

Man Spricht Deutsch
Sind irgendwo Minen gelegt?
Sind irgendwo Meenen gelegt?
Are there any mines?

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Ici On Parle Français
Avez-vous vu des soldats russes?
Avay voo vew deh sohldah rewws?
Have you seen Russian soldiers?

Vol. 1—No. 184

1 Fr.

New York—PARIS—London

1 Fr.

Saturday, Jan. 27, 1945

Reds 91 Mi. From Berlin; Shut Ring Around Breslau

18,000 U.S. Soldiers A WOL in ETO

Upped Rate Linked to Theft Rise

Between 18,000 and 19,000 American soldiers—the equivalent of one and one half U.S. infantry divisions—are now AWOL in the ETO.

The Theater Provost Marshal, making this disclosure yesterday, said that the number of AWOLs is approximately twice as high as it was before the invasion.

Leading sources of the AWOLs are the Army's reinforcement depots. After them, the AGF, AAF, and Com Z have approximately equal proportions. The Provost Marshal emphasized, however, that the overall figures included a considerable number of "transient AWOLs" who were skipping channels, and using their own methods to rejoin their units.

This, it was indicated, would account for an important number of the absences from reinforcement depots, and would greatly lessen the number of long-term AWOLs.

Lower Than World War I

The Provost Marshal declared, too, that the present figures, though high, are much lower than they were during the first World War, and said that a part of the post-invasion increase could be explained by the larger number of troops in the ETO.

Simultaneously, Brig. Gen. Pleas B. Rogers, commanding Seine Base Section, declared that more than half of the men AWOL are mixed up in some way with black-market operations. Gen. Rogers revealed in an interview that the number of serious gasoline, cigarette and ration theft cases is on the increase, as are the numbers of men going AWOL.

The majority of the AWOLs find their way to Paris, Rogers said, and here, since they are not on any payroll, they have to rob their buddies or hold up somebody else to live.

It's No 'Witch Hunt'

Gen. Rogers made these statements in declaring that the Army was not conducting a "witch hunt," as he said many GIs feel, in its stringent prosecution of 716th Railway Bn. soldiers for the theft and sale of front-bound cigarettes. He said that these prosecutions represented part of a real effort to whip the rising crime problem, and added that no one, officer or enlisted man, will be spared in this drive.

He denied that any of the Army's commanders is "winking at these things," and said that "we don't look the other way, whether it's a corporal or a brigadier general." He cited the case of a brigadier general sent back to the States

(Continued on Page 8)

Nazi Violations Cancel Truce at St. Nazaire

OUTSIDE ST. NAZAIRE, Jan. 26.—The two-day extension of a truce to evacuate French civilians from the German pocket at St. Nazaire was cancelled by Allied Army authorities today when it became known the Germans had violated the truce.

The Jerries took advantage of the truce to forage for fuel in no-man's-land. Originally, approximately 12,000 civilians were to have been evacuated from the Nazi pocket.

Wounded Pair Conquer Helplessness

By Dave Gordon
Stars and Stripes Special Writer

203rd GEN. HOSP., Jan. 26.—The story of how a blind soldier and a buddy whose voice had been muted to a whisper merged the seeing eye and the speaking voice to call for aid after three days in a foxhole was told today at this hospital.

Pvt. John Lach, of Scranton, Pa., and his buddy were advancing with Co. K, 116th Inf., in German territory in the dawn of an early December day. Jerry artillery opened up. Shell fragments hit Lach in the right eye and his buddy in the throat. Concussion caused the loss of vision in Lach's left eye so that he was left completely blind.

Other GIs carried the two casualties to a nearby foxhole and said they would return. Rain began to fall and soon the bottom of the foxhole was a muddy pool. The two men could hear the whistling of shells and the rattle of machine guns.

The hours crawled by and no help came. Lach's buddy applied a dressing to Lach's eye and looked vainly for help. They divided a box of K-rations, their only food. The wind made them shiver.

Lach said he almost gave up hope. As time dragged on, their feet became swollen and numb. Hungry, wet, cold, suffering from their wounds, the men grew weaker. But on the afternoon of the third day Lach's buddy saw two GIs. He frantically nudged his companion, whispered what he saw and urged him to yell.

Lach summoned all his waning strength and shouted, "Medic, medic!"

His buddy watched the two GIs, filled with excitement. "Medic, medic!" Lach shouted again. This time he was heard and the two GIs cautiously approached the hole.

Subsequently the rescued men were evacuated but to different hospitals. By Dec. 28 Lach had recovered sight in his left eye.

Merging Sight and Sound

Wounded Pair Conquer Helplessness

By Dave Gordon
Stars and Stripes Special Writer

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It Shouldn't Happen to a Dog



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo
Sgt. Floyd Swan, of Shafter, Calif., figures that his best friend rates all the formalities for sticking it out with him in a front-line dugout, despite the snow and cold.

Clark Field Falls to Yanks; Patrols 45 Mi. From Manila

U.S. Sixth Army forces on Luzon have taken Clark Field and neighboring Fort Stotsenburg. After winning these successes, announced yesterday by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the Yanks started clearing Japanese troops from near-by hills and sent patrols five miles southward to Angeles, 45 miles north of Manila.

Clark Field was overrun so fast that the Japanese failed to put up any stiff resistance from defenses dug near the northern approaches. As the Yank patrols pushed on down the main highway to Manila, other Americans reached the highway town of Magalang 10 miles east of Clark. This means that two American divisions have troops on parallel highways which converge 15 miles to the south into a single road to Manila.

Push Toward Santa Cruz

Americans on the right flank were advancing down the west coast toward Santa Cruz, below Dasol Bay on the road leading to Bataan peninsula. Yank units on the left flank maintained heavy pressure on the Japanese around Rosario, and farther south San Manuel was entered against strong opposition.

American planes dropped 95 tons of bombs on the former U.S. naval base at Cavite, on Manila Bay, hammered enemy defenses on Corregidor and in Subic Bay, and sank a big Japanese tanker near Aparri. Other planes based in the Philippines continued to attack the Japanese naval base of Takao, on Formosa.

A U.S. naval task force, including

(Continued on Page 8)

Seventh Army Forces Nazis Back in Alsace

Counter-attacking, U.S. Seventh Army troops smashed the enemy back against his Moder River bridgehead southwest of Haguenau yesterday, stalling temporarily, the Nazi offensive in northern Alsace between the Eifel Mountains and the Rhine.

Northward along the Roer River in Germany, U.S. Ninth Army's 102nd Inf. Div. made a local attack, took the Nazi town of Brachelen and drove the Germans to the river's east bank.

In the Ardennes, U.S. First Army tanks and infantry cleared four more Belgian towns as they struggled through the snowdrifts toward the pre-breakthrough line. Driving into the center of the withered salient, U.S. Third Army men thrust to within two miles of the German-Luxembourg frontier.

Main Nazi Effort

It was disclosed yesterday that Nazi forces attacking on the northern Alsace Plain included the Sixth SS Mountain Div., the 21st Panzer Div., the Tenth SS Div., the 25th Panzergrenadier Div. and the Seventh Parachute Div.

The Sixth Mountain had been moved down from Norway to fight in the salient south of Bitche and had been fairly well roughed up there by Seventh Army men.

