpedo tube by mistake.

A small force of workmen and naval personnel escaped unharmed when the submarine went under in 45 feet of water. It was estimated that the cost of reconditioning the sub would be about \$1,400,000.

Libs Join B29s In Biggest Raid On Burma Foe

CALCUTTA, March 18 (AP).—Reconnaissance photographs showed today that a combined Superfortress and Liberator raid yesterday against Japanese storage dumps near Victoria Lake, in the Rangoon area of Burma, had caused widespread destruction of vital Japanese war goods.

More than 650 tons of bombs were dropped and most of them fell within the target area, where the Japanese are believed to have stored more than half of all the supplies they have in Burma.

The attack, carried out by the U.S. 20th Bomber Command and the U.S.-British Strategic Air Force, was the heaviest made on the Rangoon area thus far.

WASHINGTON, March 18 (ANS).—The War Department said today that Liberators were being used to supplement operations of Superfortresses based in India and the Mariana Islands.

Marianas-based Liberators supported the Marine forces which conquered Iwo Jima, 750 miles south of Tokyo.

60,000 Jap Troops Killed In Battles of Burma, India

More than 60,000 Japanese have been killed during 1944 and 1945 in the battles of Burma and India, a British Army observer in Burma said yesterday, according to Reuter.

"Some of the most famous Japanese divisions have been hurled back and crippled, thousands of tons of equipment have been captured and enemy morale and propaganda have suffered a heavy battering," the observer added.

In the current fighting for Mandalay, Japanese troops still are resisting bitterly in the southwestern corner of Fort Dufferin.

Ten miles southwest of Mandalay, troops of the 33rd Indian Corps reached the partly demolished 6,000-foot Ava Bridge across the Irrawaddy River.

In northern Burma, Chinese troops captured Hsipaw, 45 miles southwest of Lashio. A Japanese counter-attack was repulsed.

114 Americans Win Liberation Honors From the French

By a Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH U.S. FIRST ARMY, March 18.—Awards ranging from the Croix de Guerre to the Legion of Honor have been conferred by the French government on 114 officers and men of the U.S. First Army who helped in the liberation.

Gen. Louis Koeltz, chief of the French liaison mission, presented the honors in the traditional French manner. He stepped up to the first man in rank, Maj. Gen. J. L. Collins, commanding general of the Seventh Corps, pinned a medal on his tunic, placed the point of his sword on each of the general's shoulders and then kissed him ceremoniously. This was repeated for each of the 76 officers and 30 EM honored.

Among those decorated were Maj. Gen. W. B. Kean, Chief of Staff of the First Army, and Maj. Gen. C. Andrus, commander of the First Inf. Div.

Later the same day at another corps headquarters, in a similar ceremony, decorations were given a group including Maj. Gen. L. Craig, commander of the Ninth Inf. Div., Maj. Gen. W. M. Robertson, commander of the Second Inf. Div., Maj. Gen. D. A. Stroh and Maj. Gen. R. W. Hasbrouck, commander of the Seventh Armd Div.

Benes in Moscow

MOSCOW, March 18 (Reuter).—President Eduard Benes of Czechoslovakia arrived here yesterday by air from London. He and his party are expected to remain about ten days before proceeding to Czechoslovakia, where Kosice will be the government's temporary headquarters.

Yanks Work to Give Airmen Bases Within Germany



Ninth AF Photos

Aviation engineers of the Ninth Engineer Command start work on a field in Germany which in a few days will be used by fighter-bombers of the Ninth Air Force. T/Sgt. Shannon K. Dean, of Ironton, Ohio, sets his transit. Rod is held by Cpl. Alfred H. Gore of Brownfield, Tex.

U.S. Fliers Use Fields in Reich

(Continued from Page 1)

John H. Rogers, P47 flight leader from Shepherdstown, W. Va., who flew back from the Hagen marshaling yards and made the first landing here yesterday, engineers led by Lt. Col. Lloyd A. Cutter, of Mexico, Mo., moved in when the ground was covered with snow.

Thaws and rains turned the area, checkered by German trenches and pillboxes, into a foot-deep expanse of mud.

"We needed boats instead of dozers," explained T/5 William C. Young, of Johnson City, Ky., bulldozer operator. "But we licked it."

The engineers had to build roads so they could walk to the runway sites—there was that much mud. As the rains turned the silt into slick almost bottomless muck, heavy equipment bogged down and the engineers turned to making a runway with picks and shovels.

Worked Around Clock

When the American ground forces jumped the Roer and headed for the Rhine, the engineers turned on floodlights and worked 24 hours a day to keep the tactical air cover within shooting distance of the infantry.

Other Ninth AF sites are completed on what once were Luftwaffe fields. This strip, to which Rich Rogers and his flight came yesterday with only what they wore on their backs, is the first strip built completely by the American forces.

