

# City That Spawned Goebbels Silent in War's Wake

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

MUNCHEN-GLADBACH, March 2 (Delayed).—There isn't a sound in the streets where Joseph Goebbels spent a loud-mouthed boyhood and grew up hating even the kids with whom he went to school.

In the biggest German city yet captured on the West Front the silence is worse than the noise the shells made yesterday. It's worse because there are people here, and there ought to be at least the noises people make in living. Especially in the town where Joseph Goebbels grew up there ought to be noise. But there isn't.

The sound of the fighting is gone. The weary, muddy doughs of the 29th Inf. Div. have killed or captured the last German who would fight.

Later, in the daylight, the trucks will begin to rumble up the broken cobbles of the streets, hauling the material which has been flooding across the Cologne Plain. The men of the 115th and the 116th and the 175th and all the rest with the Blue and Gray patches will go out into the street and look at what they've conquered.

Down in the candle-lighted caves and cellars, the 15,000 to 20,000 persons who have hidden from the fighting will listen and they won't hear any more of the fighting sounds, so they'll come out

into the streets and pick their way through the rubble and the broken bricks and the twisted steel that Adolf Hitler and Joseph Goebbels gave them.

All day yesterday the doughs slugged northward through the city in a drizzling rain. They came into Rheydt, which is the southern part of the city, fought up Horst Wesselstrasse against little clumps of Nazi die-hards and early-quitting Volksturm.

(Eight years ago Munchen-Gladbach became Gladbach-Rheydt, because the interval between suburb and city had been built up; and the people who worked in the textile mills, the iron foundries and the railroad yards of the combined area made

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PARIS EDITION

## THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

1 Fr.

1 Fr.

Ici, on Parle Français

Nous avons faim et soif.

Nooz av-own fam ay swaf.

We are hungry and thirsty.

Man Spricht Deutsch

Gas, Wasser, Elektrizitaet.

Gahs, Yahsser, Elektriziteht.

Gas, Water, Electricity.

Vol. 1—No. 220

Sunday, March 4, 1945

# Ninth Captures Krefeld, Links Up With Canadians

## Gen. Harmon Is Missing on Pacific Flight

U.S. ARMY HQ., Pacific Ocean Areas, March 3 (ANS).—Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, commander of Army Air Forces operating in the Pacific, is missing with nine other officers on a routine flight over the Pacific.

All available ships and planes have been dispatched on the greatest search ever made in the Pacific, surpassing even the widespread searches for Amelia Earhart and Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker.

The Army's announcement did not disclose when or where Harmon's big converted bomber was lost. When last heard from, it had ample fuel to complete its flight and was traveling through good weather over calm seas.

There was no indication whether the plane might have been attacked by Japanese aircraft or whether it might have crashed because of operational difficulties.

The missing officers include: Harmon's chief of staff, Col. William Ball, of Washington, D.C.; James R. Anderson, also of Washington, executive officer for the deputy commander of the AAF in the Pacific, and Maj. Francis E. Savage, pilot.

Harmon, a native of San Francisco and a West Pointer, commanded Army forces in the Solomon Islands fighting.

## American Defense Proposal Approved

MEXICO CITY, March 3 (AP).—The "Act of Chapultepec," under which the territorial integrity of Western Hemisphere nations would be guaranteed by arms was approved today by an inter-American affairs commission.

Final approval by the Inter-American conference is a formality, since all 20 participating nations were represented on the commission.

Commission approval came after U.S. adoption of a formula whereby it can participate in military action to prevent aggression in this hemisphere.

## Yanks Clean Out Japs in Corregidor Caves



Paratroopers, their automatic weapons blazing, clean out suicide squads of Japanese troops holding out in shell holes on Corregidor. U.S. troops in this island yesterday were still searching for isolated Jap soldiers, hiding in caves and waiting to fight to death.

