

U.S. Army Signal Corps photo While the fighting goes on in Metz, the first pictures out of the old fortress city in eastern France show members of the Fifth Infantry Division as they inched their way into the town. Top left, doughs smash in a front door to clear out enemy stragglers. Another Joe, (top right) looks over a German 20mm. gun blasted to pieces by American 60mm. mortar fire. Infantrymen crouch behind a wall (bottom), where they were pinned down by German 20mm. gunfire.

760 Bombers **Hit Oil Plants**

Heavy bomber blows at Nazi fuel production, halted Armistice Day, began again yesterday with a double punch from 160 Eighth Air Force Fortresses, smashing with-out loss at the Scholven-Buer synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen, and 600 Italy-based 15th Air Force heavies bombing unspecified oil plants in Upper Silesia.

Many fighters of the 700-plus escort to the Eighth bomber forma tions, which also attacked Munster rail yards, strafed and bombed objectives in the Coblenz, Wiesbaden, and Bonn areas, USSTAF

By Earl Mazo Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

In Path of Fifth and 95th

Nazis Threw All They Had

About the only obstacle the Germans didn't throw into the path of the Metz attackers was an ocean, and flood waters from the Moselle almost produced that. Americans pushing into the fortress city had to face rivers, barbed wire, enemy artillery of every size (including depressed flak

guns), trees across roads, snow, mud, mines, booby traps and any thing else the Nazi military mind Metz GIs Bag could think up.

Several members of the Ger- An SS General

without losing a man.

After battering the dug-in Nazis for two days, the infantrymen jumped off at 1800 hours last night and by midnight advanced 1,000 yards. They passed through Germans in concrete pillboxes and field fortifications and today they mopped them up at leisure. Col. Robert R. Clark, of St. Joseph,

Mo., battalion commander. His attack was preceded by an assault on Hill 287, which dominates the entire area and which has been compared to famous Hill 609 in Tunisia.

Storm Vital Hill

The battalion, led by Lt. Col. Leon Rouge, Los Angeles, and backed by tanks commanded by Lt. Col. John A. White, stormed the

hill yesterday. With Hill 287 occupied the cannon company of Capt. Manuell Christal. of San Francisco, held the Germans in position and prevented them from mining the area At dusk. "B" Company, under Capt. Charles Glotzbach, of Kansas, moved forward.

Later "A" Company, under 1/Lt.

French **Rip Into** Belfort

Metz was falling last night to U.S. Third Army infantry, while in the south the reborn French Army reached the Rhine after smashing 30 miles in two days through the Belfort gap and into the fortified

Metz ceased last night, but sporadic fighting and sniping continued in the city, which is officially considered three-quarters captured, Stars and Stripes Correspondent Earl

Mazo said that E Company of the Fifth Division's Tenth Regiment, rounding up Germans on the outskirts of the city, took General Anton Dunckern, Storm Troop Commander of all Lorraine and the Saar. The German commandant of the city also was captured, Mazo

Holland to the Swiss frontier, the German line was bending before

the push of six Allied armies. North of Lt. Gen. George Patton's left flank. where Tenth Armored

Fifth, 95th—and Metz

An error in transcription of a cabled story by Staff Writer Earl Mazo telling of the taking of Metz listed the 95th Division but failed to mention the Fifth Division in The Stars and Stripes Monday. As Maro said in his story, it was the "blood and guts of the Fifth and 95th Divi-sions" that won at Metz.

Division units neared the German border already crossed by the slashing Third Cavalry, Lt. Gen. Court-ney H. Hodges' U.S. First Army units stood astride the Adolph Hitler Reichsautobahn (super-highway) from Aachen to Cologne.

The Stars and Stripes correspon-dent G. K. Hodenfield reported from Germany that First Army units gained along the entire front and infantry moved into the southern and western edges of Esch-

weiler, east of Aachen.

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THE STARS AND STRIPES

Tuesday, Nov. 21, 1944

OFFLIMITS



X Marks the Spot

I concur with most of the sentiments expressed under "Does the Shoe Fit?" and "Are You a Parochial Xenophobe?" in the Oct. 11 S & S. Possibly the GIs who show extremely bad manners toward the peoples whose land they are in are the minority. . . a most conspicuous lot. I fear the English, French, Belgians, etc., may think that all Americans are that way.

If we could disregard the question of manners and morals, there is still a very serious practical problem involved. For our future peace the good will of the people of other nations is priceless. With blood and materials we won that good will as liberators. Bad behavior of individuals can lose much of that good will.

The Parochial Xenophobe, or dislike for foreigners, problem is related to the bad manners problem -both in origin and in effect. Bad manners are partly a result of early training, but both are promoted by lack of understanding of other peoples' ways and why we fight.