While for Stecker's group it was the tenth move since D-Day, for the engineers it was, as Maj. Lawrence Denny, of Chicago, said, "just another point on a line which began with bomber fields in England, and went through the dust of Normandy in June and ought to wind up with repairs to Tempelhof Airdrome in Berlin."

At another field, Col. James C. McGehee, of Birmingham, Ala., whose 373rd Fighter Gp pilots are flying from Vaterland soil, summed it up this way.

"Since Normandy we've been using one-time Luftwaffe bases and we're damned grateful for the Luftwaffe's enforced co-operation."

Caffery Aide Made Minister

WASHINGTON, March 18 (Reuter).—The White House announced today that on recommendation of Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, President Roosevelt has conferred the rank of Minister on Henry Labouisse, economic adviser to Ambassador Jefferson Caffery in Paris.



Pvt. Lewis Sanders, of Fordville, Kan., pounds away during a rock-crushing detail.



Straw is spread along the soggy German soil before steel is laid for the runway.

Captain Sentenced As Cognac Runner

Capt. Malcolm Antonelli was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment by a court martial in Paris after being convicted of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. in a cognac racket involving the use of Army trucks to run liquor between France and Belgium, the Associated Press reported.

He also was convicted of trafficking in an Army gasoline black market.

Antonelli was the third defendant to be tried for complicity in a racket involving 3,000,000 francs profit monthly through the purchase of cognac at Bordeaux at 190 francs a bottle and its sale in Brussels at 390 francs a bottle.

Earlier this month an enlisted man drew a life sentence and an officer six years for participation in the same racket, the AP stated.

Buried Treasure, Finders Keepers

COLOGNE, March 18 (UP).—It took GIs only a few hours to find something a Luxembourg business man living on the outskirts of Cologne had successfully hidden for six years from the Gestapo.

Digging a slit trench in a backyard, the Yanks struck something hard and glassy. It was about 100 bottles of Rhine wine a foot under the sod.

"Here I hid my wine for six years from the Gestapo," the business man exclaimed, "and now you Americans come and find it in two minutes. It's all yours, boys."

Supervised Chow For D-Day Troops

WITH 1314th ENGR. REGT., France.—S/Sgt. James F. Calloway, of Washington, D.C., is well equipped for the task of writing a book on "The Care and Feeding of 100,000 Invasion Troops." Together with 36 assistants, he supervised chow for troops stationed along the southern coast of England for the ten days prior to their departure for Normandy.

The troops consumed two tons of choice beef; one and a half tons of potatoes; 700 cases of fruit cocktail; 500 lbs. of cheese; 2,500 loaves of bread; 800 lbs. of fresh cabbage; 1,500 lbs. of powdered eggs; 1,500 lbs. of butter; 700 lbs. of chicken; 7,000 lbs. of coffee; 4,800 cans of milk; 5,500 lbs. of sugar and 1,000 lbs. of bacon.

Allies Awaiting France's Reply On Freed Areas

WASHINGTON, March 18 (UP).—France has not yet accepted the Big Three invitation to participate in the plan for dealing with liberated areas, it was revealed last night.

At the same time, it was disclosed that the U.S. intends to apply the spirit of Crimea decisions, with their emphasis on the democratic rights, in Asia as well as in Europe. These revelations came during the State Department's weekly radio program.

Participating in the discussion of the liberated areas' problems and voting procedure for world organization were Assistant Secretaries of State Archibald MacLeish and James C. Dunn, and Charles Taft, special economic assistant.

Declaration Explained

Explaining the liberated area declaration, Dunn said: "Whenever there is any question of democratic processes being threatened in liberated countries of Europe, there will be immediate consultation among the representatives of the three great powers, and we hope France. With regard to the measures to be taken, this will be our policy until the liberated countries can set up stable democratic governments."

The Crimea communique had expressed hope that France would join the Big Three in the plan for dealing with liberated countries, but no formal reply on that issue has yet been received.

Dunn explained that the liberated areas' declaration applied only to Europe, because, "Russia, one of the participants, is not at war with Japan."

Oaks Proposals Not Perfect, But Best Yet, Grew Says

NEW YORK, March 18 (ANS).—Dumbarton Oaks proposals for a world security organization are neither complete nor perfect, but they represent at this time the greatest possible measure of agreement among big powers, Undersecretary of State Joseph C. Grew said yesterday.

Grew warned against losing sight of the objective of peace by concentrating on the details of carrying it out.

In a St. Patrick's Day address, he expressed optimism over the forthcoming United Nations meeting at San Francisco, which he said will not be a peace conference.

"There is no intention to consider at the San Francisco Conference any specific issue such as frontiers or terms of individual peace settlements," he said. "The purpose of the conference is to establish machinery for world security."

Three Patricks Say 'Twas Fine St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day, '45, was a great day for the Patrick brothers.

Thomas, Harold and Leslie Patrick, from Healdton, Okla., and now serving with different outfits on the Continent, met in Paris Saturday for the first time in three years.