## Navy Hits Isles Close to Japan

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HQ., Guam, March 3 (AP).—American carrier planes, making a virtually unopposed sweep across the Ryukyu Islands, southwest of Japan, on Thursday, destroyed or damaged 55 Japanese ships and 91 planes, Adm. Nimitz announced today.

Warships from the U.S. Fifth Fleet followed up the daylight air action with a night-long bombardment of Okino Daito, 210 miles east of the main Ryukyu chain, which guards the approaches to southern Japan and the China coast.

The bombarding warships were only 350 miles south of Japan—the closest announced approach to the enemy mainland in a naval-gun attack on shore objectives.

Adm. Nimitz said that 13 enemy vessels were sunk in the Ryukyu strike, while 13 were probably sunk and 29 more were damaged.

The American planes hit military, naval and air installations in the Ryukyus.

## 3 Jap Admirals Killed

Radio Tokyo reported yesterday that three more Japanese admirals had been killed in action.

## Soviets Isolate Nazis in Danzig

Berlin radio reported yesterday that Soviet troops in eastern Pomerania were within sight of the Baltic after a drive which cut off large German forces in Danzig and the Polish Corridor from all land communication with Germany.

Marshal Stalin announced last night that Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's troops had captured the towns of Rummelsberg and Pollnow, important communications centers and German strongpoints in Pomerania.

Fall of the towns strengthened the base of Marshal Rokossovsky's drive toward the sea. Pollnow is 22 miles from the Baltic, and Rummelsberg is about 30 miles from the sea.

German reports said that Rokossovsky's advanced forces had cut across the Danzig-Stettin railroad and highway just east of Koeslin, and had only four miles to go before reaching the Baltic. Soviet tanks were threatening to break into Koeslin.

Last night's Soviet communiqué reported that Russian troops had taken more than 80 towns and vil-

## Nazis Demolish Dusseldorf Spans

U.S. Ninth Army units were joined on the western Cologne plain yesterday by forward units of the Canadian First Army as others of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's forces completed the capture of Krefeld, biggest Nazi industrial center yet to fall to the American troops, and cleared Neuss, hub of the American spearhead at the Rhine opposite Dusseldorf.

The Germans were reported to have blown all three Rhine River bridges in the Dusseldorf area, including the Neuss bridge, which was built in 1929 with loans from Allied countries, and the Uerdingen bridge near Krefeld.

One frontline dispatch described how American troops attempted to cross the Rhine in rubber boats to prevent the demolitions. The Germans spotted them and immediately set off bridge-crushing charges, whereupon the American patrols returned.

The link-up—reportedly between Kerveler and Geldern—followed a collapse of German resistance along the Maas River, where at some points on the Canadian west flank British forces lost contact with the retreating Nazis. S & S Correspondent Robert L. Moora reported that elements of the 17th Cavalry Squadron of the Ninth's 16th Corps made the contact with the British. Thirty-fifth Div. doughboys, who were last reported fighting in the Venlo sector and entering Geldern, were closest to the Canadian forces just before the link-up.

Junction of the two armies meant that they might now squeeze the Germans out of the northern plain and funnel them through the Rhine bridges at Wesel and Duisburg like paste through a tube. It also meant the virtual end of organized German resistance in the lower Rhineland, but

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## Warning From Eisenhower

Gen. Eisenhower yesterday told German civilians west of the Rhine to stay where they are, for every attempt at evacuation means immediate danger of death from Allied artillery and air bombardment. The instructions were broadcast over Luxembourg Radio, Reuter reported.

Declaring that "there is no security east of the Rhine," Gen. Eisenhower told these Germans

that henceforth all roads to the Rhine and its crossings will be over-crowded with fleeing German troops and will be kept under artillery and air bombardment. He urged the civilians to avoid a "senseless bloodbath."

"Persuade German groups cut off by the Allied advance to lay down arms and avoid the roads until it is possible for them to reach safety as prisoners of war," the Eisenhower statement said.