In effect, bad manners may cost us the good will of others and the dislike for foreigners may cause us to let petty differences obscure the fundamentals that we have in common-the things which, at a dangerously late date, caused us to join with Britain and the others against Germany and Japan. Had we not allowed the petty differences to so long confuse us, we might have checked the aggressors earlier and easier.

Extremely opinionated statements about our allies are repeated until they are accepted as proven facts. Soldiers who know better should use every opportunity to set things straight.

An organized attack on the problem is needed before men are discharged. The effort would have been less and the results better if more had been done earlier.-Pvt. U. K. B., QM.

I'm forced to disagree with your editorial as to whether or not the Americans will apparently hate the foreigners. I and many more Americans don't hate the foreigners because we really feel as human beings among the foreigners. They treat us as humans should be treated. They are fair, rational and sociable beings, except for Hitler. and his gang.

We colored Americans like the foreigners and get along with them in every respect. There are no quarrels and segregation among us. We work together in harmony as comrades should in peace and war. Let's not create a dislike taste for the foreigners. They are humans and as all races have their own customs.-"The Deprivileged." * *

* Safety Valve?

I am one of the old FBI guys that spent 29 months overseas in Iceland, seven in England and two in France.

speaking only for myself, but for all the rest of the FBL Well, I feel a little better now that I have blown off a little steam, but I still have a lot left. I'll save that for the next boat I miss!—Pvt. J. Welchel, Engr. (Avn) Bn.

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Purple Heart Aches

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Not long ago we Medics had occasion to pick up survivors of a like to look ahead. truck and jeep accident. One man in the jeep was killed. Two in the truck were injured. These two men received the Purple Heart. Their citations read: "For wounds received in action against the enemy." What's this, the Civil War? Since when is the American Army fight-

ing the American Army? And if you can get the Purple Heart and five points towards home for spraining a finger. . .- Pvt. J. O. M. * *

Shanghied

We read with interest both Pvt. Malin's letter and General Gerhardt's, recently printed in The S & S.

We have deep admiration for the general's challenge to A1 men in 4F outfits. In fact, it did our hearts good to know that there are officers over us who feel as we do.

We would like to see if there is a man like the general in the paratroop infantry who will challenge us! We are in perfect health and have had our hearts set on the paratroops ever since we were inducted. We have tried through channels only to get SHANGHIED to our present outfit. - Pvts. John Parente, William C. Harris Jr., Chas. Striper, QM.

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* Film SNAFU

I have never before felt the urge to write to a newspaper editor to express my pet gripe, but having noticed the quick action that has often resulted from such an expression in your column. I am prompted to do so in this instance. Early in September the PX advertised that they would develop and print films, so I sent them off. Over a month and a half has elapsed without any reply. I wonder whether the faces of my friends are regarded as secret weapons that cannot be divulged or whether the photographic service simply is not operating.—Maj. F. S., QMC.

(Army Exchange Service states that film is being sent within three weeks of its receipt. The work is being done by a large commercial firm here. You sent your film before these arrangements were made and it must have been sent to Lon- her favorite." don for processing.-Ed.)

Hash Marks Famous last words: "Lend me 500 francs and you will get the whole thousand back payday."

Shortage Note. Bennie Fields, the Minstrel Man, sez, "The next time you're in the dump, try and find a tire for me." . . .

GI Philosophy. Fun is like life insurance—the older you are the more it costs.

Signs of the Times. And then there was the man who invented a crystal eight-ball for people who

. . . Fun on the Home Front. "Dinner's ready, dear," . a Montana woman called to her husband who



was repairing the roof. Hubby responded rapidly. He fell through the roof and ceiling, landing in his regular place at the dining-room table.

Afterthought. Some pin-up girls are neat little packages-others are just barracks bags.

Fun in the Forces. A WAC cap-tain stepped into an office to make a phone call. As usual, the connec-tions were extremely poor—well, you know what we mean. This prompted the captain to make some colorful comments about phone service on the Continent. At the height of her tirade a meekmannered T/5 (male) chided her, "Careful, ma'am, there are gents present.

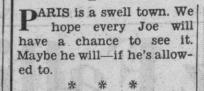
Then there was the woman who wanted a divorce merely because every time she sat on her husband's lap he started dictating letters.

This one comes from Sicily. Sicilians keep a close eye on their daughters and a GI calling for a gal to take to a dance found he was expected to escort her mama and four aunts a well. "What's the big idea?" he asked. His girl friend cooed sweetly, "Americans are trustworthy-five chaperones are enough."

