

**Save Tires—Shorten War**  
 "...The war will be need-  
 lessly extended unless we ex-  
 tract every possible mile from  
 our tires." Gen. Eisenhower, to  
 all troops in the ETO.

# THE STARS AND STRIPES

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

**Tire Care Cuts Wear**  
 "Exercise of reasonable care  
 by U.S. Army drivers will pro-  
 long the life of tires by at least  
 40 per cent." Statement by ETO  
 Ordnance and Transp. Chiefs.

Vol. 1—No. 135

1 Fr.

New York — PARIS — London

1 Fr.

Friday, Dec. 8, 1944

# First Gains on Roer Line

## Superforts Hit Tokyo, Manchuria

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (ANS).—China-based Superforts ushered in the third anniversary of Pearl Harbor today with a raid on Japanese war factories in southern Manchuria and enemy broadcasts said another Superfort formation had started fires in an attack on Tokyo itself.

War Department, in announcing the Manchurian raid, said a "large task force" of B29s of the 20th Bomber Command had raided important industrial objectives by daylight. Tokyo asserted that more than 100 bombers took part in the Manchurian raid.

### No Mention of Tokyo Raid

Washington late today still had made no mention of any raid on Japan proper. The Japs described the Tokyo raiders as a "small force" on a mission of "war of nerves."

Tokyo claimed that Jap bombers had bombed Saipan bases of the 21st Bomber Command while B29s were awaiting takeoff.

In South Pacific land operations, 32nd Div. tightened its ring on Japanese troops hemmed against the Ormoc Harbor area.

Meanwhile, Brig. Gen. Carlos Romulo, Resident Commissioner of Philippines, who recently visited Leyte, said the campaign was progressing "excellently."

### Jap Air Strength Grows

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (ANS).—Increasingly strong opposition to American advances in the Pacific may be expected from Japanese land-based aviation, Navy Secretary Forrestal reported today, calling Japan's land aviation stronger than at any time in history.

He said that in the battle for the Philippines, American carrier planes and aircraft-carriers met major forces of land-based Japanese bombers and fighters for the first time.

### 8th Captures Mezzano, Reaches Lamone River

ALLIED HQ, Italy, Dec. 7.—Eighth Army infantrymen, closely pursuing the Germans up the main Adriatic coastal highway, captured Mezzano today, bringing the Allies to the south bank of the Lamone River.

In one sector British troops gained a bridgehead over the Lamone but elsewhere on the north bank the Germans were resisting strongly, today's communique said.

### Send In Tire Slogan; Win \$100 War Bond

A \$100 War Bond for the best slogan submitted as a "keynote" for the current tire conservation campaign was offered yesterday by G4 and Ordnance and Transportation.

Slogans must be limited to ten words or less and are to be submitted within two weeks. Winning slogans will be printed in The Stars and Stripes.

Bonds of \$25 and \$50 will be given to second and third prize winners. — Ma's entries to "Tire Slogan Contest," c/o The Stars and Stripes, APO 887.

## Tank Destroyers Slogh Through Mud of Hurtgen Forest



Two armored vehicles of an American tank destroyer unit move slowly over a muddy, narrow winding roadway through the Hurtgen Forest, spearheading the advance of the First Army toward the Cologne plain.

## Violent 'Quake Jolts Far East, Possibly Japan

An earthquake comparable in violence to the one which virtually destroyed Tokyo and Yokohama in 1923 was recorded by scientists yesterday as having occurred in the vicinity of Japan.

The seismograph in England's West Bromwich observatory placed the quake's center "possibly in Japan, the Kuriles (north of Japan) or the Aleutians," and a Bombay observatory reported its epicenter as in Honshu, largest of the islands which form Japan. Tokyo and Yokohama are on Honshu.

Fordham's seismograph in New York recorded two shocks approximately 7,500 miles away in the direction of southern Japan. Both were extremely violent.

### Japan Is Silent

Neither Japanese nor other enemy news sources mentioned the quake, but if it was anything resembling the 1923 catastrophe it would be a mighty blow against Japan's war effort, coming coincidentally on the third anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

The shocks were recorded with such fury in England that parts of the recording mechanism were thrown from their bearings and only by constantly being replaced

(Continued on Page 4)

## Sergeant Wins Highest Honor For Heroism in Beachhead

By Russell Jones

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE FIRST INF. DIV., Germany, Dec. 7.—S/Sgt. Walter D. Ehlers, of Manhattan, Kan., won the Congressional Medal for his actions during June 9 and 10 in Normandy, it was announced here yesterday. Ehlers, 23, won his country's highest award for assaulting and silencing two machine-guns and two mortars, killing 18 Germans, including a sniper who shot him in the back, and carrying a wounded BAR man to safety.

On June 9 Ehler, leading an assault squad, encountered extremely heavy fire. He advanced alone and met a strong German force. Using rifle and bayonet, he killed at least

## Rhine May Be 'The' River — But Roer Is No Mill Stream

By Morrow Davis

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE NINTH U.S. ARMY, Dec. 7.—Doughfeet of Gen. Simpson's army have read there is "one more river to cross"—the Rhine. Right now they are poised on the west bank of a thing called the Roer. The doughfeet predict it will take some work to cross this swollen stream.

On the other side of this barrier to the Ruhr Valley (and the Rhine) are skilled, battle-hardened German troops, including Hitler's crack Fifth Panzer and SS units. They have good armor, plenty of artillery and ammunition. They have the advantage of high ground and observation.