### Mud Gets in Your Pipes

Most wheeled vehicles have been suffering from unconscious neglect. This thaw is resulting in a lot of mud of the clinging variety that takes hold on anything and everything. Its most harmful habit is clinging to and clogging the inside of exhaust pipes. This condition, if left uncorrected, results in loss of power and ultimately in burned out valves.

To eliminate this condition clean out this pipe frequently. As an additional aid we have welded on about eight inches of extra pipe to the tail pipe, thus bringing the pipe away from the splash of the wheels.—Cpl. F. W. 417th Inf.

\* \* \*

### Teachers Must Eat

I wish that Lt. Hamilton's B-Bag letter regarding U.S. education could be printed on the front page of every U.S. newspaper. It states briefly and clearly what teachers have been trying to bring to public attention for a long time.

First rate educators cannot afford to remain in the profession unless they sacrifice their own security and welfare for the satisfaction derived from teaching.

My father has taught more than thirty years. My mother has taught over twenty years. If both lost their jobs tomorrow, they would have to cash war bonds to pay rent. Very few summers have passed when they did not borrow money to improve and continue their education at summer terms.

After two years I quit teaching because I could not maintain a respectable standard of living for myself and my wife. . . I have the background and the education to fit me for teaching, but I will not return to it until it offers me as much as any other honest job I can get. When I wear an \$18 suit and try to impress the value of more education upon a high school boy who wears a \$50 suit and earns almost as much as I do by jerking sodas in his spare time, he says, "What does your education get you?"

The U.S. public has adopted the attitude "You get about what you pay for" in other matters. Why not in education? They are not paying for first-class education.—Sgt. Degge Freeman, M.P. Co.

\* \* \*

### Hot About Hot Dogs

Note your news item headed "485 Million Hot Dogs." So the War Department says American soldiers on the Western Front like hot dogs. Proof: That's how many we ate.

What does the WD expect us to do with the hot dogs when they are slapped onto our plates or mess kits? Just try to throw them into the garbage and you are requested to leave your name, rank and ASN. I'd like to know a food the American soldier likes less than the Army hot dog. The only foods I can think of that might be runners up are baloney or K ration lemon powder and dog biscuits. I'm not talking of the good old U.S. hot dog—the kind we used to buy back home. If the WD really wants to know what we think of those hot dogs we eat, it ought to send a few representatives to stand around the mess halls and listen to us as we leave it after a meal of said allegedly favorite food. Maybe they can't get anything better to us at times but, for heaven's sake, don't say we like them!—Sgt. T.E.

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# It's Just Another River... Big, Deep, Wet

By Ernest Leiser and Ralph G. Martin

Stars and Stripes Staff Writers

NEUSS ON THE RHINE, March 2 (Delayed).—"It's just another goddam river."

That's what the Joes were saying in their Third Bn. OP as they watched the fighting still going on just ahead along the banks of the Rhine near the Neuss-Dusseldorf bridges.

Nobody was celebrating, nobody seemed to be excited at this thing which was making the headlines of the world. They were glad to be in Neuss, mainly because they were going to sleep in houses tonight.

On the floor below the OP, old women were silently reading their Bibles and occasionally looking up at the soldiers with expressionless faces, just as if there were no war outside, just as if there were no shells bro-omphing all around the place.

### Observers Watch Distant Figures

In the tower, artillery observers stared through field glasses at the doughfeet who were pushing in slowly toward the last-ditch Nazi defense line in front of the bridges.

These guys of the Third Bn. of the 329th Regt. of the 83rd Div. had outflanked Neuss, coming directly onto this long, flat stretch leading into the Rhine, where they bumped into thick concentrations of Nazi 20mm. and anti-tank high-velocity stuff firing at point-blank range. Meanwhile, the First Bn. had swept past stiff resistance at the city's outskirts, marching into Main St. as they fired at Volksturm snipers who were scattered in houses all along the way.