The Infantry is still the Queen of Battle. A GI on ski maneuvers in the Rockies, reporting to his CP on the walkie-talkie, was surprised to hear a strange voice cut in: "This is a B17 at 5,000 feet calling its base. Get off the air."

"This is the infantry at 10,000 feet," retorted the doughbo. "Get the hell up where you belong."

Overheard. "She prefers the classics—Moonlight Sinatra being J. C. W.



An Editorial -

Keep 'Off Limits' Off

Army authorities are making plans to throw the city's gates wide open as soon as facilities and operations permit. But there's one guy who won't allow it. A joker who, if he has his way, will shut Paris tighter than King Tut's tomb.

* * He's the bad boy in every outfit. The one stinker in the company who gets likkered up and goes crazy as a goat. He's the rotten apple in the barrel, who spoils things for everyone else.

*

* ***

100 men coming to Paris for all. right now are strictly on the ball. They're a credit to his own buddies, he'll tack their outfits, the Army and an "off limits" sign on the the nation. But the one Eiffel Tower.

Ninety-nine out of every eight-ball can ruin the deal

Unless he's policed up by



Bored No Longer

An 80th Division medical officer, Capt. Harold L. Fruitman, of San Francisco, Calif., was bored with his job of division sanitation officer, so he took off for the front. When he reached a company CP, Fruitman heard that one member of a patrol had not returned. Taking two French volunteers as stretcher bearers, and 'waving a white flag, he walked toward the German lines. He spotted the wounded soldier, Pfc Charles J. Thompson, and ten German snipers at the same time. The snipers approached him and Fruitman handed their leader the white flag to hold. while he attended the wounded sol-

During the return trip they were pinned down by artillery fire. Fruitman was wounded in the hand. His brief sortie from sanitation resulted in his gaining the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Reunion in Hospital

The stretcher bearers were about to lift a wounded officer onto a hospital cot. "We're sorry, but this bed is reserved for Lt. Letendre," said a second pair of medics who also had a wounded man on a stretcher. "This is Lt. Letendre," the first pair insisted.

And then both wounded Yanks raised their heads to look at each other. They were

ammo, food, medical supplies and personnel through the inundated lowlands. At some points the "tractor navy" had to navigate shallow water for more than half-a-mile.

Commodore of the fleet was M/Sgt. Edward A. Ernst, of Cresco, Iowa, who said that his "skippers" christened their "navy tracks" after their home States.

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Letdown

The mortar men of a Second Inf. Div. company had one unexpended round left after the division took Hill 192 in the heights west of St. Lo. They saved that one round through the Normandy break-through, not even firing it in the Brest campaign.

When they entered Belgium they took the precious round out and



rubbed their hands. With great ceremony the sights of the mortar were set while onlookers crowded about. The assistant gunner dropped the shell in and off it went. Everyone strained to hear the ensuing explosion. But no sound came. It was a dud.



For the second time in the last two months, I have stood back and watched some of my old pals go home. Some didn't have as much service overseas as myself, our headquarters says that those who are court-martialed since coming to the ETO are just out of luck. I was court-martialed for speeding in a GI truck, for which I was fined 15 bucks and given one month restriction. Should they hold me back for a little thing like that, which happened almost a year ago? Why should I pay for a crime

twice? It wasn't so bad to see the first bunch go, but when the second bunch left, well, brother, that did it. I am not

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brothers-Lts. Milton A. and Douglas Letendre.

茶 茶 **Curiosity Saves the Day**

A Second Division Company moved into a German house which had just been vacated by another U.S. unit. One of the men noticed a strange object, about eight inches long, five inches in diameter, and tapered like a bazooka shell. The CO, Capt. Ralph C. Winstead, of Semora, N.C., figured it couldn't be much of anything or the Yanks who had been living there would have removed it. Out of curiosity, he picked it up and noticed that the pin had been re-moved. Quicker than you can say Purple Heart," he heaved it through the door. The blast shook the building, but no one was injured.

* 90th's 'Naval Unit'

The 90th Division now has a "Naval Unit." When the Moselle River overflowed its banks and was slowing the crossing of the 90th, the Field Artillery launched its fleet.

They were M5 tractors which hauled bridging materials, guns,

* ImPROper Remark? In the scramble of setting up headquarters in a newly-liberated French town, Public Re-

lations Officer 1/Lt. Bernard Didinsky, of the 80th Division, managed to be among the first to get desk space in a building and to nail up his shingle on the door, "Division PRO." In a few minutes a French major dashed into the office and remarked: "Ah, zee Americans are so efficient. Zee town is scarcely in our hands, and already zay have zee PRO Sta-tion!"