The German attack in northern Alsace, which now constitutes the main Nazi effort in the west, had gained two bridgeheads across the Moder, which winds across the plain from east to west between the Eifel to a point east of Haguenau.

Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's

(Continued on Page 8)

Eisenhower, Stalin Reported In 'Contact' for First Time

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Merrill Mueller, NBC news reporter, broadcast today that Gen. Eisenhower had just "established contact" with Josef Stalin for the first time. An NBC press commentary said interpretatively that "for the first time in this war there is a cohesive plan of action between the Russian and western fronts."

(No confirmation or comment was obtainable at SHAEP last night. Merrill Mueller left France for the U.S. about a week ago.)

LONDON, Jan. 26. (UP).—Before D-Day, Gen. Eisenhower indicat-

Big Battle Still Rages For Posen

Red Army tank vanguards, stabbing irresistibly across the western Polish plains into the German province of Brandenburg, were reported within 91 miles of Berlin yesterday by a German News Agency broadcast. Other Soviet troops clamped steel pincers around Breslau, in German Silesia, and closed in on Posen from three sides.

By-passing Posen on the north and south, then racing 48 miles to the German-Polish frontier, Marshal Gregory Zhukov's First White Russian Army tank columns were engaged in furious battles for Driesen and Bentschen, German towns just over the border, the broadcast said.

Driesen is 91 miles east of the Reich capital and is on the south bank of the River Netze. The Germans, announcing the fighting at Driesen, claimed the entire Red Army column was "destroyed."

Resistance at Posen

In the area around Posen, the German High Command threw in powerful tank reserves in an effort to defend the city against the First White Russian Army. The Associated Press in London said that the Posen battle had been swaying back and forth for days, with Zhukov beating off German defensive counter-blows.

On the Upper Silesian front, Marshal Ivan Koniev's First Ukrainian Army closed the ring around Breslau, Germany's sixth largest city, a Moscow dispatch from United Press said.

Tanks under the command of Col. Gen. D. D. Lealushenko, Red Army liberator of Stalingrad, are leading the assault on the city from the northeast with the aid of artillery and aircraft.

On the Oder River 40 miles northeast of Breslau, some of the heaviest fighting of the day was reported. German reports said that Marshal Koniev's troops were smashing across the river near Beuthen, one of Upper Silesia's largest towns and an important coal center. Hindenburg, another coal town, three miles from the

(Continued on Page 8)

BULLETIN

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau
WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The Senate Commerce Committee today rejected President Roosevelt's nomination of Henry A. Wallace to the twin jobs of Secretary of Commerce and Federal loan chief. The vote was 14 to 5.

The committee approved for submission to the Senate a bill which would strip the Commerce Department of its loan powers. Objections to Wallace's appointment have centered on the loan-power issue.

(Earlier details on Page 3.)

De Gaulle Asks Rhine Rule

After the war, French troops should be permanently installed on both banks of the Rhine, Gen. de Gaulle told an Allied press conference Thursday.

In addition, De Gaulle disclosed that France had not been invited to the "Big Three" conference.

THE B BAG BLOW IT OUT HERE

Photographs From Different Worlds



I think this picture (left) could be titled "What One Soldier Is Fightin' For."

I'm fighting for the right of these five kiddies to live and worship in freedom. I'm fighting for a girl who told me her story at Mortain. Her mother and father were killed by Allied bombs. Her sweetheart was caught by the Germans while aiding the FFI and was tied to a tree and bayoneted until he died.

I'm fighting for those men who didn't have a chance, the ones who were machine-gunned after the Jerries made their breakthrough. I'm fighting against the kind of men who, at Fontenay, France, took the figure of Christ from a plush-covered crucifix and used the crucifix for a pin cushion.

Would the supreme sacrifice be worth it? I think so.—Pvt. Floyd Johnson, AAA.

* * *



How about this picture (above)—found in a captured German town—as a good illustration for "Know Your Enemy?"—M/Sgt. E. Welzer.

* * *

Get Off Our Backs Will Ya?

To "Ground Man," who complains of low flying near the front line: You see, Ground Man, in the air we cannot tell exactly where the lines are and when we get a target near the front, somebody has to go down and take a close look to see if it is you or Herman the German. If it is you, we go merrily on our way; if it is Herman, we come in again with our eight guns talking "peace terms."

Incidental to all this of course, is a few odds and ends Herman throws up in the way of point-blank flak, whether we are just looking or shooting.

That, Ground Man, is the reason we do not dive on you for fun. We would rather impress you with knocked out tanks, than low altitude acrobatics. Get off our backs will ya?—Capt. D. W. McCollum.

* * *

Wanted: Pay Regulation Ruling

Why not have the "powers that be" work on a regulation law, or something that would let the GI draw accumulated furlough time at discharge, the same as officers are entitled to?—Sgt. J. E. Scheibe, Trk. Co.

* * *

World Is Made Up of Two Kinds of People

Since its debut the B-Bag, has been one of the most interesting features of The Stars and Stripes. It has expressed the opinions of all grades from private to general and has carried arguments rivalled in intensity only by that famous one about the anatomical structure of Linda Darnell.

The most constant theme has probably been the desire for public recognition of notable deeds of various organizations. I find no fault with this because it indicates the pride the soldier has in his outfit which is an essential element in a fighting army. We have a large army and to give each soldier and his unit full recognition for their accomplishments would require more paper than there is in the world, or at least as much as Hqs. uses and Hqs. has priority.

So in condolence to those individuals and organizations whose worthy activities go unsung upon the public ear, I offer a quotation from a letter Dwight P. Morrow once wrote his son. "The world," he wrote, "is made up of two kinds of people—one who does things and one who gets the credit. Try, if you can, to be one of the former—there's far less competition."—Capt. Carl A. Naegle, FA.

* * *

For Sale: One Slightly Used Pillbox

We see in a magazine where some old money-bags back home gave 500 grand for an old Spanish monastery and at his own expense dismantled and carted the monstrosity back to the States with him.

Surely if he collects old monasteries he'd like a pillbox, too. We are offering a de luxe Siegfried Line job, Model MIAI, complete with running water, heat, air-conditioning and Queen Mary bunks. We can dismantle it in just a few seconds and we'd be more than happy to lug it back to the States for him. If you know anyone in the market for a pillbox, please let us know and they can have the damn thing anytime they want it COD.—Third Plt., Cav.

* * *

Reunion in Those United States

My company is planning a reunion one year from the date the majority set foot on American soil, to be held in a centrally-located city.

Another outfit in this division is doing the same thing. How simple it would be to combine the efforts of the two... for other units to do the same thing. Some fellow in each unit could lay the groundwork of a great organization. The yearly get-together of the old gang would be worth the effort.—Cpl. Edmond C. Meyer, Inf.

An Editorial

SUBJECT: Your Integrity

HEADQUARTERS Q-183
52ND QM BASE DEPOT
GLO/rjh

22 January, 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO: All Personnel of This Command.

SUBJECT: Your Integrity.

I was very much impressed with the Editorial in "Stars and Stripes" of 19 January, 1945. So much so, that I have had it reprinted and attached to this memorandum.

The man who wrote that editorial may be right—and he may be wrong. I'm willing to bet that he IS wrong in so far as any troops assigned to the 52nd QM Base Depot are concerned.