Leslie, on leave from the 66th Inf. Div., bumped into Harold, on pass from the 1374th Pipe Line Engineers, on a busy Paris street.

Then, to their amazement, they were greeted by Thomas, in town from the 45th Inf. Div. None had known the others were in Paris.

While Red Cross girl Addie Bostelmann phoned from the Columbia Club to Harold's outfit to get him a pass extension, the three held a private St. Patrick's Day celebration, topped off by a visit to the Folies.

10th General Killed in Action

WASHINGTON, March 18 (ANS)—Maj. Gen. Edwin D. Patrick, commander of the Sixth Inf. Div., who died of wounds suffered in Luzon, was the tenth general officer killed in action in this war. Twenty-four others have died from various causes.

Americans All—They're in the War Together



Stars and Stripes Photos by HARRIS

White and Negro infantrymen, members of the same company, crouch in a dugout in Germany observing phosphorous grenade bursts.

Negroes Fight Beside Whites On West Front

(Continued from Page 1)

the units where assistance is most needed," the general told Negro soldiers.

"Your comrades at the front are anxious to share the glory of victory with you," he said. "Your relatives and friends everywhere have been urging that you be granted this privilege. The Supreme Commander, your Commanding General, and other veteran officers who have served with you are confident that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity and carry on in keeping with the glorious record of our colored troops in our former wars."

Transport Troops Volunteer

Thousands of applications were received from men in port battalions who had for many months been unloading material for combat troops, and GIs in truck companies who had hauled the stuff up toward the front.

In one company of one Negro Engineer GS regiment, 171 men out of 186 volunteered to fight. Four first sergeants in the unit accepted reductions to privates to qualify for the training plan. In another Com Z unit, a QM Laundry Co., 100 men out of 260 wanted to fight, but only 36 were allowed to go.

The original quota for Negro trainees was quickly exceeded. Hundreds were rejected. About 2,500 were accepted and given a refresher infantry course, with emphasis on weapons training.

During the latter half of the six-week course, the men were given group training as platoons under combat-experienced noncoms and platoon officers sent down from divisions in the line to which they were to be assigned.

Shortly before completion of their training, the Negro trainees were reviewed by Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, the Army's ranking Negro officer, who reminded them of the record of Negro combat troops in other wars and of the responsibility they would bear as the first troops of their race to fight alongside their fellow white soldiers without differentiation.

At present, Negro reinforcements have joined a number of First Army infantry divisions, and in many instances are already in action.

Two platoons were attached to a company which crossed the Roer River and helped take Duren. It is commanded by Capt. Seth Worthington, of Prospectville, Pa., a CO admired and respected by his men,



Pvt. Ernest Thornburg, of Natchez, Miss., a former truck driver in a Com Z ordnance unit, eats chow in the field with a veteran of a First Army infantry division. He is a rifleman.

"We're in this war together, white and Negro Americans," says Pfc Leroy W. Kemp, a BAR man from Atlantic City, N.J.

wounded in action and an experienced infantryman.

The company's white doughboys talked readily when asked about the new platoon.

"I don't give a damn what color a man is as long as he's up here helping to win this war," said Pvt. Harold Cothran, of Greenwood, S.C., an assistant squad leader.

The company's Negro doughboys gave different reasons for wanting to get into the infantry.

"I came into the Army to fight, not to labor. That's why I volunteered for this," said Pfc George Freeman, of Dunn, N.C., a BAR-man.

Pfc Leroy W. Kemp, of Atlantic City, N.J., formerly worked in an ordnance ammunition company. Now, he's a BAR-man and proud of it.

"We're all in this thing together, now, white and Negro Americans in the same companies," he said. "And that's how it should be. That's why I volunteered. Most Negro troops are in service outfits. We've been giving a lot of sweat. Now, I think, we'll mix some blood with it."



Examining a bazooka are two former Com Z soldiers who volunteered to become front-line infantrymen. Pfc George Robinson, left, once worked in a QM bakery unit, while Pvt. Joseph Hardy, right, of Detroit, came from a QM outfit. They are both BAR men.

McCool Voted Ace Rookie in Hockey League

TORONTO, March 18.—Frank McCool, descendant no doubt of Fabulous Finn McCool, was honored on St. Patrick's Day with the Frank Calder Trophy for having been the outstanding rookie in the National Hockey League.

Stanley Cup Playoffs

TUESDAY—Boston at Detroit; Toronto at Montreal.

THURSDAY—Boston at Detroit; Toronto at Montreal.

SUNDAY, March 25—Detroit at Boston; Montreal at Toronto.

TUESDAY, March 27—Detroit at Boston; Montreal at Toronto.

(If fifth game is necessary it will be played on Thursday, March 29, at Detroit and Montreal, respectively; sixth game at Boston and Toronto; seventh game, April 3, at Detroit and Montreal. A win will count 2 points, a tie one. First team to score eight points will be the winner.)