* * * **Bingo**—And How!

A lengthy teletype message from higher headquarters told an air depot group's special service officer to pick up some supplies. A weapons carrier would be needed to carry the equipment, the message said. The officer returned from a 160mile trip with his load—two sets of dominoes, two packs of playing cards and two bingo sets.

Tuesday, Nov. 21, 1944

THE STARS AND STRIPES

SPORTS

Once Over Lightly

BRITISH drama critics, who B hesitate before lauding even Shakespeare, apparently intend an invasion into the realm of sports. If not an invasion, perhaps it's just a commando raid, bu that doesn't make the target—big, strong, honest bruisers of the wrestling profession -any happier.

The grunt 'n' groan artists, whose timing in the ring is more precise than a zany Marx Brothers movie, suddenly are being lambasted by the stald British press. Some quarters have gone so far as to campaign for legislation outlawing the groaners. Tha: would be a tragedy because there's nothing funnier than a professional wrestling match

HOWEVER, London papers start-ed beating their gums this weekend to abolish "all-in" wrestling, whatever that means. Perhaps it means that the spectators get so wrought up they are "all-in" before the evening ends. It certainly couldn't pertain to the contestants. unless wrestling has been revamped since Pearl Harbor.

One paper declared, "It is in the cards that all-in wrestling, the most fantastic, stupid and non-sporting sport to insult us (the British), will be officially banished ... It is a degrading and unhealthy form of entertainment."

So much anti-wrestling propaganda has been stirred up by crusading factions that the governing board will convene today to debate whether it "would be for the national welfare to abolish wrestling on Jan. 1."

TOE-TWISTING officials in the land of mild and bitter will be chagrined to learn, from no less an authority than a London newspaper, that "the plain truth is, wrestling sets out to attract the sadist by an exhibition of pseudobarbarism, and the only thing to be pleaded in its favor is that everyone knows it's a fake."

We'll admit that wrestling and cricket are not in the same league. But you'll have to take it from there. Anglo-American friendship must be preserved.

* * *

SHORT SHOTS : Pfc Vincent Utz, **D** of Bridgeport, Conn., who re-cently was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on the Continent, is the same fellow who starred as fullback on the strong 1939 Rutgers eleven. Utz is in a paratroop outfit ... Army classifi-cation scores again. T/Sgt. Tony Kramer, of Cincinnati, was a professional middleweight boxer before induction. Now he's baking bread and cake for GIs in France. 1/Lt. Ralph Kiefer, who was killed on a bombing mission over Germany, was a brother of Adolph, the world's backstroke swimming champion. As a prepster, Ralph won the Illinois State 100-yard free-style event.

Melville Navy Team Repeats Over Holy Cross

WORCESTER, Mass., Nov. 20. -

Eagles Tip 'Skins; Green Bay Loses Field Day in the Bastille

By Gene Graff Baugh & Co. **Suffer Initial** Setback, 37-7

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 .- The Philadelphia Eagles, their T-formation clicking with precision, pounded the Washington Redskins, 37-7, before 35,000 fans here yesterday to jump over the Redskins and New York Giants into the National Football League eastern division lead

The Eagles discovered how to stop Sammy Baugh and Frank Filchock at the same time, something no other club has been able to do all season. After Wilbur Moore caught a pass from Filchock on the second play of the game and raced 35 yards to score, the 'Skins didn't have a chance. Speedy Steve Van Buren tied

the score with a neat 20-yard dash through the right side of the line. Roy Zimmerman, who kicked a field goal and four extra points, then ignited another touchdown drive with a 35-yard toss to Van Buren, after which Mel Bleeker knifed over from the four. Just before the intermission, Jack

Hinkle intercepted Baugh's pass and raced 40 yards to score. Zimmerman passed to Don McDonald for another counter in the third quarter, and Ernie Steele rang the bell for the fifth time on a 21-yard junket around end. Statistics:

'SKINS EAGLES

 11st
 Downs.
 10

 Yards Gained. rushing
 21

 Passes Attempted.
 38

 Passes Completed.
 24

 Yards Gained, passing
 266

 Penalties
 26

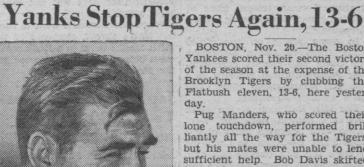
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Rams Beat Pitt-Cards

CHICAGO, Nov. 20 .- The Cleveland Rams climbed into a second place tie with the Bears and Lions by trouncing the combined Pitt-Cards, 33-6, ! ere yesterday before a slim crowd of 3,000 customers.