That editorial is a challenge to every officer and soldier along the lines of communication; it is a challenge to you—and to me. I want you to read it carefully, and then search your conscience, your heart and your barracks bag. If your search reveals some combat boots, or combat jackets you're not supposed to have now, even if you got them as a regular issue once; or extra blankets, or any other critical items, don't let this challenge go unanswered. Turn the stuff in; you'll get shoes just as good in exchange for your

An Editorial

Notes on Trench Foot—Type II

A FEW weeks ago Trench Foot troubled the Army. Trench Foot is mostly a matter of circulation—of blood getting out to the feet. A little dope on the disease—a few words to the wise—and Trench Foot has largely been licked.

Another type of Trench Foot continues. It's also a matter of circulation. Of getting blood to the feet. Only this time the foot is the doughfoot. This time the blood is supplied.

Whatever the Army has belongs first to the fighter in the foxhole. Be it a pair of nose pads, a pack of bullets, Stars and Stripes—it means most to the man in the line. Without a roof, without heat, without goggles, mattresses or ma-



dips in for his there's less for the Joe in the line. The river becomes a stream. The stream becomes a trickle. And the guy with the gun dies of thirst.

Gimme, gimme—grab 'em—I'll take mine and a hell with you. That's the spirit that made the way

combat boots; a field jacket just as warm for your combat jacket.

This is not an order; it is merely a reminder. The orders have been issued before. I don't think an order is necessary, because, no doubt, you've complied with previous orders. Don't disappoint me, or compel me to use sterner measures to awaken your sense of responsibility.

I want to leave this general thought with you—we are the custodians of millions of dollars of property which belongs to lads less fortunate than you, who are fighting at the front; or perhaps we

should say, more fortunate because they have the opportunity to fight at the front. We are trustees, and we have got to execute our trust faithfully. Not one single item of equipment or supplies will be diverted from its true destination from this depot; not one single finger of suspicion will be pointed at this depot. The next time an editorial like this appears, I want the writer to be able to say. "This does not include the 52nd QM Base Depot or units assigned thereto."

(Signed)

Geo. L. OLANDER,
Colonel, QMC
Commanding.

Flying in Day's Fading Light, Cubs Search For Nazi Columns Fleeing From Ardennes

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
WITH 90TH INF. DIV., Jan. 26.

—Blue shadows of the Ardennes pines begin to stretch long against the snow as the last flight of Cubs takes the air. It is almost dark, but they are going out for one more hour of harrying the flanks of the Germans, who are racing down the last slope to the Our River and the safety of the Siegfried Line on the far shore.

A first lieutenant pilot from Monrovia, Calif., lifts our Cub into the

zero air and heads eastward above one of the war's most desolate battlefields . . . the Ardennes hills, east of Bastogne, where hundreds of tanks, trucks and half-tracks lie burned and twisted. Some of the tanks are Tigers; most are Shermans.

In the triangle between the Clerf and Our Rivers, the doughboys are slogging through two feet of snow. From the Cub their figures are little black dashes inching with incredible slowness toward the crossroads where the Cubs have business. Lloyd Whatland, of Estherville, Iowa, and Pat Mulli-

neaux, of New Bern, N.C., are up with their Cubs, too, and calls begin to go out by radio:

"Sugar eight to sugar obbe three. Traffic on crossroads 824519 . . . sugar four request fire mission, road junction 820531 . . ."

The Cubs turn west and swerve above clumps of dark green woods from which Nazis are pulling out, and divisional artillery ranges in on the crossroads. Smoke puffs suddenly from a spot in the broken column of moving German vehicles. Mullineaux spots a Nazi self-propelled gun coming down the last north-south highway—a skyline drive just west of the River Our.

Mullineaux's voice crackles just as the Nazi gun crew spots the Cub and scrambles, knowing that artillery is soon coming down. The first shot is over but the second splinters the self-propelled gun. It has been like this for ten days and the Cubs have had a field day directing almost ceaseless artillery fire on the Nazis quitting the bulge.

The evening mist is over the river and the Siegfried Line on the eastern shore. The Cub heads homeward while O'Connor tells about the men who have been helping chew the Nazi retreat—about 1/Lt. George W. Kilmer, of Des Moines, whose cousin was the late Joyce Kilmer, tree-famed poet of World War I; 1/Lt. John Peszat, of Chicago, who with Mullineaux swapped shots with two Messerschmitts over Dillingen and dodged around trees in the valley to escape; about T/3 Becker, a crew chief from Cleveland, who, with T/5 John W. Stanton, of Omaha, has kept up the flying in the foulest weather by bulldozing runways in the snow when possible and fitting skis to the Cubs when no dozers were available.

HUBERT

by SGT. DICK WINGERT



"And some guys yell because people back in the States don't know there's a war on!"

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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This Was America Yesterday:

Allentown Men Don't Like It, But Accept Job Shift Order

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Work-or-fight orders by the War Manpower Commission are being enforced in Allentown, Pa., with a view to developing a system which can be applied elsewhere. And a lot of the men affected were somewhat dazed by it all.

Some complained, and most acquiesced philosophically. For instance, Laborer Garfield Remmel, of Allentown, commented: "The only regret I have is that I'll have to pay for my beer now. Instead of drinking it free at the brewery."



Harley M. Oka talks with San Francisco legionnaires.

In California Harley M. Oka, 28, an American of Japanese descent who received a medical discharge last month from the Army, was admitted to membership in Hollywood Post No. 591 of the American Legion.

The post claims to be the first in the U.S. to admit a Japanese-American.

SWEET music of Frankie Masters' band "sent" Mrs. Barbara Masterman, wife of the leader, Frank M. Masterman. It sent her away—or perhaps sent him somewhere. She was granted a divorce in Los Angeles. Grounds: desertion.

The Supreme Court in Washington yesterday received a new and important appeal from soldiers. They lived in Johnson County, Kentucky, which went dry in a local option contest in which they were not permitted to vote. The soldiers—a group of 26 claiming to represent 2,700 absentees—protested it was unfair and a denial of their constitutional right to "equal protection of laws."

IN WASHINGTON the 25th anniversary of Prohibition was touchingly observed. A wreath was laid beneath the portrait of the late Sen. Morris Sheppard, of Texas, author of the 18th Amendment, by officers of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

At Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., there isn't going to be any hospitality for Italian PWs. Church ladies proposed throwing a spaghetti dinner for Italians at Camp Shanks. Mayor Anthony Paino said, "Nothing doing. We have 950 men and women from Dobbs Ferry in the armed services, and I know they would not like us giving dinner parties for men they have fought and captured."

SHERLOCK Holmes never thought of this: In Pittsburgh, Peter P. Atchko, 49, pleaded guilty to charges of turning in a false fire alarm. The police had sprayed fluorescent powder on the device, and Peter's hand glowed radiantly in an ultraviolet ray test.

WACs will be used to help nurses in Army hospitals, under a new plan to meet the shortage. A nation-wide campaign to enlist more than 3,000 WACs in the next few weeks has been launched by the War Advertising Council, in cooperation with the Army.

A piece of New York sidewalk was placed in the wheelhouse of the Liberty Ship, Alfred E. Smith, which was launched at Portland, Me., Jan. 17. The flagstone was from an arway near Smith's boyhood home.



