

Yanks Across Moselle

Point-Plan To Govern Discharges

Army's Demobilization To Begin With End Of War in Europe

By Ben Price

Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—

The War Department laid before Congress yesterday its plan to streamline, readjust and demobilize a huge section of the Army after the defeat of Germany and both Democratic and Republican leaders said the plan was so comprehensive and satisfactory that any legislation on the subject will be unnecessary.

The plan, which the War Department said was based on suggestions

If GI Joe Can Get Out, Better Half Goes, Too

Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, Sept. 7.—The Army has taken precautions under its demobilization plans against a husband being discharged while his wife is still in the WAC.

"All female personnel of the Army whose husbands have been released will be discharged upon application," the War Department said.

of soldiers themselves, would make possible the discharge of hundreds of thousands of enlisted men—mostly from the ETO—under a "four-point system" which will determine who will get out first.

Under the system, married men who have had the most overseas combat will be discharged first—and most of the discharges will be enlisted men.

Service, Overseas Credit

This is how it will work:—
Soon after Germany surrenders, the theater commander will issue each enlisted man an "adjusted service rating card," on which will be scored the following four factors:—

- 1—Service credit, based upon the total number of months of Army service since September 16, 1940.
- 2—Overseas credit, based upon the number of months overseas.
- 3—Combat service, based upon awards to each individual of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Flying Cross, Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Purple Heart and Bronze Service Star.
- 4—Parenthood credit, which gives credit for each dependent child

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B26s Now Operating From Air Fields Here

All-out aerial bombardment of Germany was promised yesterday by Maj. Gen. Hoyt A. Vandenberg, Ninth Air Force commander, as it was announced that B26 Marauders are now operating from fields in France.

The Marauders are now within easy striking distance of the Reich, Gen. Vandenberg said. They are the first Allied bombers to operate from France since 1940.

Several months ago a flight of B26s, based in England, flew almost to the Dutch-German coast, setting a distance record.

Allies Far Past Armistice Day Line of 1918



Nazis in Flight? Hull Checking

Acts on Report Leaders Are Finding Haven In Argentina

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Reports that German war criminals had already escaped to Argentina are being checked by the State Department, Secretary of State Cordell Hull disclosed at his press conference today, Hull denounced organized sources which he said "were busy throughout the hemisphere with efforts to disseminate false information intending to disrupt amiable relations between American republics and the U.S."

French Want Equal Say

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The French provisional government will be satisfied with nothing less than full and equal representation with the U. S., Britain and Russia on any future control organization set up for Germany it was said here today. A French spokesman pointed out that the European war was nearing an end and France, being the nearest big neighbor, had the biggest stake in Germany's peaceful future. "France is still out in the cold on planning armistice terms," the spokesman said.

Swiss Reject Laval

LONDON, Sept. 7.—The Swiss government has been indirectly approached about giving Pierre Laval, one of Hitler's French henchmen, asylum from Allied justice and the Swiss reply was "entirely unfavorable," according to the London Daily Telegraph's diplomatic correspondent.

C47 Fleet Flies In Gasoline To Bugged-Down 90th Inf.

By Tom Hoge

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer.

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE, Sept. 6 (Delayed).—The men of the 90th Infantry Division threw their helmets into the air and cheered yesterday when a number of C47 transports landed at an airstrip here with thousands of gallons of gasoline.

Report Linkup Near Germany

Though reports of a linkup between Americans in northern and southern France still were unconfirmed last night, an American newscaster said the Third and Seventh Armies "have joined forces very close to the German border."

He added: "It is not permitted to name the exact point of junction, but the battered German 19th Army is apt to be caught by it roughly in the region of Belfort." Belfort is in the broad valley between the Swiss Alps and the Vosges Heights leading into Germany. Meanwhile, Mediterranean Headquarters announced U. S. troops had occupied Chalons-sur-Saône, 90 miles north of Lyons.

ANOTHER S&S IN FRANCE

GRENOBLE, France, Sept. 7.—The Stars and Stripes has begun publication of a Grenoble edition, the third to be published for troops in the Mediterranean command. The others are in Rome and Naples. The Algiers edition recently was suspended.

Firm Grip Taken on East Bank

Hodges' Tanks Push On; Stimson Doubts Long Battle in Reich

The first blows of the Battle of Germany loomed last night as front-line dispatches reported that Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third U.S. Army had established a firm bridgehead between Metz and Nancy across the Moselle River, last river barrier before the Reich itself.

Meanwhile, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson told a Washington press conference that the bulk of the German armies in western Europe had been destroyed or crippled to an extent that made them "seem inefficient to maintain a prolonged defense of Germany."

First Army Advance.

However, he added that the "war won't be won until Allied troops are in Berlin, although German forces are shrinking and our forces are growing as their advance is becoming increasingly faster. But supplies must catch up with the advancing armies before they can administer the death blow to the Nazis."

On Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' First U.S. Army front in Belgium, American armor continued its advance toward Germany along both banks of the Meuse River, meeting but light opposition. Forward elements were reported at Jodoigne on the Louvain-Namur road, representing an advance of 28 miles from Charleroi. Other advanced troops have reached Yoncq, ten miles southeast of liberated Sedan.

The First Army forced another crossing of the Meuse at Auchamps, 11 miles north of Charleville, and troops were reported pushing eastward through the Ardennes Forest, encountering small arms and mortar fire.

Brest, Le Havre Hold Out.

The American crossing of the Moselle, a tributary of the Rhine, broke a four-day lull which had existed since a light reconnaissance force outdrove the advancing units to cross into Germany itself. Stiff German rearguard actions near the river were encountered as neutral reports stated that the Nazis were hurriedly preparing their Siegfried Line defenses. The bridgehead between Metz and Nancy was about 35 miles from the German border.

The British Second Army was reported moving toward the Atlantic ports of Ostend and Zeebrugge

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Western Reich Told To Hasten War's End

Germans living in western Germany were told to stay away from defense works and to aid in hastening the end of the war in a broadcast from the German underground radio (Volkssender) yesterday.

"Prepare yourselves, the Allies are coming in strength," the broadcast said. "Heavy Allied guns are already rolling over near our borders. We, Germans living in western Germany, must cease making defense works at once or else certain death will overtake us."

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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A Pet and a Gripe

I want to report a baby owl our Tank Destroyer found two months ago. We have watched it grow from just white down to a full feathered bird; we have fed it raw beef, raw pork and milk, and now it has a 6ft. by 6ft. by 6ft. pen. Please give our pal, Pvt. Bolivar Owl, a few lines.—2nd Lt. James S. Florence.

P.S.—We are very angry about the tank destroyers being called tanks! Nearly every picture of tank destroyers is labelled TANKS!

Tsk! Tsk! Hubert!

I was ashamed when I saw the "Hubert" cartoon of the French latrine in The Stars and Stripes of August 21. It is the dirtiest and most crude cartoon I have ever seen.

Like anyone else I like nice, clean dirt, and even funny dirt, but not boring dirt. I do not think it fit for the eyes of women, including WACs, reading this paper.—T/5 William E. Roder, FID.

Leary of Lear's Invite

Re Lt. Gen. Ben Lear's statement that much of the Army now in Europe may return home via the Suez Canal and Tokyo. We who have battled through three campaigns don't feel inclined to accept that honor. After trying to outlive this war in a foxhole we will be ready to turn our equipment over to Supply and they can send it by the route indicated. Trusting this message will find the General in the best of health and not annoyed by our complaint, we are members of his Ground Forces.—S/Sgt. W. L. Shoemaker.

Film in France

The undersigned would like to know where do we get our undeveloped amateur film developed? The Army Pictorial Service has referred us to the "Local PX." Would you please give the address of our "Local PX?" Cpl. J. Andonean, Cpl. Jge M. Ryan.

(Army Exchange Service announced recently that unit exchange officers had been appointed who would accept film from GI amateur photographers for developing and printing in the event regular PXs were not accessible. Negatives and prints will be returned directly to the soldier, or, at his request, to friends or relatives in the States.)

Demobilization

Please relieve my mind and several other soldiers' who have signed up for three years and have put in their time. Are they or are they not supposed to be the first to be taken into consideration on leaving the service. Or do they have to go through the point system? We have argued the point quite frequently about it and I say the regular Joes should be the first as they did not wait but enlisted before the war. Am I right or wrong? I really think they should be first as they have fulfilled their duty of three years plus more months and some years. We would be glad to know about it as then we could settle down to normal GI life. Of course, soldiers have to argue with one another to keep going.

CPL. HUNTER. (Answer will be found on Pages 1 and 3. Right?)

Hash Marks

Help Wanted: A Holyoke, Mass., draft board turned down the plea of a young wife who asked her husband's deferment for an "extreme emergency"—she wanted to repaper the house and there was no one else to do the job.

If the job hasn't been done yet we know of an Austrian paper-hanger who, very shortly, will be ready to return to his old trade. He'll probably take the job in return for one semi-used K ration. ... providing Uncle Joe's Cossacks don't get him first.

Downed in the Dump: M. Sgt. Earl L. Stover, Phoenix, Ariz., is the only man we know who has been hit squarely on the noggin by a 155 shell—and lived to pick



up his purple heart. Rummaging at a dump recently the six striper stooped to pick up an object, was hit on the head by a 155 which dropped from a six-foot pile. Outside of a small gash the sergeant's injuries were minor. The shell was a used "empty."

And then there is the little moron who came into France a while back. The sound of the big guns twisted his syllables. After a particularly rugged fight he wanted to give his "virgin" of the fracas.

She Barely Made It: A gal pilot ferrying an Army plane down in Texas got so hot that she stripped to the waist. Suddenly, to her hor-



ror, the wind blew the garments out of the cockpit. She radioed her sad plight ahead, was met at the field by a ground crew with averted eyes and a WAC bearing a shirt.