Led ky Lou Zontini, former Notre Dame ace, the Rams scored in every period. Zontini scored one touchdown himself, set up_two others and booted three conversions. The Pitt-Cards tallied on a pass from Johnny Grigas to Tony Bova in the third quarter. Statistics:

P-C RAMS First Downs.. 135



BOSTON, Nov. 20 .- The Boston Yankees scored their second victory of the season at the expense of the Brooklyn Tigers by clubbing the Flatbush eleven, 13-6, here yesterday

Four Ram 'Blocks'

Still Play Football

ranks

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—Four of Fordham's famed "Seven Blocks of Granite" still are play-

ing football, all in professional

Ed Franco is with the Boston Yanks, Alex Wojciechowicz with

the Detroit Lions, Al Barbartsky

with the Chicago Bears and Harry Jacunski with the Green Bay Packers.

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Nov. 20. -

Outplayed most of the way, the

Fourth AAF Fliers of March Field

defeated San Diego Naval Training

Center, 7-0, here yesterday. The

lone touchdown was scored in the

second period when Leo Cantor, former UCLA fullback, plunged over

from the one-yard line

March Field Wins

Pug Manders, who scored their lone touchdown, performed bril- Red Wings scored three goals in liantly all the way for the Tigers. but his mates were unable to lend nose out the Boston Bruins 4-3, in sufficient help. Bob Davis skirted



Two participants in the obstacle race come out of it with their faces covered with flour in the 31st annual track and field meet at San Quentin Prison. There was no pole vault or cross-country competition.

TorontoRallies To Edge Hawks

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.-Railying for three goals in the second period, the Toronto Maple Leafs defeated the Chicago Blackhawks, 4-3, last night. Babe Pratt led the Leafs with two goals, his first breaking a 2-2 tie in the second period and his last clinching the game in the final

bert in the first period, but Red Hamilton and Lorne Carr tied it in the second. After Pratt's first goal, Bill Mosienko knotted the score again a minute later, but Pratt feinted Goalle Mike Karakas out of the net for the decisive tally.

Canadiens Top Rangers NEW YORK, Nov. 20 - The Rangers were hot for two periods last night, but the Montreal Canadiens got hotter and scored five goals in the last period to beat the New Yorkers, 6-2. Dutch Hiller and Chuck Scherza scored Ranger goals in the first and Maurice Richard got one for the Canadiens in the second.

Detroit Nips Boston DETROIT, Nov. 20.—The Detroit the first period and went on to a game marked by only two penal-

Pack Clinches Western Flag **Despite Upset**

Page 3

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.-The Green Bay Packers clinched the western division title of the National Football League, despite a stunning 24-0 defeat absorbed at the hands of the New York Hants before 56,-481 fans yesterday.

The Pack was able to back into the championship because the Chi-cago Bears, last remaining challenger, stumbled against the Detroit Lions. By winning, the Giants moved into a second-place deadlock with the Washington Redskins in the eastern division.

Livingston Sets Pace

Howie Livingston, playing his first pro season, starred for the Giants, leading the way in plays that bottled up Don Hutson and breaking up other Packer threats. He also scored the first touchdown, intercepting Irv Comp's pass on the 35 and running to the payoff stripe.

Arnie Herber's long pitch to Frank Liebel accounted for the New Yorkers a 14-0 lead at the half. Ken Strong increased the margin early in the third quarter when he split the uprights with a 15-yard field goal after a long drive had bogged down. Livingston, who tops the league

in interceptions, snatched another Green Bay heave just before the third period ended and ran it back 32 yards to the Packer eight. Bill Paschal smashed over in four thrusts.

Statistics:		
GIA	NTS	PACKER
First Downs	9	18
Yards Gained, rushing	221	131
Passes Attempted	6	34
Passes Completed	1	14
Yards Gained, passing	36	152
Penalties	67	38

The Hawks took a 2-0 lead on goals by Clint Smith and Earl Sie-Champs, 41-21

DETROIT. Nov. 20. - Flatfoot Frankie Sinkwich may be 4F on military rosters, but he definitely was 1A on the football field yesterday as he paraded the Detroit Lions to a 41-21 triumph over the defending champion Chicago Bears, handing the bracket crown to the Green Bay Packers.