Mrs. Al Smith with piece of New York sidewalk.

PHILADELPHIA police are working hard, too. Twice in a week abandoned trucks loaded with sugar have been found in the northeast section of the city. They think they are on the trail of what may prove to be a huge ring supplying black-market sugar to bootleg liquor stills.

More gumshoe intelligence: Denver cops have nailed a series of auto thefts and 18 cabin burglaries in the last few weeks, with a roundup of ten teen-age youths. They admit recovery of another auto—a patrol car someone stole from them.

FROM Sacramento, Calif., came a plan to do something constructive about juvenile delinquency. State Sen. Jesse R. Dorsey has proposed establishment of state academies for incorrigible children. Alarmed by growing juvenile delinquency, several authorities in the state are considering means of curbing it, and in the state assembly is a bill providing that responsibility for acts of child delinquents be shared by parents.

Oklahoma City produced a love idyl, sweet and hot. Edwin Long, merchant seaman, met a girl in a juke joint. They argued about who was next to put in a nickel, then settled the fight and agreed to get married. By courtesy of the management, nickel-odan nuptials were celebrated right there, to the strains of Bing Crosby singing "We gotta be free, the Eagle and me."

The world's champion joiner of fraternal organizations, James William White, died in Jacksonville, Fla., at the age of 84. White belonged to 74 different societies and had been an official of many.

A DEAD man, with his mouth crammed with \$360 paper money, was found alongside a railroad in Georgia. The corpse was tentatively identified as that of Joseph Marley Brown, and papers in his pockets indicated he was en route from Hansford, Wash., to Miami. The coroner said the man had either been pushed or had fallen from a moving train.

Housekeeper Hatches Worker's Nest Egg

DETROIT, Jan. 26 (ANS).—Clarence Williams' savings of \$5,400 disappeared last night along with his 27-year-old housekeeper, who last was seen wearing only her night clothes but who, with all that money, should be well-dressed today.

Williams, a widower, said he had saved the money during the last four years, working 12 to 14 hours a day, seven days a week, at a war plant. He carried the nest egg to work each day in a lunch box and slept with it each night.

Last evening he placed his portable bank momentarily on the kitchen table while Minnie Mitchell prepared supper. When he turned around she was gone—so was the money.

Often-Married Lion Tamer Is Caged by Cops

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 26 (ANS).—Francis Van Wie, short, baldish, "Ding Dong Daddy" of the San Francisco trolleys, came to the end of matrimony lane here yesterday when he was arrested for marrying at least nine and perhaps 11 women without, in most cases, benefit of divorce.

In San Francisco, Police Inspector Jerry Desmond said it appeared that at least one wife had divorced the street-car conductor casanova, that another had received an annulment, and that still another had died.

Van Wie, who is 58 and who used to be a lion tamer, blandly told the district attorney that he wasn't a believer in divorce, and that he had no fear of meeting his wives, one by one or all at once.

Van Wie took a job in a machine shop here yesterday and was recognized as a fugitive from the police by a plant protection official who had seen his picture in a newspaper.

San Francisco authorities were not certain any one of Van Wie's wives would prosecute him for bigamy. Police Capt. Bernard McDonald said that one or more of them would have to put up a deposit covering the expense of taking Van Wie back to San Francisco before a policeman could be sent to get him. If Van Wie is convicted, the deposit would be returned.

Police Crack Down On Escort Service

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 26 (ANS).—Dorene's Escort Agency, which had advertised itself as a "personal adventure in friendship" today was temporarily out of business. A customer turned out to be a cop.

Officer Tom O'Connor said he paid a \$10 fee to join, \$20 more for a girl escort for the evening. Then, he said, for an additional \$50 the "escort" agreed to violate "certain provisions" of the city's anti-morality ordinance which had been passed by the Board of Supervisors to get rid of "floaters and seagulls" and similar persons.

Doctor's Prescription Yields Rare Medicine

CHICAGO, Jan. 26 (ANS).—Druggist A. C. Mayerson read the medical prescription, pinned directions—"one every two hours"—on to a package and handed it to the unidentified customer.

Then Mayerson, who is president of the Chicago Retail Druggists, telephoned Dr. Otto Wallis for an explanation.

"Yes," the physician replied, "He was out and he asked me for one and I didn't have any either."

The prescription was for a package of cigarettes.

Here's Snow on Another Front



Weather reports from the States indicate the folks back home are having one of the toughest winters in the nation's history. So these gals of a New York chorus line are clearing the snow in front of the theater because, the press agent said, there weren't enough men around to do the job.

Shivering Eastern Seaboard Feels Winter's Coldest Touch

NEW YORK, Jan. 26 (ANS).—Winter's coldest weather struck the Eastern seaboard north of Carolina yesterday, setting seasonal subzero records and in some cases sending thermometers down to all-time lows. Also engulfed by cold weather were Ohio and Michigan, with one degree below zero at Toledo and 26 below at Pelston, Mich.

New York State bore the brunt of the East's cold wave, with temperatures as low as 32 below. Near

blizzard conditions, with gale winds and traffic impeded by snowdrifts, prevailed in upstate New York and the northeast. Cold extended south into Maryland.

Cowlesville, N.Y., reported the mercury at minus 32; Syracuse, minus 14.5, and Buffalo's minus seven was the lowest for this date in 60 years. Bus schedules were cancelled in Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse, and upstate trains were late. Portland, Me., recorded 12 below, lowest for the date since 1888.

Anti-Wallace Bloc Confident

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (AP).—Senators opposing the nomination of Henry A. Wallace as Secretary of Commerce, a job which carries with it control of Federal lending agencies, said today that they believed they had enough votes to defeat the nomination if it were considered before the Senate acted on a bill that would strip the Commerce Department of lending-agencies control. The Senators believed they could marshal 48 to 50 votes.

As the Senate Commerce Committee prepared to consider the divorce bill at a closed meeting, Jesse H. Jones, who was ousted to make way for Wallace, turned his office over to Under-Secretary Wayne Taylor.

At a committee hearing yesterday, Wallace made it plain that if the lending authority were not left in the department, he would expect to serve as Secretary only until the end of the war.

The CIO entered the controversy over the former Vice-President's nomination when it urged its members today to bombard their Senators with demands that

New Senators Tell Peace Aim

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (ANS).—Sixteen new members of the Senate advised President Roosevelt today that they will back the formation of a United Nations organization to preserve world peace. Ten new Democratic and six new Republican members got together on their own initiative and sent the assurance in a letter to the White House.

The freshmen Senators said: "We believe the government should use all reasonable means to assure our Allies and other nations of the world that we intend to share in the direction of and responsibility for the settlement of this war and maintenance of peace."

They suggested further "Agreement among the major Allies should be concluded as soon as possible to demilitarize Germany and to keep it demilitarized." "We believe," they said, "this government should, as soon as possible, arrange to participate affirmatively in all decisions affecting the establishment of law and order in liberated or enemy countries."

Lowell Dump Combed For \$5,000 in Radium

LOWELL, Mass., Jan. 26 (ANS).—The lowly municipal dump was as heavily guarded today as any of the 20 factories in this war-busy city. Its squalid expanses hid \$5,000 worth of radium.