He's Cute: "Young Robert Walker is the most appealing youngster to come to the screen in seasons," says a columnist back home. "He epitomizes what girls have in mind when they say: 'He's cute.'" Just thought you guys would like to know.

Private Breger



"Personally, I don't think it's gonna influence the Germans to surrender to us!"

The World's Best Ambassador

HERE'S one of the classic sights of this war—a Yank and a French kid on his knee—beating their gums and having a good time.

The Yank can't parlay français—and the Frenchie doesn't speak l'Américaine. But language is no barrier when men of good will get together.

This Joe is making the war pay off. He's building a good friend pour l'Amérique—and for lasting peace. As long as the kid lives, he'll never forget the Yank who bounced him on his knee, and fed him le bonbon.

That, for our money, is good diplomacy. We'd like to call it to the attention of the boys who tote tomorrow's dispatch cases and wear the wing collars and striped pants.

We don't mean they've got to bounce the world on their knees. The best bouncing they can do is to bounce the first guy who looks like a new Hitler the minute he rears his ugly puss.

The best bonbon they can feed the world is the idea of people getting along with each other—of settling things this friendly way.



THERE is nothing in warfare quite as stimulating as a good, fast pursuit of a demoralized enemy. When the pursued include Hitler's SS thugs, his swaggering Wehrmacht units and the robot-bomb baby-killers of the Calais area, trying to make their way back to the Fatherland, it is a downright pleasure.

Even in a changing situation such as this, censorship considerations prevent a minute description of units and their employment, but even the enemy knows that during the past few days some of the world's best infantry and armored troops, attached to a certain fighting corps, have made history of a high order.

One day they were on the SEINE,

the next astride the SOMME, and the next in BELGIUM. Let military observers, who point to former German sweeps through the lowlands and into France as tops in military efficiency, chew on that awhile.

It must also be considered that in this long gallop, these forces have demolished tons of German equipment, fought innumerable small battles, run over German columns who proved a nuisance on the highways, killed thousands of the enemy and taken other thousands prisoners.

That these American troops were the first to enter Belgium is a matter of no great moment, militarily, but is a source of considerable satisfaction to some of the boys who have been "often a bridesmaid but never a bride" and who have slugged it out face-to-face with the German Army of the west, harried him in his long retreat and given and taken heavy losses, only to see the juicier objectives fall like ripe plums to other outfits.

It is, in a sense, poetic justice. It will be remembered that certain Johnny-Come-Latelies who never faced the bitter, grueling, close-in-warfare of the hedgerow country, had become somewhat boastful of their prowess in cross-country marches. They stated, in a friendly way, of course, that we were sloggers incapable of such high dramatic moments as a long dash through broken enemy lines.

We have now proved that first-class troops can do three things equally well: (1) Stand toe-to-toe and destroy the Germans when they stay in there and fight; (2) outflank and outmove them when they begin a delaying-action retreat; (3) just plain slaughter them when they are on the run.

We point out these things for the benefit of those who—in a rapidly moving situation highlighted by certain military histrionics—may overlook the fact that right here in Belgium may be found some of the hardest-hittin', fastest-movin', straightest-shootin', best damned soldiers in the whole history of warfare.—By Roy D. Craft, Le Tomahawk, XIX Corps.

They aren't attached to the Army for quarters or rations but the French in a small village have become doughboy assistants. T/Sgt. Elmer Geiger, an electrician, came to the town to string telephone wires but discovered he had no support for the lines. As he was pondering what to do, out rushed a Frenchman with a ladder. Another ran up with a pole, and then both of them dug a hole, put in the post and tied up the wire for the soldier.

These three Germans were very obliging.

Passed by as U.S. troops advanced through their area, they hung white flags on their rifles and went up to an American battalion command post, saying they wanted to surrender.

Guards of the 2nd Inf. Div. saw it that their wish was granted.

YOU can power-dive a Piper Cub at 165 m.p.h. and pull out safely—once, anyway. 1/Lt. Edwin Becht, of Maywood, Ill., proved this while flying observation for artillery outside of Brest.

While on a mission Becht saw, from the corner of his eye, a square wing tip speeding his way. He dived for the deck, throttle wide open.

Becht pulled out when his New Jersey observer, Lt. Ted Barth, pounded him on the back, yelling: "Mustang! Mustang!"

When an 88 shell landed in the hedgerow near his foxhole and the concussion lifted him out and moved him two feet away, T/Sgt. Edward Nagel, of Pittsburgh, just crawled back and started all over again.

"I was sure," he said, "that lightning wouldn't strike twice in the same place, so I just went to sleep there."

Toward morning, another shell came and buried Nagel, fox-hole and all in dirt. "I just dug myself out," Nagel said, "and decided it was time to change foxholes."