### Dykes Already Open

In addition, the enemy may be able to carry out a "drowned earth" policy of controlled flooding of streams on the watershed between the Rhine and Meuse. Already he has opened dykes on the First Canadian Army front in Holland.

Even with air superiority and better equipment, the Roer job looks to be no picnic. Veteran correspondents predict it will be tougher than the Vire or Moselle; and we were kicked off at least two Moselle bridgeheads. One correspondent goes so far as to predict the Roer battle will be the decisive battle of the war.

## Patton Tankers KO 26, Lose 13 In Lorraine Tilt

By Jimmy Cannon

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

IN VOELLERDINGER, WITH FOURTH ARMORED DIV., Dec. 7.—After weeks of trying to maneuver the enemy into armor action, the tanks of this division today moved across the hills of Lorraine like fierce predatory animals refreshed by their siesta in the mud.

In an all-day battle, fought between the towns of Singling and Bining, seven miles southeast of Sarreguemines, Lt. Gen. Patton's men went through positions in front of the Siegfried Line that the Nazis have stubbornly held for three weeks. They knocked out 26 tanks while losing 13 to the enemy.

Although no breakthrough is claimed for this thrust, which began yesterday morning, at one point the forward element swept eight miles to the Maginot Line, but withdrew because it travelled too fast for artillery support.

### Blast Way Into Singling

At dusk tonight Americans had blasted their way into the town of Singling.

Capture of a bridge over the Eich River, tributary of the Saar at Domfessel, made the swift pilgrimage of the tanks possible. German engineers were trapped and machine-gunned as they tried to demolish the bridge.

The tanks roared into Voellerdinger after our artillery had spilled most of its houses into the streets with 800 rounds in three minutes.

### New Synthetic Rubber

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—A new synthetic rubber made from sand and called silicone was announced today by General Electric Co.

## Third Army 3½ Mi. from Saar Capital

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' men smashed into German defenses of the swollen River Roer at three points yesterday in triple assaults launched from the northern and southern sectors of the U.S. First Army front in the last 48 hours.

Southward, in the Saar, U.S. Third Army forces smashed to three and one-half miles west of Saarbrücken, biggest city in the Saar basin, front reports said, while other units consolidated six Saar River crossings into three sizable bridgeheads.

### Gained 400 Yards

Hodges' initial assault on the German Roer River defenses of the Cologne Plain kicked off at 1500 Wednesday from Inden on the northern sector and gained 400 yards by nightfall. Patrols thrust to the outskirts of Pier, two miles east of Inden.

This was followed by attacks at 2100 Wednesday and at 0300 yesterday from the Bergstein area south of Düren. Both assaults gained. Northwest of the village, First Army men were less than a mile from the river, whose waters are rising.

Southward, in Alsace, enemy troops squeezed into a 28-mile pocket by Allies driving south from Strasbourg and north from Mulhouse, were reported withdrawing across the Rhine River at Colmar and Neufbrisch, Associated Press front dispatches said.

### Nazi Patrols Cr Maas

In Holland, where the British Second Army was ranged along the River Maas, German patrols slipped across the river from the east between Venlo and Nijmegen, apparently in search of prisoners. No major ground action was reported, however.

Along the Roer River to the south of the British, U.S. Ninth Army reported no change in its sector. Nazis still held out in the Julich sports stadium.

Stars and Stripes Correspondent Ralph Martin from the front said Fifth Division's Tenth Regiment

(Continued on Page 4)

## Nazis Stiffen, But Reds Gain

MOSCOW, Dec. 7 (AP).—German resistance stiffened noticeably north of Lake Balaton with the arrival of numerous reserves from the Vienna area, but the Red Army nevertheless made steady progress in its envelopment movement around Budapest.

The Soviets remained silent on German claims that Gen. Malinovsky was making headway in his assault on the capital, but there was reason to believe the battle was in its final phases. To the south, Gen. Tolbukhin's army, advancing along the Danube, reached a point 31 miles south of the Hungarian capital.

Finding better weather, the Soviet air force pounded German lines forming northwest of Lake Balaton. Reds now hold virtually all the south shore of the long shallow lake and fighting in this district was fierce as the Russians met strong resistance from Germans guarding the pathway to Austria.



'Hubert' Has T/O Woes

To the cartoonist that draws "Hubert," we of the maintenance section of the 603rd TD Bn. would like to make an appeal that "Hubert" be made a staff sergeant. Our reason is that the "Staffer" in our section is the double for "Hubert." He and "Hubert" have everything in common. They look alike and act alike. So we make an urgent plea that "Hubert" be made staff in his next cartoon.—Cpl. James D. Whittaker and 18 others.

(Sorry, fellows, but my T/O won't permit it.—Sgt. Dick Wingert.)

Sad, Very Sad

I'm not looking for sympathy—nor do I want a TS slip. I only want to bring to the attention of all armchair strategists how a silly order of theirs affects the morale of soldiers. I had a beautiful moustache with one-inch curls on both ends.

Came an order, all men styling eccentric sideburns, moustaches and beards, will immediately rectify same.

So, OK, my moustache looked like hell to you, did it hamper my efficiency as a soldier? Did it violate a physical hygiene directive? Why can't you allow us to enjoy one of our personal privileges?—OK, AAA. Bn.

(AR 4205 says: "... the hair will be kept short and the beard neatly trimmed"—that's all we know.—Ed.)

Funny Bowl

With football definitely in the air and the bowl games not far away, we would like to offer our representative for the classic ETO Bowl Game.