The 26-year-old Toronto goalie, a former sportswriter and a Canadian Army dischargee, received 142.4 of a possible 302.4 points in balloting by 28 members of the Hockey Writers' Association.

Wings Nip Leafs, 4-3

TORONTO, March 18.—The Detroit Red Wings defeated the Toronto Maple Leafs, 4-3, last night, after the Leafs had come from behind three times to tie the score. Steve Wochy put the Wings ahead midway of the first period on a pass from Flash Hollett, but Babe Pratt's lone sally into Wing territory tied it at the end of the period. Hollett scored in the second session on a pass from Murray Armstrong, but Toronto tied it again on Nick Metz' goal.

The third period saw the same thing happen. Carl Liscombe and Bob Davidson traded goals and the game was finally settled, with a little more than two minutes left, when Joe Carveth scored on a pass from Wochy.

Canadiens Do It Again

MONTREAL, March 18.—The Montreal Canadiens toyed with the Chicago Black Hawks for the first two periods last night, then came from behind in the first ten minutes of the final frame to score three goals and win, 4-3, in a National Hockey League game.

Hockey Standings

National League

W	L	T	Pts	W	L	T	Pts		
Montreal	37	8	4	78	Boston	16	28	4	36
Detroit	31	12	5	67	Chicago	12	37	7	31
Toronto	24	21	4	52	New York	10	29	10	30

American League

Saturday Night's Results
Hershey 9, St. Louis 3.
Cleveland 12, Pittsburgh 10.

Medics Insist He's 4F



Mort Cooper

ST. LOUIS, March 18.—Mort Cooper, St. Louis Cardinals' right-handed pitching ace, again was classified 4F, after three days' examination at Jefferson Barracks, it was announced today.

"The results confirm our previous examination that he is not acceptable for military service," said Capt. Kenneth Ray, PRO. "The final decision will have to come from Washington."

Knuckleballer Leonard in Clover as First Senators Report for Training



Emil "Dutch" Leonard, member of a baseball troupe which toured the fighting fronts in the ETO this winter, has returned to his old occupation. Pictured at their College Park, Md., training camp, these Washington Senators, opening the 1945 training season, are (l. to r.) manager Ossie Bluege, Catcher Al Evans, Pitcher Roger Wolff and Leonard. "Dutch" won 14 and lost 14 with the Nats in 1944.

Rafferty Runs 4:13.7 Mile, Beating Haegg Third Time

CHICAGO, March 18.—Jimmy Rafferty, veteran New York A.C. miler, made it three straight over Gunder Haegg and eight in a row for the current indoor season, when he employed a powerful kick on the last lap to beat the swift Swede by 12 feet in the feature Bankers Mile before 12,000 fans in Chicago Stadium last night. His time was 4:13.7.

Rudy Simms, of New York, finished three feet behind Haegg, and Bob Hume, of Michigan, who swapped the lead with Haegg during the first half of the race, faltered and finished last. Ensign Thomas Quinn, of the NYAC, was fourth.

Haakan Lidman, Swedish hurdler, was unable to compete because of a knee injury.

Ewell Ties Dash Mark

Les Eisenhart, of Great Lakes, defeated Bob Kelley, of Illinois, for his third straight 1,000-yard victory in the Chicago Relays, covering the distance in 2:12.4. Cpl. Barney Ewell, former Penn State star, won the 40, 50 and 55-yard sprints and tied the meet record with a 5.2 job in the 50.

Other winners: Dwight Edelman, Dayton Field, 6 feet 6 inches, high jump; Ed Dugger, Dayton, 40, 50, 60-yard high hurdles in 5.2, 6.3, 7.5 seconds; Elmore Harris, Long Branch, N. J., won 600 in 1:14; Notre Dame captured University mile matched relay in 3:33.7; Western Michigan took college event in 3:36.5 and John Schmidt, Ohio State, and Bob Phelps, Illinois, tied for polo vault honors at 13 feet 6 inches.

Loyola Five Takes KC College Crown

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 18.—Loyola, of New Orleans, became the first team south of the Mason-Dixon line to win the National intercollegiate basketball tournament here last night when the Bayou country boys trounced George Pepperdine College, of Los Angeles, 49-36, in the championship final.

Loyola led, 27-23, at the half and literally swarmed over the Californians in the second half. Leroy Chollett paced the victors with 18 points.

The tournament all-star team consisted of Fred Lewis, Eastern Kentucky, ace who scored 99 points for a new tournament record and was named "most valuable" player; Leroy Chollett, of Loyola; Nick Buzolich, of Pepperdine, center; J. W. Malone, West Texas State, and Bob Clark, Pepperdine.

St. Lo Vets Take Sports Honors in 'Amputee' Meet

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., March 18.—The first Purple Heart field day was held at the Army's Percy Jones General Hospital here and three amputee patients earned three-day passes for winning the highest awards in the meet.