Text of Army's Demobilization Plan

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Here is the text of the War Department demobilization plan after the defeat of Germany:—

The Army has adopted a plan for the readjustment of military personnel after the defeat of Germany and prior to the defeat of Japan calling for partial and orderly demobilization from its present peak strength.

When the war against Germany has ended the military might of the United States will be shifted from the European area to the Pacific area. Military requirements in the European and American areas will be drastically curtailed while tremendous increases will be essential in the Pacific.

To defeat Japan as quickly as possible and permanently the United States will have to assemble, readjust and streamline its military forces in order to apply the maximum power

Needs for Pacific

Our military requirements to achieve this end involving men, weapons, equipment and ships have been set forth by the combined chiefs of staff. These requirements are determining factors of the readjustment and demobilization plan adopted by the War Department.

Military necessity decrees that sufficient men suited to the type of warfare being waged in the Pacific must remain in service as long as they are essential. Certain units of the Army also of necessity will have to be retained in various theaters where action has ceased in order to fulfill such occupation duties as are necessary.

Other elements no longer needed in the theater in which they are assigned will be transferred to other areas, reorganized and redesignated to meet current military requirements in the theater or they will be inactivated.

Within each element of the Army thousands of individuals may become surplus to the needs of the theater or the major command in which they are serving, but more thousands will be required for further military service.

All Available Transport

The first priority in this readjustment program will be the transfer of elements from theaters no longer active to the Pacific war zone or from the United States to the Pacific war zone. All available transportation will be utilized for this tremendous undertaking.

The readjustment and demobilization plan was developed by the War Department after months of study and takes into account all of these variable factors.

Briefly, the plan for the return of non-essential soldiers to civilian life will start with the assembly in the U.S. of men declared surplus to the needs of each overseas theater and to major commands in the U.S.

From among these men, some will be designated essential and a substantial number will be designated non-essential to the new military needs of the Army and will be returned to civilian life according to certain priorities.

As an example, the commanding general of the European Theater of Operations will be informed by the War Department of the types and numbers of his units which will remain as occupation troops and the types and numbers of his units which are surplus.

Simplest Plan Unfair

The simplest plan of demobilization would have been to return these surplus units to this country and discharge their personnel intact. Such a method, however, would operate with great unfairness to many individuals who have had long and arduous service but are not assigned to one of the units declared surplus.

If only the units in Europe were considered, this basis of expediting would work unfairly to units long in the Pacific or at outpost bases in the American theater.

It would operate unfairly to men who have seen extended combat service both in Europe and the Pacific and have been returned to this country for reassignment. It would release men only recently assigned as replacements to units long in combat and would discriminate against veterans in many campaigns in units not selected for return.

Consequently, it was determined that the fairest method to effect partial demobilization would be through the selection of men as individuals rather than by units with selection governed by thoroughly impartial standards.

For the standards the War Department went to the soldiers themselves. Experts were sent into the field to obtain a cross-section of the sentiments of enlisted men. Thousands of soldiers, both in this country and overseas were interviewed to learn their views on the kind of selective process they believe should determine men to be returned first to civilian life.

Overseas—Dependency Priority

Opinions expressed by the soldiers themselves became the accepted principles of the plan. As finally worked out, the plan accepted by the War Department as best meeting the tests of justice and impartiality will allow men who have been overseas and men with dependent children to have priority of separation.

Ninety percent of the soldiers interviewed said that that is the way it should be done.

Drafters of the plan adopted an "adjusted service rating card" which will be issued to all enlisted personnel after the defeat of Germany.

The Same Card

On this card will be scored the following four factors that will determine priority of separation:

1. Service credit—based upon the total number of months of Army service since Sept. 16, 1940.

2. Overseas credit—based upon the number of months of service overseas.

3. Combat credit—based upon the first and each additional award to an individual of the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Legion of Merit, the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Soldiers Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal, the Purple Heart and Bronze Stars or battle participation stars.

4. Parenthood credit—which gives credit for each dependent child under 18 years up to the limit of three children.

The value of point credits will be announced after the cessation of hostilities in Europe. In the meantime the point values will be kept under continuous study. The total score will be used to select surplus men from theaters overseas and in the United States.

The score also will be used when a certain portion of all these surplus men will be declared non-essential and returned to civilian life.

In all cases, however, the War Department stressed that demands of military necessity for a great army of occupation in Europe and the needs of the war against Japan must first be met, and, regardless of a man's priority standing, certain types of personnel can never become eligible for discharge as long as the war against Japan continues.

As an example of how the plan will work assume that there are four infantry divisions in the European theater. One is declared surplus. Men in all four divisions are rated according to priority credits scores.

Surplus Here Goes Home

The top fourth is selected and those not essential for retention in service by reason of military necessity are designated as surplus. Men in the surplus division who are marked for retention by reason of military necessity are then shifted into active divisions. All of the men designated as surplus are shifted into surplus divisions which now will serve as a vehicle for eventually returning them to the United States.