- RE...Joe Palooka LG...Flash Gordon
L.E...Little Abner O...Jungle Jim
RT...The Batman QB...The Spirit
LT...Buck Rogers HB...Superman
RG...Smiling Jack FB...Tarzan
P.B...Alley Oop

Coach: Dick Tracy. Subs: Mr. Mystic, Capt. Easy, The Lone Ranger, Mascot, Daisy Mae.

ETO-Happy MRU.

(Stop the press! This belongs to the sports page.—Ed.)

Lecture

Listen, GI Joe: We came to France as liberators, not as conquerors of the French people. Watch what you say or do in public. When you drink, try and hold your liquor. Try and act like gentlemen, which all of you can be if you really want to.

This does not apply to the clean-cut Joes in our uniform. This is only for the stupid jerks who call themselves men. The guilty ones know who I mean. There are very few, but these few disgrace us all.

Sure, many of you have been in combat and been through hell! Sure, you're away from home and are very lonesome. Does that mean you should act like jerks in front of these people?—Just a Casualty.

Too Big

"Five Casualties and Four Replacements" suggestion that the ETO be "turned over to the two Ss," Switzerland and Sweden, seems to have hit a snag when first proposed.

Back in the thirties, when "Anschluss" still meant a smart trick and nobody but the victim squealed, a big trapped German tourist tried to convince a Swiss peasant that Switzerland was actually nothing but holy German soil, and that a union between Switzerland and Germany would be the most advantageous thing in the world.

The peasant listened silently. Then, after a pause, he rubbed his chin and said: "Sure, I see your point, but still... I doubt very much that our president would like to govern such a big country!"—Sgt. W. Ducloux, Third Army.

THE STARS AND STRIPES
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Vol. 1, No. 135

Hash Marks

T/3 Willard Welling has come through with one of the sagest observations of the war: "Points are things a civilian must use every day to live—and which I must damn near get killed to get enough of to be a civilian again."

Today's Daffynition (from Lt. Charles Taylor). Neck is something that if your girl doesn't want to you feel like ringing hers.

On the Home Front: Two wives of Navy men stationed at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., went fishing recently and each caught a sailfish



at precisely the same time. The fish were "twins," each weighing 44 pounds and measuring exactly seven feet one inch long.

A colonel once asked his corporal, "Where did you file those discharges? They aren't under the Ds." The corporal replied suavely, "Sir, I filed them under the Cs—for Congratulations."

And then there was the pooch in the K-9 corps who asked for a Tree-Day pass.

GI Philosophy. A wooden anniversary makes a man realize what a blockhead he was.

From the "Civil Affairs Seven" comes this note. "Believe it or not, we have a civilian steno who filled up the wastebaskets every hour on the hour. On investigation we found the basket filled with carbon paper. She explained, "They get dirty with every letter."

A WAC on a street corner said to another: "If I don't call you Wednesday night about Thursday night, I will call you Thursday night about Friday night."

Asked why a man's hair turns gray quicker than his moustache, a medic observed that the hair has a twenty-year start on the whiskers.

GIs in Germany have changed the song hit, "Can't Get Out of This Mood" to "Can't Get Out of This Mud."

Afterthought. To be sitting on top of the world isn't such a hot idea. Consider the Eskimo.

J. C. W.

HUBERT. by SGT. DICK WINGERT



"I am a commissioned officer, driver. Hereafter when you tell me to do something, say 'Sir!'"

An Editorial S-T-R-E-T-C-H that Rubber

GEN. EISENHOWER has given us the pitch on the rubber situation.

Save rubber, he says, or 10% of all Army vehicles in this theater will be tied up by February 1, 1945.

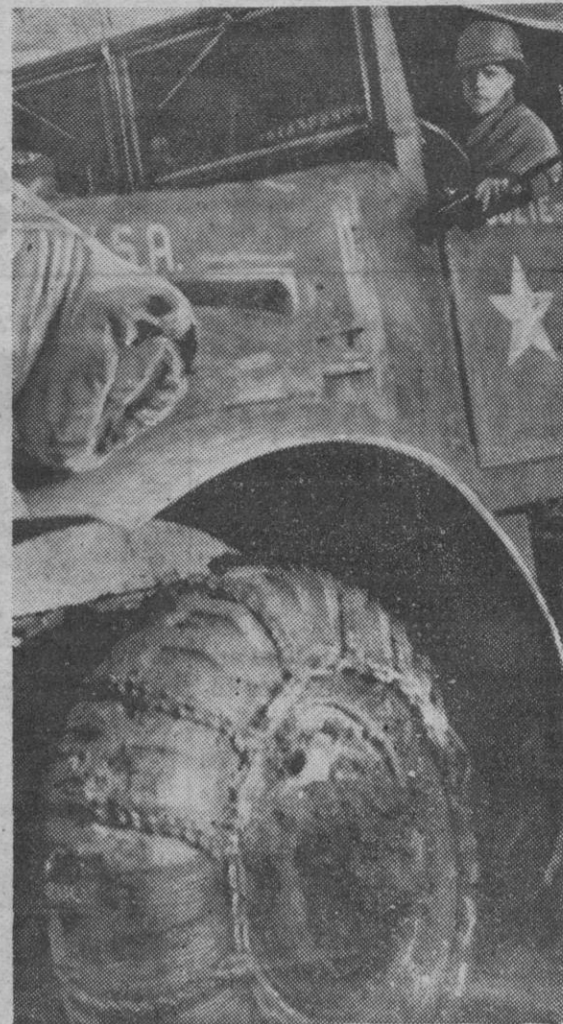
That means a 10% cut in ammo, chow, supplies and everything else needed at the front. That means deadlining 10% of the Army's mobility just when it's needed most. It means a longer war, longer casualty lists, longer faces here and at home.