Pvt. Robert V. Croker, of Baden Station, Mo., who lost one eye and both hands when a grenade landed in his foxhole near St. Lo, captured the sportsmanship award. Croker gave a diving exhibition and easily won the 20-yard free-style swimming race for arm amputees.

Pfc Jerry Wilson, of Keansburg, N.J., captured the title of all-around athlete. Wilson, who lost a leg near St. Lo last July, won the free-style swimming race, breaststroke and was second in the basket shooting.

S/Sgt. Ralph Roth, of Donnelly, Minn., received a plaque for capturing the most events. He won the basket shooting, making 19 baskets in 32 tries, played basketball for amputees against a team of other patients, and tied in the foul-shooting contest.

Oregon Wins Coast Title From Washington State

EUGENE, Ore., March 18.—Oregon won the Northern division title of the Pacific Coast Conference, and a place in the NCAA tournament at Kansas City, last night by defeating Washington State, 39-37, in the deciding playoff game.

Dick Wilkins, Bob Hamilton and Dick Bartlet scored successive baskets in the final minutes to turn the tide. Vince Hansen, nation's leading scorer, netted 17 points for the losers.

Seine Tournament

Saturday Night's Results

48th Hosp. 40, Signal Center 30; Only Flyers 57, Rockets 33; Spec. Serv. 58, Motor Pool 24; 3021st Ord. 24, 582rd QM 29.

Snead Lashes Par in South

CHARLOTTE, N.C., March 18.—Sammy Snead, of Hot Springs, Va., went three strokes up on the field yesterday when he toured the Myer Park course in 68 to run his 36-hole total to 133 in the \$10,000 Charlotte Open golf tournament. He knocked nine strokes off par in the two rounds.

Harold "Jug" McSpaden was next with 136, adding a 70 yesterday to his opening round 66. Byron Nelson shot a 68 for a total of 138 to go ahead of Sammy Byrd, who shot a par 71. Craig Wood matched Nelson's 68 to tie Byrd with 139.

Snead is gunning for his seventh winter tour triumph.

Rhode Island, Bowling Green Win in Garden

NEW YORK, March 18.—Rhode Island State surprised Tennessee, 51-44, and Bowling Green (Ohio) College soundly thrashed formerly undefeated Rensselaer Poly. of Troy, N.Y., 60-45, as the eighth annual Invitational basketball tournament opened before 18,142 fans in Madison Square Garden last night.

Ernie Calverley, who scored 17 points, and Dick Hole, who netted 21, were the "works" for Rhode Island, which raced to a 31-18 half-time advantage. Employing their usual helter-skelter style, the Rhodies completely unnerved the slow-breaking Tennessee quintet. An unusual angle to the game was that it pitted the nation's highest scoring team against one of the best defensive units in the country—with offense winning. The New Englanders didn't maintain their 85-points per game average, but neither did the Vols keep the opposition to 32 points, as they had been doing.

Rensselaer, which had won 13 straight during the regular season, couldn't stop Don Otten, Bowling Green's 6-foot 11 1/2-inch center, who flipped in 27 points for a new season's high at the Garden. The Ohio cager built up a 16-1 lead in the first eight minutes.

DePaul meets West Virginia and St. John's plays Muhlenberg in other first-round games Monday night.

Stirnweiss Comes to Terms

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—The New York Yankees breathed more easily as George Stirnweiss, second baseman, signed his contract in New York. Ernie Bonham and Hank Borowy, demanding more money, advised club officials they would be in camp early next week to negotiate. Mike Garbark and Bob Collins, who comprise the catching staff, signed contracts.

Hart a Dodger Regular

BEAR MOUNTAIN, N.Y.—Leo Durocher buried the hatchet with Bill Hart, his infielder from New Orleans of the Southern Association, and named him regular third baseman for 1945.

Covering GI Sports

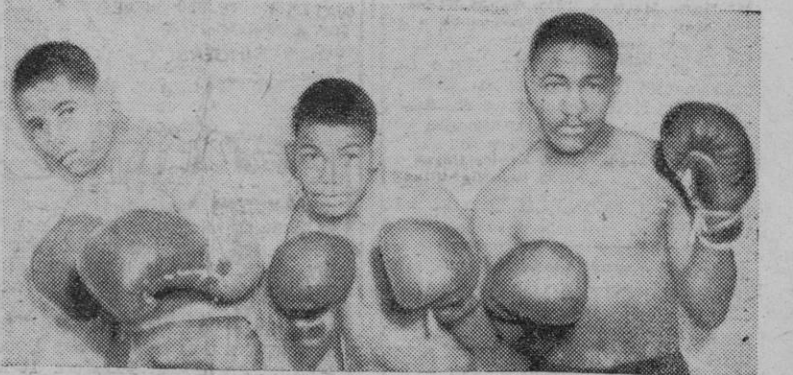
BOASTING the best record of any boxing team competing at the Palais de Glace, Paris, the 494th Port fighters will meet an eight-man boxing squad from Oise Section tonight at 7:30 in the weekly GI punch show at the local arena. Four other bouts will supplement the card.