Neuss was full of civilians. Of the pre-war population of

60,000, an estimated 30,000 were still here, war or no war. They were walking the streets, disregarding both machine-gun and sniper fire as if they knew that none of it was meant for them. But military government men were already at work on proclamations saying, among other things, that they should stay in their homes.

Pvt. John Martiz, of Cumberland, Md., a mortarman in Charlie Co., hadn't been up to see the river yet.

"And I'm not curious at all," he said. "I just don't give a damn. Besides, I'll see it soon enough."

### Three Volunteered—Out of Curiosity

There were three guys, though, who were curious. They were curious enough to volunteer to be the regiment's first patrol to go and see just what the situation was down by the Rhine.

They found out. The Jerries had all kinds of guns and they planted them in deeply-dug holes all along the bank and they were all set, waiting. As for the river itself, "It was big and deep and wet," said S/Sgt. Donald McKay, an ex-Hollywood prop man, who led the patrol.

The regiment claimed that they were the first to reach the Rhine, but then every outfit, within five kilometers, was making similar claims.

But nobody disputed the claim of which two Joes crossed the Rhine first.

1/Lt. Sam Butturff, of San Francisco, an observer at the battalion OP, watched them start out. He said:

"The two of them just headed across. Nobody knew who they were or where they were going. And nobody's heard from them since."

### Caffery Sees Com Z Exposition Showing Behind Lines Tasks

American Ambassador Jefferson Caffery and other U.S. and French civil and military leaders yesterday attended the preview of "Com Z—Les Armées Americaines en France," a pictorial exposition of the work of Communications Zone troops.

The exposition, which opened yesterday at 3 Place de l'Opera, Paris, is presented by the U.S. Information Service, to show how the American Army here—in co-operation with French officials—supplies and services the Allied front, and at the same time helps reconstruct France.

Ambassador Caffery said the exhibits will "achieve a great deal" in enlightening Frenchmen and Americans on the problems of maintaining the intricate system of supply and communications.

The exhibit is open from 1000 to 1900 daily.

### Left-Handed Check Books

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., March 3 (ANS).—A Chattanooga bank is now supplying port-sided depositors with left-handed check books. Checks to be torn out are on the left and remaining stubs on the right.

## Armed Forces Again Allowed Leeway on U.S. Income Taxes

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 3.—Federal income-tax collectors will get the brush-off again this year from servicemen and women whose total military and outside income did not exceed \$2,000 in 1944, according to latest tax information from Washington.

A basic exemption of \$1,500 is allowed those on active duty.

In addition, an exemption of \$500 is authorized on incomes from sources other than service pay.

Military personnel whose pay was less than \$1,500 during 1944 and who received no other income will not be required to file a return. All others must file by March 15, if stationed in the U.S., or by the 15th of the fourth month after returning to the States from overseas. However, postponement may not be made beyond the 15th of the third month following the end of the war.

Deductions for dependency and other expenses are permitted on the same basis as allowed non-military taxpayers in addition to the total exemption of \$2,000. Servicemen subject to tax whose ability to pay is impaired by active duty may request a postponement of payment not to exceed six months from date of discharge. Application

in writing may be made to accompany tax return form.

A civilian wife whose husband is entitled to a postponement may request a similar period of grace if her 1944 gross income was less than \$1,200.

Veterans may discount from taxable income, money received as mustering-out pay, benefits under the GI Bill of Rights, pensions, disability compensation and retirement pay. The "armed forces," as interpreted by law, do not include Red Cross, Merchant Marine or civilian units working with the Army.

## N.Y. Free Hiring Bill Passes First Legislative Test

ALBANY, N.Y., March 3 (UP).—The New York Assembly last night passed a bill to outlaw discrimination by employers because of race, creed, color or national origin.

Vote on the measure, which awaits action in the State Senate, was 109 to 32. All dissenters were members of the Republican majority.