Luckily, it ain't necessarily so. Rubber can and will be saved if drivers will do ten simple things:

- 1. Maintain correct air pressure.
2. Keep valve caps to finger tightness.
3. Correct valve stem positioning.
4. Match tires correctly.
5. Correct mounting of directional type.
6. Correct rotation of spare tires.
7. Adjust chains properly.
8. Correct mechanical maladjustments causing uneven wear.
9. Remove tires in time for retreading, and repair injuries promptly.
10. Avoid improper operation, including speeding over 35 miles per hours, overloading, improper use of brakes, striking of curbs, rocks, road-holes, and driving with flat tires.

It's little to ask, but it adds up to plenty. To an estimated 50% cut in tire replacements between now and January 1.

It means we'll stretch that rubber. To Berlin. To Tokyo. To the U.S.A.



SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE



In the Fuehrer's Face

It was a case of missing Thanksgiving dinner or staring at Hitler's mug through the meal, so T/4 Anthony Ambrosio, of Brooklyn, did the latter.

Ambrosio, with the Third Armored Div., had lost his mess kit. In the ruins of a nearby house he found a plate bearing a picture of "Der Fuehrer."

"The cooks sure enjoyed throwing mashed potatoes in Hitler's puss," Ambrosio says.

Patience Pays

A 26-year-old "white elephant" turned out to be a bonanza for one Luxembourg merchant. Twenty-six years ago, when Fifth Inf. Div. occupation troops entered the Duchy, he ordered 15,000 souvenirs patterned after

the division's red diamond shoulder patch. The manufacturer delivered after the Yanks had left town.

The Fifth is back and the merchant is doing a land-office business.

Things Have Changed

It was dark. Capt. Nicholas P. Kafkallis, commander of a company in the 10th Armored Div., seeking to reach his unit's bivouac area, found a jeep blocking his way.

"Get that jeep off the road!" the Monessen, Pa., officer shouted. "Can you tell me where I can find Sgt. Richard E. Byrd?" someone asked from inside the jeep.

"Yes, I'm his commanding officer, but who the hell wants him at this hour of the night?"

"I'm Admiral Byrd, his uncle."

After following Capt. Kafkallis to the well-camouflaged bivouac area, the explorer commented: "Captain, I found the North Pole and the South Pole without too much difficulty, but your camp site really had me stymied."

Mortar Dept.

A bunch of mortarmen are sounding off about the item which said the story of a GI cutting his finger while loading too fast was either "a close call or a damn lie." One mortar squad reports a man in its regiment lost three fingers that way, "and that's no DAMN LIE."

Decorated Doughfeet

Decorations awarded Fourth Inf. Div. troops, not including Purple Hearts and Combat Infantryman badges, total 3,709. The breakdown shows one Medal of Honor, one Legion of Merit, 26 DSCs. and 595 Silver Stars.

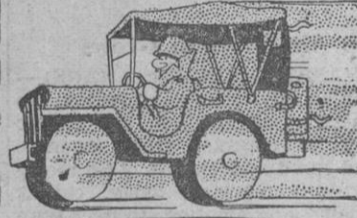
Decorate Xmas Tree

Three men of the 37th FA have their quarters all set for Santa's arrival—thanks to the Germans. S/Sgt. John Giba, of Hammond, Ind.; 1/Sgt. Raymond Gill, of San Antonio, and Pvt. Bryant B. Burnett, of Houston, cut a small pine, decorated it with colored glass balls and embroidery thread from a German house and

used tin foil strips dropped from German planes for garlanding.

Nice Ride, Anyway

Looking for a new motor pool, Lt. Ruben P. Clinkscales, a battalion motor officer of the Eighth Inf. Div., hit a smooth modern highway after days of riding in



mud. He rolled merrily on, enjoying the feeling of a solid surface, until he was overhauled by a breathless driver, who told him: "You are now the forward element of the U.S. Army." Clinkscales continued his search in the opposite direction.

Flying Hangars Needed

The following conversation took place between a Ninth Air Force fighter-bomber pilot and his squadron commander on a sweep over Germany:

Pilot: "Something is wrong with my engine. I'm bailing out."

Sq. Comdr.: "What's the matter with it?"

Pilot: "I don't know, sir. But I sure as hell can't fix it up here. Goodbye."

Play Dead, Escape

Two American medics escaped capture by sprawling on a muddy road and pretending to be dead.

Capt. Forrest A. Rowell, of Boston, Mass., and Pvt. Rex M. Klipp, of Washington, D.C., were evacuating a wounded German when enemy troops attacked. The wounded Nazis shouted directions to Nazi riflemen and the medics hit the mud.

When the firing ceased, a party of Germans came up. They kicked Klipp several times, then went away.

"I must have looked very dead," Capt. Rowell said. "My head was in the ditch and my legs and backside were considerably exposed, but I didn't get kicked."

### Behind The Sports Headlines

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—An ominous blast at professional football's encroachments upon the established playing season of baseball was voiced by International League officials this week as the minor leagues held their annual meetings here. It is expected to be echoed by the Yankees at the major league meetings next week. Ed Barrow, Yankees' president, had some rather salty remarks to make on the subject late in the baseball season when his club, fighting for the pennant, was forced to abandon a game in Philadelphia because of rain and the torn-up condition of the field after the Eagles had played a night football game. Frank Shaughnessy, Ints. prexy, renewed the blast at the minor meetings.