The radium was thrown into a waste container at St. Joseph's Hospital by an inexperienced assistant who mistook it for refuse.

When Joe Goes Home

'Planned Marriages' Urged

NEW YORK, Jan. 26 (ANS).—"Planned marriages" for returning war veterans was urged recently at a meeting of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., by Dr. Richard N. Pierson, chairman of the federation's medical committee.

Predicting that many war marriages will break up, Pierson said young couples "should have a

chance to find out whether they can make marriages succeed before they begin to have children."

"If there is no planning of these marriages," he continued, "many of the men, the pick of the country, will flounder economically before they have a chance to get started and children in too rapid succession may mean a lifetime of family misery. Children spaced so there has

been time to get ahead and to provide in advance for each child can mean a happy family life."

Lt. Col. Roy R. Grinker, MC, said marital counseling was a critical need of the war veteran who will want to rush into marriage and start a family in "the perfectly natural attempt to make up too quickly for what he has been denied."

Once Over Lightly

By GI Joe

(Letters on sports will appear in this column from time to time. Let's have your reactions in Once Over Lightly.)

JUST a little consideration for the professional athletes who are "raked over the coals" because they have received a CDD or 4F classification. As an example, take a joint injury—knee, wrist, elbow or shoulder. In order to get out there for 60 minutes, many of these competitors bake, massage and treat their ailments for hours. They wear protective braces and take extra precautions during cold weather to keep the joint fluid. They are able to perform excellently in the field of sport because they are permitted the warmth and care their "deferment" demands during constant "off hours." Could these same men perform at a soldier's level if a weakened joint was continually chilled, or received the abuse that the average, healthy member entertained? That they are adept, to the point of being paid for their services, shouldn't cause special attention focused on their physical defects. If they slipped quietly into normal living no one would say anything. I believe most guys who never cared for sports and sports competition are jealous of the athlete's fame. I say more power to a 4F athlete, who isn't afraid of publicity and loves sports enough to keep at it. I feel sure nine-tenths are legitimately handicapped.—Sgt. Harold H. Robinson.

BEING a follower of boxing, I have noticed with a great deal of interest boxing getting into full swing in Paris. There are scores of boxers in the AEF in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, so why doesn't someone get started on an elimination tournament to determine an AEF champion in both professional and amateur divisions? The whole thing could be started by units having a tournament to determine who is to represent them in the Corps championships, which in turn will provide entrants for an Army Champion, and then the big tournament to determine who is the AEF champion. It not only will provide entertainment for the troops, but will keep their enthusiasm aroused as to the success of their representatives. How about it, somebody?—Pvt. Leo Maguire.

MOST soldiers are not old men. Among the greater percentage of GI baseball fans are fellows who saw the game during the years 1927 to the present. I have read your Ty Cobb All-America team and countless others. All the players are men who are out of our generation. I have submitted what I consider, and have seen, as the best team of the years mentioned above: Mickey Cochrane, c; Lou Gehrig, 1b; Charley Gehringer, 2b; Pie Traynor, 3b; Travis Jackson, ss; Al Simmons, 1f; Joe DiMaggio, cf; Babe Ruth, rf; Carl Hubbell, p; Lefty Grove, p.—M/Sgt. (Name Illegible.)

RECENTLY I received a copy of the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegram, in which appeared an article quoting Mike Jacobs, president of the 20th Century Sporting Club, stating he was planning a title bout between Joe Louis and Billy Conn immediately following the European War. Jacobs stated, and we quote: "I unquestionably believe Louis and Conn will be released from the Army as they deserve it."

We believe there are other dogfaces in the Army that deserve, and have greater claim, than these boys who have suffered so terribly on their exhibition tours—sleeping in hotels, rather than foxholes. How about this? Are we soldiers going to have the wool pulled over our eyes, or do we fill Jacobs' pockets with dollars? Do we have a promoter bucking for our release after the European scrape?—Sgt. D. McKenzie, T/5 J. Humansky and Pfc A. Lenze.

Marion Honored In Quaker City

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 26.—The Philadelphia Sports Writers' Association yesterday honored Marty "Slats" Marion, St. Louis Cardinals shortstop, as the "outstanding athlete of the year."



Slats Marion

The writers also honored athletes "who made the supreme sacrifice in the service of their country, and whose patriotism and courage were embodied in Lt. Robert Wilson, U.S. Army Air Force." Wilson, 22-year-old son of Jimmy Wilson, Cincinnati coach and former Phillies' manager, was killed on a flight mission last month in India. He was a baseball star at Princeton prior to his enlistment.

The Question Box

Lt. J. H. Warren.—James J. Braddock was the heavyweight champion when Max Schmeling defeated Joe Louis in their first meeting.

Pfc Harless Harvey.—A Texas Leaguer is a looping (humpback liner) fly ball that goes just out of the reach of an infielder, and too far in for an outfielder to catch, for a base hit. A "too hot to handle" batted ball can be scored as a hit. A player is not credited with a stolen base resulting from the opposing team's indifference, but if a runner steals a base and the catcher, because a man is on third, refuses to throw to second, a stolen base should be credited, in fairness to the runner who makes the catcher "show his hand."

Pvt. Donald Beal.—"Ducky" Medwick played alongside "Dixie" Walker and Pete Reiser for Brooklyn in the '41 World Series. Augie Galan and Jimmy Wastell were the other Dodger outfielders. You're right about "Bulldog" Turner, he's a Hardin-Simmons alumnus.

Pfc S. Catalano.—Billy Conn won the New York State version of the light heavyweight championship from Mello Bettina, July 13, 1939, later beating Gus Lesnevich, present NBA titleholder, twice in title matches.

Pvt. James Butler.—Joe DiMaggio played 154 games with the New York Yankees in 1942. George Case, Senators' outfielder, led the American League in stolen bases in 1942 with 44. Ted Williams entered the Navy, May 22, 1942.

Pvt. Robert Boyson.—Tami Mauriello knocked out Lou Nova at New York City, 6th round, Dec. 11, 1942.

Pvt. Paul Bullock.—On July 21, 1930, Max Schmeling and Jack Sharkey fought in New York City for the right to occupy the heavyweight throne vacated by Gene Tunney. Schmeling was

Lincoln Field Gets Nebraskans' Vote

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 26.—The best basketball team in the country, as far as Nebraska fans are concerned, is represented by Lincoln Air Field. The Wings have won 21 of their 22 games by an average of 27 points and have scored 65 points per game. Their only setback was in the Great Lakes game, which they lost, 62-57.

The starting five would make any coach in the country jump for joy. Ray Lump, of New York University, and Victor Kraft, of the Harlem Globetrotters, are forwards; Reese Tatum, another Globetrotter, is at center, and Eddie Ehlers, of Purdue, and John "Jake" Ahearn, former St. John's set shot whiz, are guards.

The Wings are top-heavy favorites to take the Second AAF championship next month and there are more titles available, if anybody is brave enough to play the "Nebraskans."

declared the winner on a foul in Round 4. Sharkey won the title back in a return fight, June 21, 1932, taking a 15-round decision in New York City.