Sinkwich connected with four touchdown passes, completing seven of 19 throws for 170 yards. Sid Luckman of the Bears, meanwhile, hit his target with 11 of 17 for 143 yards and his club's three touchdowns

Statistics:		
	BEARS	LIONS
First Downs	19	10
Yards Gained, rushin	ng 147	154
Passes Attempted	23	20
Passes Completed		7
Yards Gained, passin	ig 167	170
Penalties	75 -	-25

football team defeated Holy Cross for the second time this season, nosing out the Crusaders, 13-12, yes- terday in a game featured by long touchdown runs. FOOTBALL SCORES SUNDAY'S GAMES Melville Naval 13, Holy Cross 12.	Pug Manders Mates Set Him Down	down after Augie Lie had pounced on a fumble in the first period, and the winning marker came in the fourth period on a 24-yard pass from George Cafege to Keith Ran- spot. TIGERS YANKS First Downs	lett, Don Grosso and Joe Carveth scored for the Wings. Bill Jennings, Ken Smith and Armand Gardreault scored for the Bruins. Hockey Standings W L T Pts G OG Toronto 8 2 0 16 48 33 Montreal 7 2 0 14 37 22 Detroit 5 3 1 11 41 26 Boston 2 5 1 5 29 41 New York. I 4 3 5 24 41 Chicago 1 7 0 2 32 49	EASTERN DIVISION W L T P4s OP Philadelphia 5 0 2 200 96 New York 5 1 1 152 62 Washington 5 1 1 142 126 Boston 2 6 0 88 181 Brooklyn 0 8 0 69 125 WESTERN DIVISION W L T Pts OP Green Bay 7 2 0 203 121 Chicago Bears 4 3 1 152 138 Detroit 4 3 1 152 139 Clevelad 4 3 1 161 172 Pitt-Cards 0 8 0 81 244
March Field 7, San Diego Saval 0. St. Mary's Pre-Flight 3, Fleet City 0. Georgia Pre-Flight 30, Daniel Field 0. Dird AAF 41, Maxwell Field 7. Camp Lee 28, Fort Monroe 13. Description Provided 10 (1997) Description Provided 10 (1997) March 41 March 42 March 44 March 44 March 44 March 44 March 44 March 44 March 45 March 44 March 45 March	DELLY-GAX SHUN O'TH' CREAM O'DOGPATCH GALHOOD AIMS T'DISCUSS WAYS AN' MEANS O' SNAGGLIN' THOSE HATEFUL HAPPY BACHELORS, COME SADIE HAWKINS SN	EV'RY SNIVELLIN' CALS (CALS	LATER	By AI Capp

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TSU:

Vinson Bars Present Rise In U.S. Wages

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 (ANS) -Labor's hopes of an immediate general upward revision of the Little Steel formula limiting wage increases suffered a setback last night when Fred M. Vinson, economic stabilization director, called for continuation of the present wage

and price policies. In a statement endorsing the recent report of William H. Davis, chairman of the War Labor Board, Vinson hinted that any general wage increase authorization must wait until Germany is beaten.

Davis had reported that the cost of living rose 30 percent between Jan. 1, 1941, and Sept. 15, 1944, and Vinson said this finding was supported "by the overwhelming weight of impartial and expert evidence."

Labor leaders have challenged these figures as too low, contending that the living cost rise had been 44 percent.

Firemen Burn Infected House

CINCINNATI, Nov. 20 (ANS) .-Firemen helped burn a five-room house in nearby Glendale yesterday. The tenant, who is in the hospital, tires. and four of his children have tuberculosis. Dr. E. H. Schoenling, county health commissioner, said he obtained permission to have the building destroyed because "it was so full of germs that burning is the only way to protect the public." Glendale will pay the owner \$700.

GIs to Get Free Turkey

NEWARK, N.J., Nov. 20.-Sam Teiger announced today that no sivilians nor Army officers will be allowed in his restaurant on Thanksgiving Day. But he will serve a \$2.50 turkey dinner free to all enlisted men or women who come in, and has made plans to feed 2,500. His 90 employes will donate their services and no tipping will be allowed.

Extend P. Harbor Trial Date

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 (AP) .-The Senate Judiciary Committee today unanimously approved a proposal to extend for another six months beyond Dec. 7 the time within which court martial proceedings may be started against the Army and Navy commanders at Pearl Harbor at the time of the Japanese attack.

Sinatra 'Harmful'

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NEW YORK, Nov. 20 (AP) .--Frank Sinatra "would o: doing a public service to parents and children if he would stop singing," says Dr. Angelo Patri, psychologist and educator. "Hysteria to the and educator. point of swooning is definitely harmful," he explained.

'Antis' Are Gleeful, No Ifs, Ands or Butts After 1,300 Combat Hours WASHINGTON, Nov. 20. (ANS). — While smokers be-moaned the cigarette scarcity,

AN EIGHTH FIGHTER BASE, England, Nov. 20.-After almost four years of combat flying, in which he has piled up 1,300 combat hours-perhaps more than any other American fighter pilot in the ETO-Col. Don J. M. Blakeslee, against his will, has been ordered to a desk job in the States.