Ed Barrow

ROCHESTER, N.Y.—Ed McKeever, head football coach at Notre Dame, will continue in that capacity through 1945. He announced his new contract to quell rumors that he was going to Fordham, which abandoned football in '44.

ITHACA, N.Y.—One of football's most persistent rumors—that Carl Snively, Cornell's head coach, will accept a similar position with North Carolina—was revived when he revealed he will visit Chapel Hill to consult with Tarheel athletic officials. Snively made a good impression in '34 and '35 as North Carolina coach, and officials there have had him under consideration ever since they were recently empowered to offer a new coach \$12,000 a year in an effort to get back into the top rung of collegiate football. Snively will coach the North team in the annual Blue-Gray battle in Birmingham, Ala., New Year's Day.

NEW YORK.—There's no telling what will happen in Madison Square Garden tonight because Lee Oma and Tami Mauriello, principals in a ten-round main event there, have exposed themselves to poisonous quantities of fresh air in training, for the first time in the memory of anyone on Jacobs Beach. Oma, heretofore, has done all his sparring in smoke-filled gyms and his roadwork in night clubs. Mauriello, proprietor of a prosperous spaghetti house and saloon in the Bronx, is not averse to sampling his wares. Both have gone outdoors to do their training. Now that both boys have a good case of fresh air poisoning they're likely to outdo the redhot battle they staged a couple of months ago when Mauriello stiffened Oma after being on the short end most of the way.



Tami Mauriello

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Bill Paschal, Maritime Service W/O who plays football for the New York Giants in his spare time, has won the National Football League ground-gaining championship for the second straight year. Bullet Bill has gained 682 yards in 179 attempts and has one game left to play, while Johnny Grigas of the Card-Pitts and Frankie Sinkwich of Detroit, nearest competitors, have finished their seasons. Len Younce, Giant lineman, gathered in the punting title with an average kick of 41.1 yards in 42 tries. Frankie Filchock of Washington is the ace passer of the league with 78 completions in 132 tosses for a gain of 1,107 yards.

#### American Hockey League

##### Last Night's Scores

Indianapolis 3, Hershey 2.	Pittsburgh 3, St. Louis 1.
<b>EASTERN DIVISION</b>	
Buffalo	11 7 2 24
Hershey	8 8 2 18
Providence	5 10 2 12
<b>WESTERN DIVISION</b>	
Indianapolis	10 6 5 25
Pittsburgh	11 6 1 23
Cleveland	9 7 2 20
St. Louis	4 10 2 10

#### Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

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

#### CAMERA EXCHANGES

FOR SALE: Ciro-Flex twin lens camera, F 3.5 Wollensak lens; case, exposure meter, 3 filters, lens shade, 10 rolls of film, \$175.00. Pic John T. Capps Jr.  
FOR SALE: 2 rolls 8mm. Kodachrome F film, 190fr. each; 1 roll Panchromatic, 125fr. Capt. Harry A. Suslow.

# ALL-AMERICA

## 1944 • COLLEGE



LES. HORVATH  
Ohio State Back



BOB FENIMORE  
Oklahoma  
A & M Back



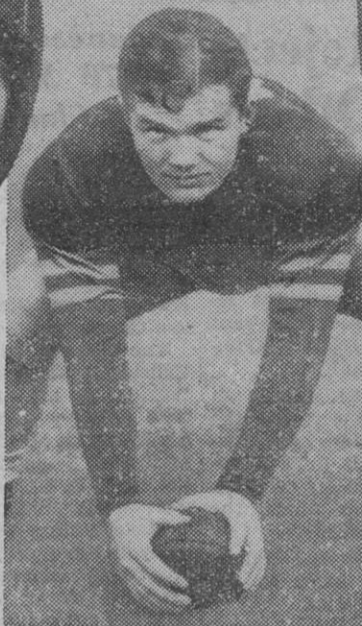
FELIX BLANCHARD  
Army Back



GLENN DAVIS  
Army Back



PHIL TINSLEY  
Georgia Tech End



HUBERT BECHTOL  
Texas End



DON WHITMIRE  
Navy Tackle



JOHN FERRARO  
So. California Tackle



TEX WARRINGTON  
Auburn Center



HAMILTON NICHOLS  
Rice Guard

#### AP Second Team

- E—Henry Walker, Virginia.
- T—Milan Lazetich, Michigan.
- G—John Green, Army.
- C—Felto Prewitt, Tulsa.
- G—Bill Hachten, California.
- T—Bill Willis, Ohio State.
- E—Leon Bramlett, Navy.
- B—Tom McWilliams, Miss. St.
- B—Claude Young, Illinois.
- B—Boris Dimancheff, Purdue.
- B—Bob Jenkins, Navy.

### Ohio State, Army Land Two On AP All-America Eleven

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Two 18-year-olds from undefeated, untied Ohio State and Cotton Bowl-bound Oklahoma A. & M., together with a pair of seasoned plebes from Army's national championship eleven today shared honors on the 20th All-America football team selected by the Associated Press.

The teen-age gridgers, first of their years to be picked on an AP All-America, are Bob Fenimore, high-scoring back of Oklahoma's Aggies, and Hubert Bechtol, brilliant sophomore end from Texas U. The West Point plebes, prominent in the academy's record-breaking scoring machine and almost unanimously selected on every All-America published to date, are Halfback Glenn Davis and Fullback Felix "Doc" Blanchard. The 1944 team also includes one representative from seven other schools in the East, South, Southwest and Far West:

#### First Team Lineup

ENDS.—Betchel and Phil Tinsley, Georgia Tech; TACKLES.—Don Whitmire, Navy, and John Ferraro, Southern California; GUARDS.—Bill Hackett, Ohio State, and Hamilton Nichols, Rice; CENTER.—Cal Warrington, Auburn; BACKS.—Davis, Blanchard, Fenimore and Les Horvath, Ohio State.