Pfes Forte, Marcus, Fabio and S/Sgt. Kuklo.—Joe Louis fought Tommy Farr only once, winning in 15 rounds, Aug. 30, 1937. Louis didn't hold heavyweight title first time he met Schmeling. Louis fought Jack Sharkey, Al Ettore, Jorge Brescia, Eddie Simms, Stanley Ketchel, Bob Pastor, Natie Brown, Jim Braddock (won title), Tommy Farr, Nathan Mann and Harry Thomas between first and second Schmeling fights.

Pfc Ralph Inversa.—Jimmy McLarnin fought Lou Ambers only once, Nov. 29, 1936, McLarnin winning a ten-round decision in New York City.

Pvt. Herb Shilling.—Johnny Paycheck was knocked out in two rounds, March 29, 1940, in his only fight with Joe Louis (title bout in New York City).

Cpl. Grant Thompson.—Billy Conn entered the Army in February, 1942. He fought Joe Louis only once, June 12, 1941.

Lt. Alex A. Daughtry.—A safety counts two points, a touchback goes into play on the 20-yard line. If the receiving team fumbles the ball on a kick-off in the end zone and it is recovered by the kicking team, the latter is credited with a touchdown. A kick-off must travel 10 yards or more before the kicking team is permitted to recover it.

Pfc Carl Young.—A baseball pitcher with terrific speed can get a hop on his pitch, but it is a matter of conjecture to nominate any one pitcher in the Major Leagues who excels in this specialty. Standing of Major League All-Star games: American League 8 wins; National League 4 wins. The 1940 game was played in St. Louis.

Uncle Wants Him



Frank Sinkwich

Rejected by the Marines, Army and Maritime Service, and reputed to have flat feet, high blood pressure and a heart murmur, the Detroit Lions' star halfback will soon report for a draft physical in Athens, Ga.

Branch Rickey Buys Ft. Worth

BEAR MOUNTAIN, N.Y., Jan. 26.—Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, escorted a band of newspapermen here today



Branch Rickey

Rickey himself, and not by the Brooklyn ball club.

The Texas League has been idle for two years because of the war and will not operate in 1945.

Rickey also announced that outfielder Louis Olmo and Pitcher Ben Chapman had been reclassified IA by their draft boards, and that Erwin Rudolph, righthander from St. Paul, had been inducted.

Buddy Young Starts Great Lakes Training

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—Claude "Buddy" Young, Illinois University track and football star, was inducted yesterday and will commence boot training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station tomorrow.

What part Young will play in the Great Lakes athletic program is problematical. It is believed he won't be around long enough to play football and there's considerable doubt that the Station will have a track team this spring, although Great Lakes had made a bid for the coming outdoor Central Intercollegiate meet.

Hanley Gets Bronze Star For Heroism in Pacific

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, Jan. 26.—Lt. Col. L. B. Hanley, former Boston University football coach now in the Marines, has received the Bronze Star for heroism in action.

Hanley and two enlisted men extinguished the fire on a burning truck loaded with high explosives on Saipan. Enemy fire struck the vehicle and stopped it 60 yards from the CP. Despite frequent explosions and exposure to enemy fire, Hanley and his men put out the blaze.

Ray Wins on TKO

BOSTON, Jan. 26.—Elmer "Violent" Ray, Los Angeles heavyweight, scored a technical knockout over Henry Jones, of Los Angeles in the ninth round of a scheduled ten-rounder at Mechanics Hall here last night. It was Ray's 23rd consecutive victory and he had little trouble.

Ray started on Jones' midsection in the ninth, suddenly switched his attack to the head, and a series of vicious lefts and rights put Jones on Queer Street before the referee stopped the bout.

Pascal Trains as Purser

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Bill Pascal, of the New York Giants, leading ground-gainer in pro football, has started purser training and will go on sea duty after graduation in about six months.

Iowa Basketball Team Setting Redhot Pace

By G. K. Hodenfield
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

IOWA CITY, Iowa, Jan. 26.—Out here in the tall corn country basketball hopes are as high as 20-foot stalks, which, until the present cage season, had been Iowa's only pride and joy.

The Hawkeyes of the University of Iowa are the hottest things in short pants hereabouts, with a winning streak of ten straight this season, four of them in Big Ten competition. And if by any off chance the Hawkeyes should drop even one game this year (natives call it highly fantastic) Hawkeye followers can point to next season when the entire team will return for another crack at all comers.

The shot in the arm that has pushed the Hawkeyes into a ranking national position is the presence of the Wilkinson brothers, late of Utah. Herbert Wilkinson, All-America guard at Utah last year, is enrolled in a pre-dental course along with brother Clayton, a Navy dischargee, who now is third in the conference individual scoring race with 60 points in four games. Clayton is holding down the center spot and brother Herbert is at one guard.

Ives Holds Scoring Mark

Dick Ives, last year's scoring champion and holder of the conference scoring mark for one game, (his 43 against Chicago last year) is at forward, paired with Co-Captain Ned Postels. Co-Captain Jack Spencer, the team's "quarterback" is paired with H. Wilkinson at guard.

From the season's opener, when Western Illinois Teachers was whopped, 101-23, the locals knew this was Iowa's year. In six non-conference games, Iowa nearly doubled the score, running up a 73-point average to 37 for their opponents, which included Notre Dame and Nebraska. This is the sort of a team that drives the bookies nuts. The Hawks defeated Notre Dame, 63-46 and Purdue, 61-34. But against Michigan, a team they figured to beat without too much trouble, they came from behind to win a 29-27 thriller after trailing for all but the last minute of play.

Pot of Gold Lures Godoy to the U.S.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Arturo Godoy, Chilean heavyweight, is en route to the United States to cash in on the big dough currently being paid to fighters. Godoy is expected in New York early next week, his manager, Al "The Vest" Weill, announced to the breathless sporting public yesterday.

Godoy fought four times in the United States in 1940, losing a 15-round decision and suffering an eight-round kayo to Joe Louis, and defeating Gus Dorazio and Tony Musto in ten rounds.

Since returning to South America, Godoy fought Roscoe Toles, an American Negro heavyweight, seven times. Toles won four, two were draws, Godoy won one. Despite this record he'll probably fill an outdoor arena when he returns. Oh, yes, he kayoed Fernando Menichelli twice in South America and what does that make Menichelli?

Points Well Distributed

Coach Popsy Harrison, who took over in 1942 when Rollie Williams joined the Navy, has developed a free shooting aggregation that has resulted in every man on the team being a consistent scoring threat. Ives scored 21 against Notre Dame and 20 against Nebraska; Denver Spencer and Murray Wier, freshmen replacements, scored 18 each against Michigan State; Clayton Wilkinson scored 24 against Nebraska, 15 against Minnesota, 16 against Purdue and 20 against Indiana; Herbert Wilkinson scored 14 against Michigan State.

Harrison is one of those unusual coaches, who isn't at all worried about the draft. Ives, Spencer and Postels are all 4F. Clayton Wilkinson, already has been discharged from the Navy, and Herbert Wilkinson has a draft deferment as a dental student.

(Tip to GIs: Hodenfield's a native of Glenwood, Iowa.—Ed.)

CAGE RESULTS

- Albright 39, Detroit 33.
- Bunker Hill Naval 62, Baer Field 25.
- Central Ind. Normal 42, Wabash 37.
- Lovel Hospital 65, Harvard 38.
- South Carolina 61, Newberry 36.
- Stout Field 46, Butler 42.