"We can't afford to go on offering such a valuable target to the Germans," air force officials explained, but the 27-year-old group commander from Fairpoint, Ohio, says he can't see it that way.

"How can they do this to me?" he said with misty eyes at the thought of leaving the Fourth Fighter Group, which he has commanded since January.

Vet of 3 Air Forces

A veteran of three Allied air forces—the RCAF, the RAF and the Eighth USAAF, Blakessee leaves beind him an impressive record as a pilot, leader and organizer. After joining the RCAF, he went to Britain early in 1941, flew 200 operational hours with the RAF, commanded one of the famed Eagle squadrons for a while and won recognition for his support of the Dieppe landing in 1942. After the Air Medal and the Dieppe he transferred to the Eighth and the British DFC.



Col. Don J. M. Blakeslee

Air Force and became the Fourth Fighter Group's first commander

in January, 1944. For the Russian mission he was awarded the DSC, which he wears with the Silver Star and one cluster, the DFC and six clusters, the Air Medal and three clusters

Germans Went

All Out at Metz (Continued from Page 1) you have a change of socks along?" "I had them," the soldier answered, "but I've been standing up to n.y hips in water for 18 hours and in that position there is no sense in

Americans who manned the big guns in the Metz assault, with almost unlimited ammo to shoot, kept everything they had In one typical operation, hot. artillery with the Fifth Division shot in one day about 5.000 rounds.

changing socks."

While the records show no direct participation in the Metz offensive by the 90th and 80th Divisions, these two outfits played star roles as blocking backs for the ball carriers, the Fifth and 95th Divisions. In the North, the 90th's bridgehead across the Moselle at Koenigsmacher drew off a lot of German opposition that otherwise might have opposed the 95th. South of Metz, the 80th, by dashing north, then east, from the Nancy area, drew off hordes of Germans who thought that here was the major Metz attack.

When the Germans went to meet the 80th's threat, elements of the Fifth caught them in a flank movement between the 80th's sector and the Moselle River.

Jap Casualties Mount To 45,000 on Leyte

Blakeslee Gets U.S. Desk Job Vosges Lines **Crack Before Patch Advance**

By Ed Clark Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

ADVANCED 6TH ARMY GROUP HQ., Nov. 20.-The entire German defense line in the Vosges foothills appeared crumbling today as the Seventh U.S. Army offensive gained momentum toward the Rhine after a three-day, non-stop "softening" of enemy forward positions by American medium and fighter-bombers.

At the northern end of the front, where advance elements were fewer than 40 miles due west of the great Rhineland city of Strasbourg, German resistance was officially termed 'broken" and American troops have taken the important road hub of Blamont, east of Luneville.

Rechicourt, five miles north of Blamont, and Badonviller, about the same distance to the south, have also fallen to Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's forces during the past 24 hours.

Repel Counter-Attack

The Germans staged a brief counter-attack in the vicinity of Rechicourt only to be beaten back as the Americans continued to drive east. Resistance was even lighter at Badonviller, where approximately 200 of the defending unit were taken prisoner. Forward elements also caught up with an enemy horse-drawn artillery column in full retreat, captured six 150mm guns and many supply columns and inflicted heavy losses on the crews. All these enemy withdrawals have been made in the teeth of cease-

less pounding from artillery and assault by tactical bombers, which have been hammering at bridges, and rail and highway communications in the German rear as well as at combat positions on their front.

In the central sector, where the Seventh Army is farther east in western Europe than any other Allied forces ranged along the German frontier, advances have been equally steady although less spectacular.

Special Autos Sought For Handicapped Vets

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 20 (ANS). -The American Legion Auxiliary will attempt to provide training cars at each of the nation's amputation centers to aid crippled veterans overcome handicaps in driving, Mrs. Charles Gilbert, national president, announced today. The cars will be equipped with special appliances.

She said the effort would be the Auxiliary's special project for next year and estimated the project would cost \$22,000.