Davis, Blanchard, Fenimore, Tinsley, Whitmire and Hackett were no surprises but the rest may have caused eyebrows to go up like twin elevators in some sections. All, however, were carefully watched by AP sports editors and writers all

over the country. Davis, national scoring champion, and Blanchard, powerful blocker and plunger, couldn't miss. Neither could Horvath, the only senior on the first team. But Fenimore had to beat out a flock of good backs for the fourth backfield post, particularly Navy's Bullet Bob Jenkins and Purdue's Boris Dimancheff.

#### Competition in the Line

There was stiff competition among the ends and tackles, too. Jack Dugger, Ohio State's great wing, and Army's crack plebe, George Poole, for example, had to be content with third team end berths. Whitmire, who played a couple of years at Alabama before going to Annapolis, stood alone among the tackles despite the fact that Army ran over him last week. Ferraro, 235-pound granite block who just about lifted Southern Cal into the Rose Bowl, however, was challenged for first team honors by Ohio State's Bill Willis, burly Negro star, and Michigan's Milan Lazetich.

Ham Nichols, who received a first team guard post, may have been unknown outside of the Southwest but opponents of Rice called the 19-year-old junior one of the most aggressive guards that section of the country ever turned out.

#### AP Third Team

- E—George Poole, Army.
- T—Monte Moncrief, Texas A&S.
- G—Ralph Serpico, Illinois.
- C—Bob St. Onge, Army.
- G—Bob Dobelstein, Tennessee.
- T—Bob McClure, Nevada.
- E—Jack Dugger, Ohio State.
- B—Hal Hamberg, Navy.
- B—Gordon Gray, So. Cal.
- B—Tom Davis, Duke.
- B—Bob Kelly, Notre Dame.

### Paschal Takes Bucking Title

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Bill Paschal, Maritime Service W/O who plays football for the New York Giants in his spare time, has won the National Football League ground-gaining championship for the second straight year.

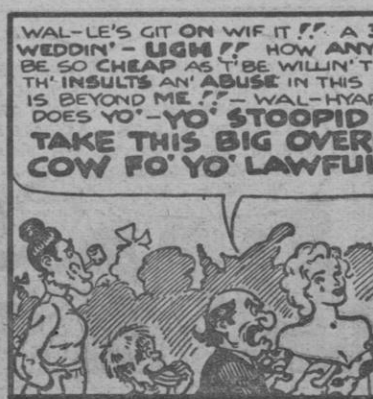
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Len Younce, Giant lineman, gathered in the punting title with an average kick of 41.1 yards in 42 tries. Frankie Filchock of Washington is the ace passer of the league with 78 completions in 132 tosses for a gain of 1,107 yards.

#### Red Sox to Train in N.J.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—The Boston Red Sox will train next spring at Pleasantville, N.J., General Manager Eddie Collins announced today.

#### Li'l Abner



By Courtesy of United Features.

By Al Capp

### CAGE RESULTS

- CCNY 42, Detroit 22.
- NYU 53, Rochester 39.
- Muhlenberg 37, Penn State 36.
- Purdue 51, Bunker Hill Naval 49.
- Notre Dame 89, Kellogg Field 28.
- Oklahoma A&S 57, Glennen Hosp. 34.
- Hobart 68, Syracuse AAF 40.

# Making of Tires Called Nation's Big Bottleneck

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (ANS).—The nation's No. 1 production bottleneck is the manufacture of heavy tires, Brig. Gen. J. K. Christmas, deputy chief of the War Department's Office of Ordnance, said today.

Gen. Christmas, in an address at the National Association of Manufacturers' convention, said stepped-up tire production is urgently needed.

As a result of bombings of railroads, trucks have become vitally important for transportation and supply of forces on the fighting fronts as well as people of Allied occupied countries, he said.

## \$500,000 for 'Father'

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (ANS).—Jack L. Warner, executive producer, said today that Warner Brothers had purchased the film rights to "Life With Father," the Howard Lindsay-Russel Crouse play, now in its sixth year on Broadway. He said that the arrangements called for payment of \$500,000 against royalties on the picture's gross take and that the final price would set an all-time high for the purchase of a play. The picture, to be made in color, will not be released before 1947.

## B & O Unable to Meet Debts

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (UP).—Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Co. asked the Interstate Commerce Commission today for permission to refund \$500,000,000 of outstanding securities. The application said the company was "unable to meet debts matured or about to mature," but that the situation was expected to be only temporary.

## No Favoritism Here

WARNETON, La., Dec. 7 (ANS).—Mrs. Jerome Walker increased the population of both Louisiana and Mississippi over the weekend by giving birth to twins, one in each state, while racing the stork to the hospital at Tylertown, Miss. A girl was born in the car before it reached the state border and a second girl was delivered at the hospital.

# Weather Slows Up Allied Air Attacks

Adverse weather yesterday grounded the Eighth, Ninth and Royal Air Forces, which had sent nearly 10,000 bombers and fighters in three days and nights against 13 Nazi fuel, munition and rail targets in western Germany, late reports indicated last night.