No man in a unit that remains in service can become surplus until a qualified replacement is available. If military necessity should entail immediate transfer of a unit to the Pacific there may conceivably be no time to apply the plan to men of that unit before the emergency transfer is made. Consideration will be given these men when they arrive in the new theater.

Active units needed against the Japanese will be shipped to the Pacific. Those units required for occupation duty in Europe will be sent to their stations and surplus units will be returned to the United States as quickly as possible.

In the United States, men of these surplus units will revert to the surplus pool in the Army Ground Forces, Army Service Forces and Army Air Forces. These surplus pools will include surplus men from all overseas theaters and surplus men from continental United States. From these surplus pools, reduction of various types of Army personnel will be made.

The number to be returned to civilian life as no longer essential to overall army needs will be chosen from among those with highest priority credit scores.

It is emphasized that the rate of return of surplus men from overseas will depend upon the number of ships available. Thousands of ships will be required to supply the Pacific theater, which will have No. 1 priority on ships. All else must wait.

No Surplus in Pacific

To the Pacific will be transported millions of fighting men, millions of tons of landing barges, tanks, planes, guns, ammunition and food over longer supply lines than those to Europe. This means that most of the ships and planes that were used to supply the ETO will be needed to supply the Pacific.

The majority of ships proceeding to Europe will continue on to the Pacific, laden with troops and supplies for that distant campaign. Very few will turn around and come back to the United States; the Army, therefore, will not be able to return all surplus to the States immediately.

The process may take months. While selecting and returning of men from the ETO is taking place, a plan for readjustment and partial demobilization also will be applied in active theaters like the Southwest Pacific.

Naturally, since the Pacific will be the only active theater, there will be no surplus units of any type. Military requirements there will demand an increase rather than decrease in fighting units.

Nevertheless, troops in the Pacific area will benefit by the reduction of the Army, not as units but as individuals. Commanders in the Pacific area will be told the number and types of men who can be replaced. They then will select these men, using the same standards as apply in inactive theaters and in the United States.

These men then will be returned to the U.S. as rapidly as replacements of the same type become available and as the military situation permits.

Shipping Is Important Factor

As an example, normally there will be a great flow of men needed to build up and maintain an offensive against Japan, but say that several thousand men over and above the required number can be shipped to the Pacific each month. Then a corresponding number of men in the Pacific with highest priority credits can be declared surplus and returned to the United States, where their scores and military necessity will determine whether they are among personnel no longer essential to the Army.

Simultaneously with the selection and return of men in overseas theaters, the same selective formula will be applied among troops stationed in continental United States. Troops in the States, however, will serve as the main reservoir of replacements for overseas theaters, for, in general, their priority scores will be lower than scores of men who have served overseas and have seen combat duty.

Discharge May Be Refused

Any man who may have been declared non-essential under the plan but wishes to remain in the Army, provided he has a satisfactory record, will not be forced out of the Army if he can be usefully employed.

In the case of officers, military necessity will determine which ones are non-essential. These will be released as they can be spared.

Priority of release for members of the WAC will be determined in the same way as for the rest of the Army, but treating the corps as a separate group. However, in the case of all female personnel, those whose husbands already have been released will be discharged upon application.

The plan, as now adopted, will provide some reduction in the ground forces and

considerably less in service forces and in the air forces. Following Germany's defeat, the air forces will have to move combat groups and supporting ground units from all over the world to the Pacific areas.

Slower AAF Demobilization

Long supply lines, scattered bases, jungles, primitive country, all contribute to the importance and necessity for service forces personnel. Therefore, the reduction in its strength will be slow at first.

As replacements become available from ground forces and from new inductees, the air forces and service forces will discharge a fair share of their men proportionate with the ground forces.

Surplus individuals declared non-essential to the needs of the Army will be discharged from the services through separation centers. Five Army separation centers are already in operation and additional ones will be set up when the need develops. A total of 18 in all parts of the country is contemplated, permitting soldiers to be discharged near their homes.

The readjustment and demobilization plan applies only to the period between the defeat of Germany and the defeat of Japan. It sets forth principles and responsibilities involved during that period. Theater commanders and commanders of all other major commands of the Army will put the plan into operation in as simple a manner as possible based on those principles and responsibilities.

Troops to Be Informed

The War Department has determined that successful operation of the plan requires that troops themselves, as well as the public, be kept fully informed.

The size of the military establishment that will be needed after the defeat of Germany has been calculated with the same exactness as the size of the Army needs up to now. No soldier will be kept in military service who is not needed to fulfill these requirements—and no soldier will be released who is needed.

It must be borne in mind always that the war will not be won nor the peace enjoyed until Japan has been completely crushed.

Cooper, Bucky Get 20th Wins

NEW YORK, Sept. 7.—Mort Cooper and Bucky Walters joined the select circle of 20-game winners as the St. Louis Cardinals and Cincinnati Reds split a double header by identical 4-0 scores in the only games played in the National League. Each pitcher allowed only four hits.