Lt. Arthur DeWitt

HE HAS RETURNED AFTER 50 BOMBING MISSIONS OVER EUROPE WITH THE PURPLE HEART, THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS AND A PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION FOR HIS EXPLOITS

NO OTHER AMERICAN HAS MATCHED HIS CLIMB OF 288 FEET MADE OFF IRON MOUNTAIN, MICH.

I COULD USE A PARACHUTE

—HOME ON A BRIEF FURLOUGH, THE GREATEST SKI JUMPER, THIS COUNTRY HAS PRODUCED TOOK PART IN THE BEAR MOUNTAIN SKI TOURNAMENT

HASH MARKS

It happened in England: Maisie was in a pub having a mild 'n' bitter when a friend walked in. "Aye say, Maisie, are you 'aving one?" "No, it's just the cut of me coat."

A canny Scot was engaged in an argument with the conductor as to whether the fare was to be five or ten shillings. Finally, the disgusted conductor picked up the Scot's suitcase and tossed it off the train, just as they were crossing a bridge. It landed with a mighty splash. "Hoot, Mon," screamed the lady, "first you try to rob me and now you've drowned my boy!"

This week's silly story. A Lieutenant Colonel enters a postal section with a parcel for posting. The clerk felt the package with experienced hands and made a rough estimate that the package weighed three pounds. "But," said the colonel, "that can't be right—I packed the contents in a two-pound candy box."

The practice of naming jeeps and trucks continues, observes Pfc Brod McGuen and the deal is limited only by the imagination of



the drivers. For example, down in the First Inf. Div., a ten-ton wrecker has the appropriate title "Scrap Drive."

Comment. "Never question your wife's judgment—look what she married."

Overheard in the blackout. "His girl is the salt of the earth—He's been trying to shake her for two years."

Chaplain: "Who is the possessor of all riches, but whom we have to know and understand before we can expect to receive them?"

Private: "The supply sergeant."

Suddenly one of the keys on the typewriter began pecking incessantly. "Oh, don't mind him," the M-key said to the N-key, "he's just a little Y-key."

J. C. W.

RADIO AFN AEF

(883kc.—514m.)

Time TODAY	
1200—News	1810—U.S. Sports
1210—Programs	1815—Swing Sextet
1215—Pat Burke	1830—Will Hay
1230—"Over to You"	1901—Top of Evening
1301—Old Opry	1915—Movie Music
1330—Army orchestra	2000—World News
1400—News	2005—Britain News
1410—Downbeat	2010—Canada News
1430—Miss Parade	2015—Football scores
1501—American band	2030—Frank Morgan
1530—Combat Diary	2100—News
1545—On the Record	2105—Soldier & Song
1630—Music	2115—Footlight mus.
1700—News	2201—U.S. News
1715—Make a Date	2207—Jubilee
1745—Hawaii Music	2235—Latin Serenade
1800—News	2301—News
1805—Mark the Map	

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

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

FOUND

BED rolls and duffle bags belonging to the following officers: Capt. Wilbur H. Arnberg, Lt. Vernon M. Baley, Lt. Gordon C. Black, Lt. A.O. Belliny, Lt. Milton Caminsky, Capt. William H. Clark, Lt. Thomas M. Christie, Capt. Norman D. Darby, Lt. S. R. Eller, Lt. Bernard L. Evinson, Lt. R.A. Gale, Lt. Lane E. Hanks, Lt. Howard Hege, Lt. Mires Hoesenthal, Lt. William James, Lt. Frank Kardinski, Lt. Clarence W. King, Lt. Curtis E. Knighton, Maj. Robert H. Kennedy, Lt. Joseph J. Keelarkus, Lt. Stanley J. Leonard, Lt. Charles J. MacDonald, Capt. John C. Mason, Lt. John J. O'Connor, Lt. Carroll N. Odell, Lt. E. Polroso, Capt. Earle L. Rich, Capt. Frank A. Reker, Capt. Augustus H. Shaw, Lt. John G. Shepard, Lt. Daniel Sewell, Lt. Roland Stenzel, Lt. Ben Tlayton, Lt. M.H. Turner, Maj. Ralph H. Vogel, Capt. George B. Warren.—Write "Sporting Point," Help Wanted.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival:
CPL Paul W. Bais, Philadelphia—Paulette Ann, Jan. 16; Lt. Clayton R. Hillson, Jamestown, N.Y.—Sharon Eileen, Dec. 10; Pvt. Bob Penfold, Merchantville, N.J.—Marvie Leann, Jan. 19; Pfc Jay W. Moody, Buffalo—girl, Jan. 14; Lt. Bernard V. Bukowski, Chicago—James Bernard, Dec. 31; Pvt. Morris Bodner, Brooklyn—Elaine, Jan. 12.

Li'l Abner

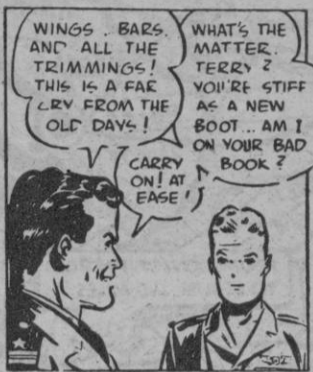
By Courtesy of United Features



Terry and The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate

By Milton Caniff



Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features

By Raeburn Van Buren



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate, Inc.

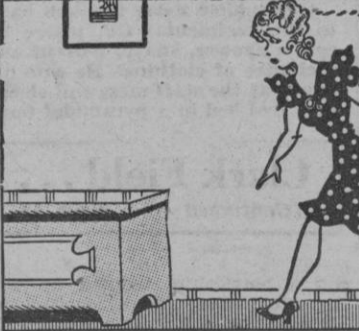
By Chester Gould



Blondie

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate

By Chic Young



Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett



Russians Cross Border 91 Mi. From Berlin

(Continued from Page 1)

Polish border, also fell to Koniev's army.

On the East Prussian fronts, the Red Army tightened the noose on the land-trapped German garrison—estimated at 200,000.

Driving along the banks of the Vistula River, Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's Second White Russian Army broke through the German defense line to reach Danzig Bay, opposite the free city on the coast of the Baltic.

Marienburg, largest railway junction in East Prussia and site of German fighter plane factories, also was captured in a drive toward Elbing, 15 miles to the northeast. Marienburg was the target for an Eighth AF bomber raid in 1944.

E. Prussian Towns Fall

Three towns near East Prussia's capital, Königsberg, fell to troops of Gen. Ivan D. Cherniakovsky's Third White Russian Army. Tappau, Allenburg and Nordenburg, described in an Order of the Day as "powerful strongpoints covering the approaches to eastern Prussia," were won after repelling ten German counter-attacks in a violent night battle.

In Budapest, Russian troops continued the battle to annihilate German garrisons surrounded in the western part of the city (Buda), while to the southwest of the city German counter-attacks were thrown back.

Cold weather was enveloping the entire eastern front from the Baltic to Hungary.

Yesterday, the Red Air Force flew in support of Marshal Zhukov's and Koniev's armies.

Moscow reports last night predicted that the climax in the eastern front battle may be reached in the next five days. One of the most important battles, the dispatch said, would take place north of Breslau, along the Oder River, where the Russians were reported concentrating powerful forces for a full sweep across their two-day-old bridgehead. The Oder was not frozen at this point.