Germany's largest synthetic oil refinery at Merseburg, battered Wednesday afternoon by Eighth Fortresses and Liberators was smashed again in the night by 500 Lancasters, part of a force of 1,350 British aircraft which attacked rail yards at Osnabruck and unspecified objectives in Berlin.

## Two 9th AF WACs First To Wed GIs in France

Two couples, on duty with Ninth AF headquarters in France, were married Dec. 2 in the first weddings involving Army and WAC personnel on the Continent. Each couple... the other in ceremonies at two churches.

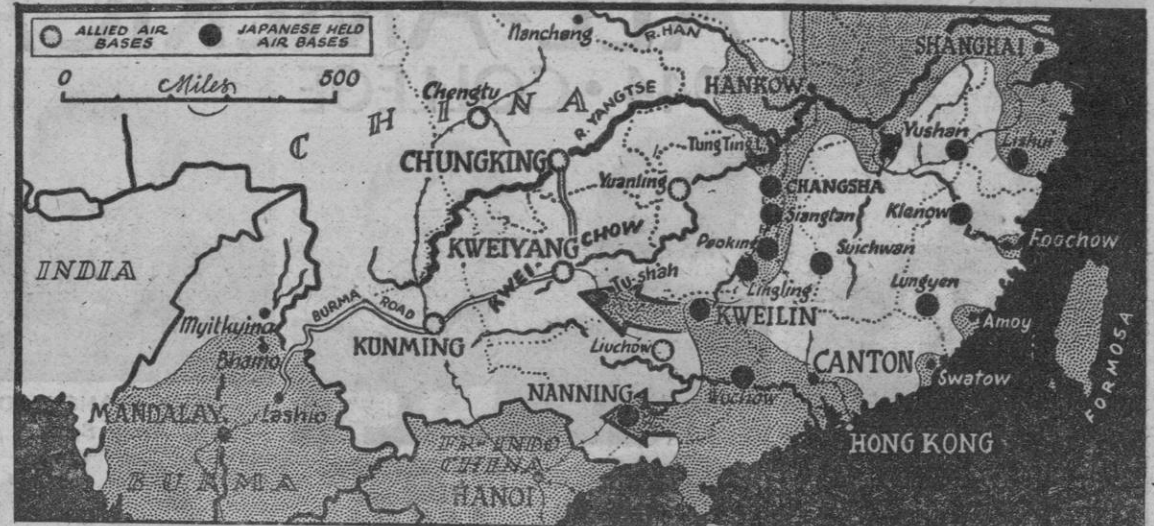
T/Sgt. Francis P. Flynn, of Seneca Falls, N.Y., wed Cpl. Alma Winn, of Galveston, Tex., and S/Sgt. George F. Morris of Alliance, Ohio, claimed Pfc Emma Lou Smythe, of Springfield, Mo., as his bride.

## Antwerp's Main Lock Destroyed, Nazis Claim

German News Agency reported yesterday that the main lock to Antwerp harbor had been blown up, paralyzing shipping traffic.

Combat swimmers, the Germans claimed, were taken in special vessels into the vicinity of the lock gates where they swam past two British sentries patrolling the lock to attach fuses to explosive charges lashed to the gates.

# Jap Advance Is Threat to Chungking Supply Highway



Japanese advances in southeastern China have forced evacuation of U.S. air bases and now pose a grave threat to Kweiyang, the main supply highway between Chungking and Kunming.

## Senate Rejects Grew, 3 Others

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (ANS).—Several New Dealers yesterday joined the Senate revolt against President Roosevelt's nominations for State Department under-secretary and three assistant secretaries and the names were sent back to the Foreign Relations Committee for further study.

Sen. Guffey (D-Pa.), usually an administration supporter, led the fight against immediate confirmation, which ended in a 37-27 rejection vote. The Senators demanded more information about the men's political philosophies.

The action affected the following newly-appointed aides to Secretary of State Stettinius:

Joseph C. Grew, former ambassador to Japan—Undersecretary.

Will L. Clayton, former cotton dealer, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Surplus War Property Administrator—Assistant Secretary of State.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs—Assistant Secretary.

Archibald MacLellan, poet and Librarian of Congress—Assistant Secretary.

## Earthquake...

(Continued from Page 1)

was it possible to ascertain the center of the shock.

Beginning about 6 AM. (British time), the shocks were continuing hours later.

The 1923 quake completely destroyed five Jap cities and killed more than 100,000 people. It lasted 36 hours and cut off Japan from the outside world for nearly two days.

An American "help Japan" drive raised millions of dollars.

## Packard, UAW Pact Aids 'Vet' Employees

DETROIT, Dec. 7 (ANS).—World War II veterans employed by Packard Motor Car Co., since their discharge from the service have been granted seniority equal to their time in the forces under an agreement with Local 190 of United Automobile Workers.

Louis De Bearn, local president, estimated that the agreement will save the jobs of 500 veterans who had been threatened with layoffs. None of the 500 were employed by Packard at the time of their induction, and would have been included in current layoffs affecting approximately 5,000 workers, De Bearn said.

## Terry And The Pirates



## Japanese Seize City 270 Miles From Chungking

The Japanese, pressing an attack through southeastern China which already has overrun several bases of the U.S. 14th Air Force, yesterday reported the occupation of Tushan, only 70 miles southeast of Kweiyang and some 270 miles below Chungking.

The Chinese, without confirming Tushan's fall, acknowledged heavy fighting in the area and reported that refugees were pouring out of Kweiyang on all available transport and afoot along the highway leading north to Chungking and southwest to Kunming.