In the American League the Detroit Tigers moved up to within two games of the league-leading New York Yankees by blanking the Chicago White Sox, 6-0. No other American League games were scheduled.

Joe Cronin, Coleman Get New Boston Contracts

BOSTON, Sept. 7.—Both Boston major league ball clubs have signed their pilots to new contracts, the Braves taking Bob Coleman for two more years and the Red Sox rehiring Joe Cronin for three more seasons.

The contract terms were not disclosed.

A.L. Flag Race Recalls Battle Of '22 Season

St. Louis Lost Pennant In Vital Series With Yankees

The wave of optimism which has surged through the ranks of Yankee supporters since the Bronx Bombers shoved the Browns out of first place in the American League over Labor Day has revived tales of the famous Yankee-Browns battle of 1922 when the same two clubs fought hammer and tongs to the final game of the season with the Yankees grabbing the flag by a margin of a single game.

The '22 campaign still had two weeks to go when the Yankees and Browns came together in their crucial series in St. Louis—a three-game set that proved to be the clincher since it provided the New Yorkers with a one-game edge they held until the end.

The opening game of this dramatic series drew a record St. Louis crowd of 30,000 fans and home town partisanship reached such frenzy that Whitey Witt, Yankee center fielder, was hit between the eyes with a pop bottle as he raced for a fly ball in the ninth inning. The Yanks won the first game, 2-1, with Bob Shawkey outpitching Urban Shocker.

Squares Series

A new record crowd of 31,000 jammed the park for the second game to see Hub Pruett, old nemesis of Babe Ruth, square the series with a 5-1 triumph.

Thirty-two thousand persons turned out for the finale and saw Dixie Davis hold the Yanks in check for seven innings while the Browns built up, 2-0, advantage.

In the top of the eighth Murderers Row came to life. Jumpin' Joe Dugan started the ball rolling by doubling into the overflow crowd. Wally Pipp then scratched a single off Davis' glove and Dugan scored when second baseman Marty McManus threw the ball past George Sisler at first base.

With the score 2-1 against them in the ninth the Yanks again started rolling when Wally Schang singled and took second on a passed ball. At this point Lee Fohl, manager of the Browns, yanked Davis and brought in Pruett. Mike McNally greeted Pruett with a bunt and all hands were safe when catcher Hank Severied was late trying to nail Schang coming into third. Deacon Scott then walked to load the bases. After a conference on the mound Pruett gave way to Shocker.

Winning Run Scores

Bullet Joe Bush was the first man to face Shocker and hit sharply to McManus whose throw to the plate to force Schang was wild. Severied made a sensational catch, but it was too late and the tying run was in. Witt was next and with the pop bottle incident fresh in his mind, drilled a clean single to center to send the winning run across the plate.

That was 22 years ago and it was the closest the Browns ever came to winning a pennant.

Parker Wins Singles Crown

FOREST HILLS, N.Y., Sept. 7.—Frankie Parker, 28-year-old Air Force sergeant from Milwaukee, won the National Singles Tennis Championship here by defeating Billy Talbert, of Indianapolis, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Parker's forehand drive, at one time considered the worst in big time tennis, was exceptionally good as he continually hit the baselines. Talbert was the flashier of the two, making some spectacular recoveries on Parker's placements, but he couldn't match the sergeant's accuracy.

AUBURN GETS WARRINGTON

AUBURN, Ala., Sept. 7.—Coach Carl Voyles, new mentor of the Plainsmen, has announced that Tex Warrington, 205-pound marine, has entered school and will play center this year.

Terry And The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate

By Milton Caniff



Soviet Forces Cross Danube Into Yugoslavia

Reported to Be 96 Miles From Belgrade; Reds Gain Near Warsaw

Soviet forces began crossing the Danube into Yugoslavia yesterday below newly-won Turnu-Severin. One report said they were only 96 miles from Belgrade.

Marshal Tito's Partisans may already have joined with the Red forces, and an advance of 70 miles would cut the Athens-Belgrade-Berlin railroad, last trunk line open to an estimated 25 German divisions still in the Balkans.

Meanwhile, a Polish report said there was heavy fighting in the center of Warsaw, while Russian forces continued to advance through the marshes and streams of the Narew River sector to the north in a joint threat to Warsaw and East Prussia.

Battle for Po Gateway

German forces were retreating in the western and central sectors of the Italian front yesterday, but at the eastern end of the Gothic Line the crack First Panzer Paratroop Division fought bitterly to hold Rimini, Adriatic gateway to the Po Valley.

British Eighth Army troops entered Riccione, five miles down the coast from Rimini. In the central sector, Americans and Italian patriots entered Prato, nine miles northwest of Florence, while in the west the Fifth Army was consolidating the capture of Lucca.