In two appearances, 494th boxers have captured nine bouts, while dropping three. Sgt. James Treadwell, lighthheavy from Newark, N.J., and Cpl. Willy Kemp, middleweight, Riverside, N.Y., scored knockouts in their first appearances and are undefeated in Paris.

Pfc Max Hutchins, Los Angeles, 161, will meet Pvt. Charles Perkins, 160, in a three-rounder. Both are former pros. Hutchins had had 19 bouts, in the States, winning 12, eight by knockouts.

(First boxer represents Oise Section.)

Pfc Bill Proctor, 120, Harrisburg, Pa., vs. Cpl. Mosher, Jackson, 120, NYC; Pfc Charles Green, 126, Brooklyn, vs. Pfc Harvey Treadwell, 127, Trenton, N.J.; Pfc Jonnie Perkins, 134, Harrisburg, Pa., vs. Pvt. George Murray, 135, St. Louis, Mo.; Pfc George Smith, 145, NYC, vs. Pvt. Roy Perry, 150, Trenton, N.J.; Pvt. Sam Logan, 158, Rocky Mount, N.C., vs. Cpl. Wilton Kemp, 158, Riverside, N.J.; T/5 Gene Glover, 164, Los Angeles, vs. Pvt. Ed Neverson, 165, NYC; Pfc Oscar Broussard, 174, San Francisco, Calif., vs. Sgt. James Treadwell, 175, Newark, N.J.; Pvt. Aaron Wilson, 190, Birmingham, Ala., vs. Pvt. Bernie Williams, 187, NYC; Pfc James Mizell, 126, Metropolis, Ill., vs. Pvt. Charles Clark, 127, New Orleans, La.; Cpl. Mike Prasta, 151, Cambridge, Mass., vs. Pvt. Chet Clemons, 150, Kansas City, Mo.; Cpl. Jack Coleman, 151, Flint, Mich., vs. Pvt. Jimmie Johnson, 155, NYC; Pfc Max Hutchins, 161, Los Angeles, vs. Pvt. Charles Perkins, 160, NYC.



Representing Oise Section in Paris, bouts tonight are. (l. to r.) Pvt. Max Hutchins, Pvt. Billy Proctor, and Pvt. George Smith.



Conversation in a bar on the home front. "What caused that explosion over at your house?" "Powder on my coat sleeve."

With an eye to the post-war future, T/4 Milt Cohen scribbles: "When things are back to normal 'And the boys come home to stay, Instead of 'is it formal?' Will they ask, 'is it class A?'"

Overheard in the blackout. "Last night that guy was out with a girl too young to know about love. Tonight he is out with one who is too old to care."

After reading that Salami is included in the diet of prisoners of war, George Maskin commented, "Well, I guess they were prepared for the worst."

GI Philosophy. Early to bed and early to rise—and your gal goes out with six other guys.

S/Sgt. Herbert D. Boss claims he has invented a brake that will stop a plane traveling 500



miles an hour. Now he's working on a gadget to keep the pilot from going through the "wind shield."

This little verse by M.C. is dedicated to all hospital patients in the ETO.

If an apple a day Keeps the doctor away, What would it take To make the nurses stay?

Then there was the woman who wanted a divorce because every time she sat in her husband's lap he started dictating letters.

J. C. W.

Births

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

CPL. Clyde E. Korlaske, Haverhill, Mass. Clyde Howard, March 9; Cpl. Robert E. Haney, Richmond, Kan.—Cheryl Ann, March 3; Pfc. David Cohen, Bronx—Emma Jane, March 9; F/O D. T. Broker, Billings, Mont.—Barbara Lynn, March 15; S/Sgt. William E. Sheidon, Cranston, R.I.—March 12; Cpl. Alfred E. Krapp, Detroit—girl, Feb. 24.

CAPT. Angelo Dagradi, Brooklyn—Roselind Angela, March 1; 1/Lt. Mark P. Monroe, Flushing, N.Y.—boy, March 11; Pvt. Hudson C. Elwell, Lynn, Mass.—boy, March 9; Shipfitter 2/c Arthur Dempsey, New York—girl, March 15; Lt. Richard J. Condon, New York—Richard Joseph, Feb. 8; Lt. William Ray Dodd, Mobile, Ala.—William Ray, March 16; S/Sgt. Russell McKin, Kansas City—boy, March 16; T/5 Joseph Arbesman, Rochester, N.Y.—boy, March 13; 1/Lt. Kenneth F. Keate, Salt Lake City—boy, March 15; Pvt. Tom R. Benua, Columbus, O.—Tom, March 15; Cpl. Francis W. Decker, Lock Haven, Pa.—Margaret Mary, March 12; Pfc. Shirley R. Stowe, Bradley, Ill.—Ralph Shirley, March 1.