Reds Open New Attack In Latvia, Nazis Report

The German news agency reported yesterday that the Red Army had opened a new major attack against the southern flank of the Latvian front where German Japanese casualties on Leyte in The Nazis admitted that the

Island in the Philippines now Russians made "a few minor

Armchair Boys Move Pins But GIs Hurl the Grenades

WITH U.S. FIRST ARMY IN- is a medical aid man. He doesn't forced with Sherman tanks of the FANTRY TROOPS NEAR ESCH- know a lot about the "big picture" ILER, Germany, Nov. 20.-The except that "big pictures" mean to close the gap outside the city,

overseas, Somervell said 70 percent North of Hodges' left flank, of all soldiers and 60 percent of Ninth Army troops expanded their cargo supply crossed the Atlantic, bridgehead in Germany, as arand 30 and 40 percent, respectively, mored units slashed eastward. Front dispatches said the Ninth were dispatched to Pacific theaters. elements scored a 2,000-yard ad-**2** Million Allies vance and took several hundred prisoners. On the northern handle of the

the Anti-Cigarette Alliance came

along today and said the short-age was a fine thir , that it would be better if it were worse

and still better if it lasted until

The Alliance said the shortage

millions of smokers to drop the

useless, healt destroying, ex-pensive cigarette habit." And those who do "com buy War Bonds with the money they

General Warns

Of Ammo Lag

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 (ANS).

-Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell,

Army Service Forces commander,

said in his annual report today that

military goods procurement has

been generally successful but warn-

ed of shortages of heavy artillery,

ammunition, trucks, tractors and

Deliveries from U.S. industry for

the fiscal year ending June 30,

1944, he said, totalled \$23,500,000,000

compared with \$20,000,000,000 in 1943. ASF shipped 40,000,000 tons

of cargo overseas compared with

19,000,000 tons in 1943, while cargo

and troopships in Army service in-

With nearly 5,000,000 troops now

creased from 717 to 1,500.

"a golden o portunity for

1947.

save."

is

Cross Beaches

While the Germans held every major French port except Cher-bourg, the Allies landed more than 2,200,000 men, four million tons of stores and more than 450,000 vehicles in France, Rear-Admiral Sir B. H. Ramsay of the British Navy, Allied Expeditionary Force Naval Commander, disclosed at SHAEF yesterday. The men and material were put

ashore on invasion beaches as well as unloaded at the pre-fabricated floating port of Arromanches and four small coastal harbors, he said. Attacks by human torpedoes and explosive motor boats were thrown

against anchorages, Admiral Ramsay revealed, but less than 0.6 per cent of the total stores landed over the beaches was lost through enemy action

(Continued from Page 1) the Hurtgen Forest southeast of Aachen they entered Wenau, six miles from Duren.

Allied crowbar, wedged tightly

against the Rhine by the French

in the south and prying relentlessly

eastward, British Second Army

troops repulsed two German coun-

ter-attacks beyond Geilenkirchen and neared the frontier city of

Southward, Seventh U.S. Army

troops advanced in the Vosges foot-

hills between the American Third and the French, The Stars and

Stripes Correspondent Ed. Clark

Good Flying Weather

weather enabled 12th Tactical Air

Command P-47 Thunderbolts to

hammer enemy battlelines along

the entire Seventh front. Fighter-

bombers shuttled back and forth

from dawn to dusk bombing and

strafing German troops, some of

which, he said, were moving toward

In some places on the Third Army front resistance slackened.

The Stars and Stripes correspon-

dent Jimmy Cannon reported 35th

Division infantrymen hiked five

miles without opposition. The 12th Battalion of the Fifth

Division's Second Regiment, rein-

735th Tank Battalion, was rushing

He reported that good flying

Venlo.

said.

Germany.

West Front

expert, but it's plain as day. All expert, but it's plain as day. All we have to do is break through this line here, capture these three towns here and then just roll right over the Germans all the way to Berlin." That's the easy way to fight a war. Up here they fight it the hard way. Up here you think in	Mazo reported, when the force ran mark into a road clogged with busloads, truckloads and staff car- loads of Germans rushing to get a crawling up to tend the man hose arm was pierced by a piece t shell fragment. Up here you take care of your- bif and the man fighting with you. ou leave the map-marking and he armchair battles to the men ho have the time for it.	ice ANS). la B. from r son, nissing ot. 24, e was
terms of pockets of men, of dug-in positions, of mines and booby traps and snipers. Sgt. Tom Walsh, of New York, wasn't thinking particularly today that his outfit was part of a plan. Walsh was worried about that ma- chine-gun position that had been abandoned in the face of a counter- attack. You could see it sitting there pointing its snout toward the German lines, seeming almost im- patient to get back to work again. Pvt. Emeral Dietz, of Detroit, and Pfc Herbert Wheeler, of Whiteman, Mass., were making plans to get that Jerry sniper behind the rock pile. He was causing trouble and he had to be removed. Cpl. Charles Rosen, of Brooklyn,	Terry And The Pirates By Ourtesy of News Syndicate. By Ourtesy of News Syndicate. Nyspectror Warkington By Thirts I Survey. N, Thirts IS AWRUP, Number Diages for News Syndicate. Numer Diages	TOH L