Japs Fear Home Invasion

Japan must be prepared for Allied attempts to land on Japanese soil, Premier Gen. Koiso told a special session of the Tokyo Diet yesterday, adding that "Japan is in the midst of a grave situation in which the rise or fall of the empire is at stake."

Meanwhile, Southeast Asia Command reported that 14th Army troops on the Tiddim Road in Burma were battling strong Jap rear-guards after a four-mile advance.

Kimmel's Sub Lost

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The 1,500-ton submarine Rabalo, commanded by Lt. Cmdr. Manning Kimmel, son of Rear Adm. Husband E. Kimmel, has been lost in action, the Navy Department announced today. Adm. Kimmel commanded U.S. naval forces in the Pacific at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Economy Hit Hard in France

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The Germans almost milked France dry and in the process did serious harm to her industry, agriculture and people, according to Leo T. Crowley, foreign economic administrator.

Of all the occupied countries, France was most important to Germany as a source of manpower, raw materials and industrial products, Crowley said, pointing out that at the beginning of 1944 there were 2,000,000 Frenchmen working in the Reich.

French iron ore represented more than 30 percent of the total supply available to Germany in Europe, and French bauxite was more than 40 percent of the available supply, he added.

8 More Soft-Coal Mines Are Taken Over by U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The government took over eight more bituminous coal mines in the East today and indicated it would keep on seizing them as fast as they are shut down by spreading strikes of supervisory employees.

The United Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Employees Union newly organized by the United Mine Workers, has been calling strikers as part of its fight to be recognized as a bargaining agency.

Battlefield of 1917 Lies Ahead



Doughboys with American troops making a lightning thrust across the famous battlefields of World War I, pause on a hill overlooking Chateau-Thierry.

Engineers Defy Nazi Fire, Bridge the Meuse in a Night

By Bob Reuben
Reuter Correspondent.

NAMUR, Belgium, Sept. 7.—Enemy tanks lurked ominously under trees along the far bank of the River Meuse last night as American forces drew up to lunge anew at German forces which had destroyed every bridge across the river in their retreat.

The population retired while rifle fire still rattled through Namur's outskirts. German artillery was dropping shells, and the American troops bedded down on a river they apparently could not cross.

This morning the Belgians packed the river banks in amazement to see American tanks roaring across on a 560-foot pontoon bridge erected during the night by a crack engineering battalion of this division.

Nazi Machine-Guns Fire

It was almost pitch black last night when I slipped down to the river bank—still under command of German machine-gun fire from the opposite shore—and watched men operating huge twelve-ton trucks, drawing bulldozers across the river with a power launch, inflating giant pontoon bridges, constructing bridge approaches—all to be completed by dawn.

It was no new experience for these engineering soldiers. They had bridged and crossed the Seine south of Paris under cover of darkness. They had chased SS Panzer troops and reconstructed bridges like lightning. Crack Storm Troop engineers exploded demolitions behind retreating Nazis—a duel of skill and speed between the best engineers of the two armies.

They fought as infantry when the going got tough; they worked as engineers when German mortars were pounding their area.

Teamwork—The Answer

Teamwork is the answer. I watched the blurred figures working furiously in darkness, one team inflating pontoons, saddle teams placing braces on the pontoons as fast as they were dropped in the water by cranes, teams floating on rafts in the water to mount treadways on the saddles, construction teams on the slowly-growing bridge joining floats and treadways as they came together in the water, abutment teams with their bulldozers building approaches on both sides of the river.

Slowly the pontoon bridge began to grow out into the river. By morning it was completed.

"We do as much fighting as engineering," said Engineer Lt. W. E. Frost, of Dallas, Tex. "Cretimes we were used as infantry in the hot spots, and sometimes we just ran into fights while we were on our way to do a job."

Three men were injured and one killed by artillery, while the battalion was throwing up a bridge south of Hamby in France. Refusing to slacken speed, the unit finished the job in an hour. Yesterday, one engineering officer was shot from the opposite bank.

Lt. Col. L. G. Foster, of Nashville, Tenn., is construction boss of this famous outfit, which flies five battle streamers in its colors for major offensives in 1918.

Win Foothold Over Moselle

(Continued from Page 1)

after capturing the inland harbor of Ghent, which lies northwest of freed Brussels in Belgium. Further down the Channel coast, Canadian troops were reported fighting in the streets of Calais. The capture of Armentières, famous among American troops in World War I, by British troops was announced yesterday.

The German garrisons at the Atlantic ports of Brest and Le Havre continued to hold out yesterday despite continued assaults. More than 2,500 tons of bombs have been hurled on Brest by USAAF bombers in three days. RAF Lancasters dropped more than 1,500 tons of bombs on Le Havre Wednesday night after the Germans had rejected a "second and last" ultimatum to surrender.

Neutral reports from Berlin yesterday said that Field Marshal Model had replaced Von Kluge as German commander in the west. No mention of Von Kluge's fate was made, although he was last reported by Swiss sources to have been implicated in the attempt on Hitler's life and to have committed suicide following its failure.