AMERICAN FORCES NETWORK

Also AEPF (583 Kc. — 514 M.)

Table with columns for Time and TODAY/TOMORROW. Lists radio programs like 1200-News, 1215-Swing Time, 1230-Swing Session, etc.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features



Terry and The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



Abbie an' Slat's

By Courtesy of United Features



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.



Male Call

By Milton Caniff



Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett



Japan's Losses In Luzon Battle Reach 145,000

MANILA, March 18 (ANS).—Japan lost 145,000 troops, dead and captured, in the first nine weeks of the Luzon campaign, making a total of 282,000 men lost in the entire five-month-old Philippines operation, Gen. MacArthur announced today.

The Japanese losses for the five months are the equivalent of 11 Japanese divisions, including supply and other auxiliary troops.

American losses for the same period were given as 3,813 killed, 196 missing and 14,570 wounded, a total of 18,579.

MacArthur also reported general American advances on all Philippine fronts and announced that Yanks had invaded Basilan Island, across a 12-mile strait from captured Zamboanga, on southwestern Mindanao.

Repulse Counter-Attack

Basilan is the northernmost island in the Sulu Archipelago, which stretches between Mindanao and Borneo, 215 miles to the southwest.

U.S. troops on Mindanao steadily reduced enemy positions and repulsed counter-attacks in the Pasonanca sector, five miles inland from the invasion beach. Thirty miles of Mindanao's coast is in American hands.

Announcement that American planes were using airfields near Zamboanga meant that heavy bombers were, or soon would be, based within easy range of Japanese-held petroleum centers and airbases on northern Borneo.

On Luzon, the U.S. 25th and 32d Divs. were meeting increasing resistance in a converging drive on Balete Pass, which leads into Cagayan Valley.

Troops Near Baguio

U.S. artillery and planes raked enemy positions around Baguio, reported to be the headquarters of Japanese Lt. Gen. Tomokuni Yamashita, but spared the city itself, which is the summer capital of the Philippines.

Units of the 33rd Div. had moved heavy artillery to positions less than eight miles from Baguio.

East of Manila, other American forces destroyed the southeast flank of the Shimbu Line and cut the enemy's retreat route southward by capturing Maybankal.

Tokyo Reports Carrier Attack

Radio Tokyo reported yesterday that waves of American carrier planes—1,400 in all—were raiding the Japanese homeland in the third task-force attack in a little more than a month.

A Japanese communique said that the target was Kyushu Island, southernmost of the homeland group. An unofficial enemy account said that nearby Shikoku Island also was under attack.

The enemy reports were not confirmed in any part by Adm. Nimitz, who last month sent Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's great task force on two destructive missions, each of two days' duration, against Tokyo and other targets.

Japan Calls Diplomats From Russia, Bulgaria

LONDON, March 18 (AP).—Key Japanese diplomats in Russia and Bulgaria are being called home, the Tokyo radio announced yesterday without explanation.

The broadcast said that Naotaka Sato, the Japanese minister, had left Moscow March 14 and that the Japanese minister and nine others left Bulgaria at the same time.

10,000,000 Polish Casualties

LONDON, March 18 (UP).—Poland has suffered an estimated 10,000,000 civilian and military casualties since the war began—or more than 28 percent of the pre-war population of 35,000,000, the Polish Press Bureau reported tonight. Civilian casualties were estimated at approximately 9,000,000.

Where First, Third and Seventh Armies Are Pushing the Nazis Back



Although the Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen collapsed, Yank Armies had a big day as First took bridgehead airdrome, Third reached Nahe River and took Merzig, and Seventh pushed Nazis out of Siegfried defenses in the South. Heavy lines indicate farthest points of advance.

Berlin Is Dealt Saar Foe Reported in Retreat

More than 1,300 Eighth AF heavies, escorted by approximately 700 Mustangs, gave Berlin its heaviest daylight raid of the war yesterday. The Schlesischer railway center and the North Station freight yards were the main targets. Armament works at Tegel and Henningsdorf, both within six miles of the center of Berlin, were also attacked.

Some 12,400 high explosive bombs—many of them 1,000-pounders, and 650,000 incendiaries, were dropped in the raids, to bring tonnage dropped by the Eighth on the Nazi capital to 20,000 tons to date.

Other Activity Heavy

Aerial activity over other continental areas was extremely heavy. The First TAC flew 1,300 sorties—many of the pilots making two or three flights for the third time in four days.

Ninth AF planes flew approximately 1,850 sorties in hammering Remagen bridgehead communications, Saarbrücken, Bad-Dürkheim and Kreuztal—all enemy supply bases ahead of advancing U.S. armies.