West Front ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Seventh had wiped out the earlier bridgehead east of Haguenau. Reports yesterday said they were forcing the enemy back toward the river at the bridgehead west of Haguenau, where the Germans had pushed on into two clumps of woods, the Bois d'Uhviller and Bois d'Ohlungen. These lie below the Haguenau Forest. Haguenau itself was still firmly held at last reports.

Progress Near Colmar

Allied forces attacking the Colmar salient from the north and south were making progress.

On the north of the salient, American and French troops fighting side by side advanced across snowy fields infested with mines. In the south, between Cernay and Mulhouse, French troops seized several villages.

While pressure on the Colmar bulge mounted, British and Americans in Germany and Holland were bringing their lines up along the Roer River, facing the Cologne plain to the east.

Local Action

The Ninth Army attack was described officially as a local action. It took place between Linnich and the British Second Army sector, where Tommies had moved to within a mile of the Roer southeast of Heinzberg.

On the northern Ardennes flank the 424th Inf. Regt. of First Army's 106th Div. took the town of Medell and occupied Hill 584, south of the town.

Also north of St. Vith, the towns of Mifeld and Ambleve fell to the advancing doughs. Northeast of St. Vith, Seventh Armored Div. men took Wallerode. Wooded areas were almost cleared of Germans south of St. Vith.

CIO Voices Opposition To Peace-Time Draft

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26 (ANS).—The executive board of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, last night went on record as opposing any form of peace-time conscription of male youth. The board said it regarded conscription legislation as "an attempt to mobilize American youth as a military, strike-breaking, union-busting force."

THE AVALANCHE



9th Hammers At Rail Yards

Ground-gripping fogs and mists yesterday restricted the tactical air blows which in the past four days had destroyed or damaged approximately 7,700 German vehicles trying to escape from the Bulge.

The Ninth AF flew 280 sorties, with the largest strike of the day a 19th TAC attack on convoy remnants in the Prum area. The 29th TAC hit marshalling yards at Rheydt, Munchen-Gladbach and Greivenbroich, while the Ninth TAC sent a small force of Lightnings against motor vehicles northeast of St. Vith. A total of 137 vehicles were destroyed and 107 damaged during the day.

Thirty Marauders hit the rail bridge over the Erft River at Euskirchen, blasting German attempts to repair the bridge, which was knocked out in prior raids.

Planes of the First TAC AF hit road and rail transport in the Bitche and Colmar areas, and bombed a convoy near Karlsruhe. Eighth AF planes were grounded for the third successive day.

Legion of Merit Given Two USSTAF Officers

Brig. Gen. Clarence Kane, Air Service commander, and Col. Lowell Weicker, executive to the director of USSTAF intelligence, were awarded the Legion of Merit yesterday by Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, USSTAF chief.

Kane won the award for his work as commander of the Rome, N.Y., ASC and Weicker for his part in developing and co-ordinating air intelligence activity in the UK and in Russia.

Postmaster Renominated

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Frank C. Walker has been nominated by President Roosevelt for another term as Postmaster General.

By Invitation

WITH NINTH INF. DIV., Jan. 26.—Outstanding work by a GI in the 60th Inf. Regt. brings something more substantial than praise and a pat on the back. The daily winner gets an invitation as the CO's "guest."

One soldier a day is taken back to the regimental CP, where he gets a shower, shave, haircut and a change of clothing. He eats his meals at the staff mess and sleeps in a real bed in a pyramidal tent.

Clark Field ...

(Continued from Page 1)

ing a battleship, teamed up with Superfortresses and Liberators last Tuesday to batter Iwo Island, the enemy bastion in the Volcanoes, 750 miles south of Tokyo. It was the third air-sea assault on Iwo in two months. Iwo is midway on the Superfort route between the Marianas and Japan.

The Japanese radio reported more Superfort strikes—against Singapore and Peiping.

SEAC headquarters announced Allied advances on several sectors in Burma. British 14th Army troops were 20 miles from Mandalay, Reuter said. Allied heavy bombers attacked targets on the outskirts of Mandalay, and other planes hit Japanese headquarters.

Gen. Andrus Announced As 1st Div. Commander

WITH U.S. FIRST ARMY, Jan. 26.—Brig. Gen. Clift Andrus today was announced as First Inf. Div. commander.

He took the place of Maj. Gen. Clarence L. Huebner Dec. 13 and led the division in repulsing German breakthrough attempts at the "hot corner" of Butgenbach.

18,000 Yanks AWOL in ETO, Linked to Increase in Thefts

(Continued from Page 1) some time ago for having failed to fulfill his duty.

Rogers said that the robbery rate here and in the UK was "terrific." Official figures in the Seine Base Provost Marshal's office showed that between 120 and 334 men were picked up in Paris daily, and that an average of 100 men of that number were confined each day.

400 to Be Tried in Paris

More than 850 men are now awaiting trial, many of whom are just AWOL and will be returned to their unit. However, about 400 of the men are charged with dealing in Army equipment, or with robbery and other crimes, and will be tried in Paris.

Gen. Rogers blamed poor discipline for the mass-scale GI black-market operations.

Evidence of the scale of the drive in the Paris area, he said, was the number of men arrested so far this month. Provost Marshal statistics show 5,192 arrests in January, several hundred of whom were rounded up during the recent Paris-wide spy hunt. Of this number, 2,659 men were confined in guardhouses for varying periods. There were 1,333 American soldiers in Paris guardhouses yesterday.

Most serious of the black-market cases were the gasoline thefts, Gen. Rogers said. "We can fight without cigarettes, but not without gasoline," he declared. He said that this was demonstrated most forcibly last September when Patton's tanks reached the Siegfried Line and ran dry while "Army trucks were backed up the whole length of the Champs-Elysees with GIs selling gas by the canful and cigarettes by the carton."

Col. Ernest Buhmaster, Seine Section Provost Marshal, who formerly was Provost Marshal for the London area, said that the number

of arrests made by Paris MPs has tripled in recent months. Even more serious, he said, was the increasing channelization of crime among U.S. soldiers into gangs.

"In London," he recalled, "we got along with 700 MPs. Here we have 4,000 though it's not so important a base as London was."

Buhmaster suggested two basic reasons for the rise of black-market gangs. First, the exchange rate of 50 francs to a dollar gives the soldier only a meager pay, but at the same time it makes it possible for him to get fabulous prices in francs for government equipment.

Second, the civilian population suffers from so many shortages that there is a market for anything the soldier can sell. "Paris is where the money is, and that's where the trouble is, too," Buhmaster declared.

Many Canadian AWOLs Reported Returning

OTTAWA, Jan. 26 (ANS).—A good many of the estimated 6,300 Canadian home defense troops who were conscripted for overseas duty and then went AWOL shortly before their sailing date are returning voluntarily to their units, the U.P. said today.

The government has issued no figures on the number of men returning, but has reiterated that those who did not report within 21 days after their Christmas pre-embarkation leave are considered deserters. It was reported that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had been called in to aid in a nation-wide roundup of the Army absentees.

An estimated 1,100 defense troops are reported still AWOL in Montreal and the surrounding area.