New Invention Speeds Bad-Weather Landings

NEW YORK, Sept. 7.—Rapid landing of planes during adverse weather conditions has been made possible by a new invention by Capt. S.P. Saint, American Airlines pilot.

Five planes landed in 20 minutes in a test of the invention at LaGuardia Field here. The average is five planes an hour, airport officials said.

Capt. Saint, who calls the instrument an "approach computer," said it operates on the principle of a slide rule and greatly increases the efficiency of computing time distances and wind factors.

Points to Rule Army 'Demob'

(Continued from Page 1)

under 18 years, up to the limit of three children.

The value of the points will not be announced until after the cessation of hostilities in Europe, but some official Army quarters have said that overseas credit will get one point for each month, service credit will get one point for each month, each combat credit will be worth five points, while each dependent child up to three will give the soldier eight points.

If everything goes according to plan, individuals with the most points will return home first.

Most to Be Enlisted Men

Maj. Gen. William Tompkins, director of demobilization plans, declined to disclose how many soldiers would be discharged under the point system, but Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service chief and a member of Gen. Tompkins' board, said recently that between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 men would be discharged after Germany's defeat.

The plan will initially provide the biggest release of soldiers in the ground forces, with discharges from the service and air forces considerably lower.

Most of the discharges will be enlisted men. In the case of officers, military necessity will determine who is non-essential. Officers will be released only as they can be spared.

Men who have enough points to be discharged, but who prefer to remain in the Army, may stay in the service provided their records are satisfactory and can be usefully employed.

This is the way the demobilization plan can be expected to work: Assume that there are four infantry divisions in the ETO. One of these divisions is unnecessary for fighting in the Pacific or for occupational police work in Europe.

Return to U.S.

On the basis of the credit cards and the nature of their work, men will be transferred from all four divisions to "surplus divisions." The remaining men will be shifted to outfits earmarked for retention in Europe or transfer to the Pacific. Men in the surplus divisions will be returned to the United States as soon as ships become available.

When the surplus men arrive in the States they will be shipped directly to surplus pools of the ground, air and service forces. From there they will be sent to separation centers nearest their homes, the men with the most credit points leaving first.

REDS DECORATE TITO

MOSCOW, Sept. 6.—Marshal Tito, commander of the Yugoslav army, has been decorated with the Order of Survivor First Class.

U.S. Can Have A Peace Boom, Green Asserts

Co-operation Will Do It, He Insists, But Warns Of Some Reverses

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 7 (AP).—With labor, management and government co-operating the war's end can signal the start of the greatest prosperity boom in the nation's history, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, predicted last night.

He cautioned, however, that labor's "enemies at home" must be overcome and that the nation must be prepared for temporary reverses and unemployment in the transition period from war-time to peacetime economy.

"The loss period will come between the time war contracts are canceled and industry is able to complete its reconversion to peace production," he said.

Speaking to shipworkers in their Labor Day lunch hour, Green said: "Obviously, the national interest demands that this transitional process be done in as short a time as possible and with the least suffering to demobilized servicemen and unemployed war workers."

SEEK ALASKAN OIL

POINT BARROW, Alaska, Sept. 7 (U.P.).—American naval geologists and Seabees are preparing for test drilling operations in what may be one of the world's greatest oil fields, discovered inside the Arctic circle at the northernmost tip of Alaska. Oil seeps, covering an estimated 300,000 square miles east of Cape Simpson, were charted by a geological survey party.

INMATES FIND WORK

MARQUETTE, Mich., Sept. 7.—Four inmates of the county jail have been slipping out of their cells, making burglary expeditions into the city and lugging the loot back to their cells without being discovered. The sheriff is trying to find out where they got hacksaws to cut through a heavy screen and one bar.

243,800 PWs IN U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The War Department announced today that 243,800 prisoners of war now were held within the U.S. They include 192,846 Germans, 50,272 Italians and 730 Japanese stationed at 125 base and 243 branch camps in all sections of the country.

London Robot Raids 'Over'

LONDON, Sept. 7.—The robot battle of London is over "except possibly for a few last parting shots," Duncan Sandys, chairman of the committee for countering flying bombs, told a press conference here today.

Sandys said the fly-bombs had been beaten by capture of most of the launching sites in northern France by Allied troops.

Revealing that 92 percent of all fatalities had been in the London area, Sandys expressed the British government's thanks to Americans who "have thrown themselves into the job of beating the bombs with just as much determination and enthusiasm as if New York or Washington had been victims of the attacks."

People 1st, Profits 2nd In Conversion—Truman

DETROIT, Sept. 7.—Vice-Presidential nominee Harry S. Truman promised labor yesterday that the Democratic Party would "put human welfare first and profits second" in converting America's war plants to peacetime production.

The Missouri senator said the Democrats would strive to increase "basic wages" by keeping plants in action and would avoid mistakes of the last post-war period when he said, the government sold war plants "at a pittance."