(Continued from Page 1) brücken and once a vital switch point for Nazi communications, while the 65th Inf. Div. crossed the Saar south of Merzig. This posed a threat of outflanking Saarbrücken, for Maj. Gen. Lewis E. Hibbs' 63rd Inf. Div. of the Seventh Army is five miles east of Saarbrücken.

At the other end of the Third Army line, Coblenz was virtually cleared of the enemy by Brig. Gen. Frank L. Culin's 87th Inf. Div., which had crossed the Mosel and taken nine-tenths of the city in less than a day.

87th Reaches Rhine

South of Coblenz, 87th Inf. Div. men reached the Rhine at Boppard, and with men of Brig. Gen. J. A. Van Fleet's, 90th Inf. Div., which captured the city, they held a ten-mile stretch of the Rhine from Boppard to Oberwesel.

The 11th Armd. Div. gained five miles to reach Kirchberg, six miles southwest of Simmern. The Tenth Armd. Div. lashed out from the Trier-Saarburg area and entered Berkenfeld, 20 miles southeast of Trier, after knocking out three of four counter-attacking Nazi tanks. Nazi opposition to the Seventh

Army advance through the remainder of German-held France was comparatively light from the Saarbrücken area to north of Bitche. Maj. Gen. Wade H. Haislip's 15th Corps made steady advances among the dragon's teeth.

In the Bitche-Hagenau sector, resistance was tough and the fighting was described as a slugging match. The troops fighting in the wooded Hardt Mountains had to overcome rugged terrain as well as extensive minefields. Maj. Gen. Harry J. Collins' 42nd Inf. Div. cleared Phillipsbourg and moved beyond the Bitche-Hagenau highway. Maj. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe's 103rd Inf. Div. reached the outskirts of Woerth, four miles east of Niederbronn, which they captured.

French units on the east flank pushed north along the Rhinebank to the outskirts of Ft. Louis, one of the anchor positions in the Maginot Line.

Pershing Tank in Action

WASHINGTON, March 18 (Reuter).—The new T26 General Pershing tank has been in action in Europe, a WPB official disclosed today.

Russians Take German Naval Base on Baltic

Marshal Gregory Zhukov's Red Army troops yesterday captured Kolberg, an important German naval base on the Baltic coast of Pomerania, and Berlin commentators reported that the entire southern part of the Eastern Front was under attack by four Russian armies.

Marshal Stalin announced that elements of Zhukov's First White Russian Army, including Polish units, had liquidated resistance in Kolberg. The port, 64 miles north-east of Stettin, had been under assault for two weeks.

The blackout on news from Zhukov's central Oder front apparently still was in force yesterday, but farther south, the Germans said, four Soviet armies had gone over to the offensive. Involved were the forces under Marshals Ivan Koniev, Rodion Malinovsky and Feodor Tolbukhin and Gen. Petrov.

Moscow Remains Mum

According to the Germans, the Russians were attacking on both sides of Lake Balaton in Hungary; in the mountainous area north of the Moravian Gap, near the borders of German Silesia, Poland and Czechoslovakia; in Upper Silesia northwest of Loebshuetz and east of the Neisse River; and northeast of Labau in southern Brandenburg.

There was no confirmation from Moscow of any of these reported moves along the southern flank.

Moscow, however, announced that German attempts to break through to the Danube River, near Budapest, had failed and listed Nazi losses in this "offensive that failed" as 20,000 men and at least 600 tanks, self-propelled guns and armored troop carriers.

Remagen Span Falls Into River

(Continued from Page 1)

steaming for help beneath the steel girders, rail tracks and heavy planking.

Everyone at the site is in agreement that there was no explosion and that, because of the way the bridge went, sabotage was impossible.

One of the first men to pick his way over the twisted wreckage near shore to the west side pier, about 50 yards out in the river, was Sgt. Thomas Lang, of Springfield, Mass. Lang, a communications sergeant, picked his way to the top of the pier and searched the wreckage at the foot of it, where the Rhine runs fastest through the 200-yard sluiceway formed by the bridge's foundations.

By the time he got there, ten minutes after the accident, there was no one left clinging to the debris. Several small Army power boats pushed their way upstream under the wreckage, picking up men who had been dumped into the fast-flowing Rhine. Two of the motorboats capsized in the tumbling waters, adding to the river's toll for the day.

Survivors from the engineer battalion and the engineer railway company which was also working on the bridge had strange stories of miraculous escapes to tell just a few minutes after the crash.

London Paper Prints New Rumor of Peace

Rumors regarding German peace feelers continued to circulate yesterday.

The London Daily Mail published a wholly unconfirmed rumor Saturday that Nazi Foreign Minister Von Ribbentrop and Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, German Chief of Staff, were to arrive in Stockholm yesterday, Reuter reported.

The London Sunday Dispatch, which doubted the rumor, said that the British Foreign Office held the view that it was extremely unlikely that Keitel or any other German military personality would be in a position to undertake real peace negotiations.