The situation was watched anxiously in Chungking, for control of Kweiyang, capital of Kweichow Province, would put the Japanese only 200 miles from Chungking and athwart the main highway between the Chinese capital and Kunming, terminus of the Burma Road.

The Associated Press reported from Chungking yesterday that Maj. Gen. A. C. Wedemeyer, commanding U.S. forces in China, acknowledged the seriousness of the military situation but pledged, "The United States will not abandon her army in China."

# New A26 Invader Bomber Is 'Dream Ship,' Says Pilot

By Earl Mazo  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer  
AN A26 INVADER BASE, Dec. 7.—The second new American aircraft to become operational in the ETO since D-Day—the Douglas A26 Invader—combines almost all the best features of its predecessors.

Although most of the "hot dope" on the Invader is still secret, it can be revealed that this new medium and low altitude bomber, powered by two 2,000-horsepower Pratt-Whitney engines, carries more bombs more economically over a greater distance and can fire more guns per crew member than any other American aircraft in the war against Germany.

This week, on a mission to Germany in Charlie McGlohn's Invader, Miss Sippy, I saw a formation of A26s literally whizz in to their target, bomb, and return in a fraction of the time it would take other bombers.

McGlohn, a lieutenant from Gulfport, Miss., who did 60 missions in A20 Havocs before switching to Invaders, said "it's a dream plane."

Former A20 ground crewmen like

## 1st Div. On Go Since D-Day

WITH THE FIRST INF. DIV., Dec. 7.—This Division's part in the six months of fighting since D-Day, during which time it was out of contact with the enemy only five days, was reviewed today.

It was revealed that the First Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Clarence R. Huebner, had captured more than 3,200 prisoners from 18 Nazi divisions, had fought in the critical battles of Caumont, Marigny, Coutances, Soissons and Aachen and had entered the battle of approaches to the Roer River, called the toughest in the division's history.

The First Division has fired more than 5,000,000 rounds of .30 caliber ammunition, more than 250,000 rounds of 105mm. and more than 70,000 rounds of 155mm. ammunition for a total of more than 7,000 tons of metal. Engineers have inspected and cleared of mines 1,800 miles of road, constructed 25 bridges, removed 25 mine-fields, laid down 15,000 anti-tank mines, erected 1,000 yards of barbed wire and laid more than 8,000 miles of communications wire to its units, with whom it never lost contact.

## Personalized Plasma Service Introduced

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (ANS).—Blood donors will be permitted to label their donations and dedicate them to specific servicemen starting tomorrow, the Red Cross announced tonight.

The blood plasma labels, which will be only symbolic since the blood loses its identity in processing, were devised as a result of numerous requests by relatives and friends of servicemen, the Red Cross said.

## 10 Miles from Colmar

Ed Clark in the south reported the Seventh Army's capture of Selestat Wednesday followed a bitter, three-day battle in the streets against entrenched German infantry supported by tanks.

Seizure of the town, he said, brought Seventh Army forces within 10 miles of Colmar, last major Alsatian city held by the enemy.

# Train Tonnage To Front Lines Is Quadrupled

Brig. Gen. C. L. Burpee's Second Military Railway Service, which took over from Red Ball Express in November, has quadrupled its daily haul of war supplies to the Western Front, it was announced yesterday.

Daily hauls of 10,000 tons, considered good in September, have increased to as much as 44,883 tons. The railway unit, which has operated under fire and hazardous conditions since D-Day, now is handling supplies for the First, Third and Ninth Armies. Thousands of freight cars and locomotives assembled in England have been added to the 27,000 freight cars and 340 locomotives captured in France, Belgium and Germany.

A month after Red Ball was put into operation the railway service was able to surpass capacity of the truck route, building up an extensive network in the territory between the Seine and Loire, east of the Seine and behind the moving front.

In a recent two-week period, 80,662 soldiers were transported on 40 trains, and hospital trains made 57 trips, carrying 16,879 patients in steam-heated cars.

## Freed Areas Expected To Fill 90% of Needs

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (ANS).—The liberated peoples of Europe will be able to supply 90 percent of their own basic needs this winter, the OWI announced today.

Earlier this week President Roosevelt's report on UNRRA activities disclosed that "emergency needs in liberated areas are still being met only from military relief supplies."

## First Gains...

(Continued from Page 1)

gained two and one-half miles to enter Furstenthausen, nearest point to Saarbrucken the Third Army has yet reached.

Martin reported that 42nd Cavalry units, meanwhile, struck four miles to Forbach, which is five miles southwest of the Saar industrial city. The Third Battalion of the Fifth Division's 11th Regiment drove to and beyond the town of Warndt, seven miles south of Saarlautern, he said.

Southwest of Saarguemines, the 320th Regiment of the 35th Division pushed a mile through the Zetting Forest and occupied the town of Siltzheim, three miles south of Saarguemines, he reported. Farther south, the 328th Regiment of the 26th Division cleared Hebitzheim, while the 104th entered Etting.

Twelve miles northeast of Saarguemines, Martin's report said, the Fourth Armored Division cleared out an enemy pocket of about 30 square miles in the Forêt de Montbrann. Beyond the forest, he said, the Fourth battled German tanks for five hours, knocking out six Nazi light tanks and four me-3hums.

Ed Clark in the south reported the Seventh Army's capture of Selestat Wednesday followed a bitter, three-day battle in the streets against entrenched German infantry supported by tanks. Seizure of the town, he said, brought Seventh Army forces within 10 miles of Colmar, last major Alsatian city held by the enemy.

By Courtesy of News Syndicate.

By Milton Caniff