The lower house's approval of the unprecedented measure, supported by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, came after six hours of heated debate. Opponents of the bill charged that its enactment will stir up racial hatred and "bring about the revival of the Ku Klux Klan." They unsuccessfully sought an amendment to put the bill before the people in a statewide referendum.

The bill would create a five-member enforcement commission. Violations would subject employers to a year's imprisonment or a fine of \$500, or both.

## Ohioans Pray for Sun As River Peril Rises

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 3 (AP).—Whether the Ohio River flood reaches disaster proportions or recedes without doing major damage appeared tonight to depend on the amount of rainfall in the next 24 hours.

Early today the river reached 59 feet, seven feet above flood stage. It was rising two-tenths of a foot per hour.

## Goebbels . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

it a larger city than Aachen, which was the largest town the Yanks had taken before this one.

The doughs fought through Rheydt and only a couple of them knew as they went along that this was the place where a woman named Oldenhausen, from up near the Dutch border, and a man named Goebbels spawned a scrawny, mean-mouthed thing which was to grow up to be the voice of everything these doughs were fighting.

### Told To Give It To Him

They got into the old city of Munchen-Gladbach and in the evening they swept past a big castle-like affair called Schloss Rheydt, which was the castle the Nazis told the people to give to Goebbels, their native son.

"You will give Schloss Rheydt to Dr. Goebbels, Reichsminister for Propaganda, out of gratitude," the Nazis told the people of the city.

In the first darkness, the noise stopped around the first battalion CP of Maj. John Geiglen, of Westminster, Md. A Joe from the 175th went down the street with a mess kit and there was a German soldier on the corner, gun in hand.

The Joe pointed the mess kit at the kraut, and the German dropped his gun and marched off to the CP. There wasn't a word said.

### The Big Mouth

In the cellar of the Gladbach-Rheydt praesidium, the police station, old Johann (he was afraid of using his last name—still afraid of the Gestapo) and his daughter Maria sat and talked about Joseph Goebbels. Johann is 59 and he was born in Rheydt, so he remembers the kid with the beady eyes and the big mouth.

Johann is an ordinary little guy. He voted for Hitler, and cheered at the party rallies. He shouted "sieg heil" every year when Joe Goebbels came back to spend a day or two in the old home town.

### Shouting No More

Tonight, Johann isn't doing any shouting; nor Maria, who took her hard little voice to the Hitler Jugend meeting every week night.

Johann says the Catholic church sent Joe Goebbels to school, and after Goebbels grew up and got to be a Reichsminister he came back and made the church take down all its service notices and stop half of its activities. Johann tells Pvt. Wolf that "Goebbels' mind was as twisted as his foot."

Back on the street, Cpl. Ed Gilfern, of East Orange, N.J., a 29th Recon trooper, stands a while and gestures towards the town and says, "It's quiet enough to hear."

The moon comes out—March 1, and the last day of Nazi rule becomes March 2 and first day of Allied occupation; and that's that. Munchen-Gladbach-Rheydt, largest German city taken by the Allies in the west, is fallen.

### Private Breger



"Sergeant, will you kindly inform this man it is not necessary to remove his glove before saluting?"



# Warweek

## A Nazi Kid Trained to Sabotage Engineers Hurdle the Roer Wall An Artillery Spotter Spots Tricks

Sunday, March 4, 1945

WARWEEK—THE STARS AND STRIPES

Page 3

# Introducing... Little Wilhelm

### A Product of the Nazi System, This Young Saboteur is a Puzzle To American MPs Guarding Him

By John Christie  
Warweek Staff Writer

THE MPs would have the kid repeat the pledge he learned at sabotage school almost every time they had occasion to go to his cell or when they would take him somewhere for interrogation.

You couldn't help laughing at him. He always clicked his heels so sharply and stood so rigidly at attention and then he would hold the Nazi salute while he gave the pledge, which in English means: "Hail and Victory; We Will Win the War."

What made the routine even funnier was the kid's uniform. He wore a black blouse type shirt and black pantaloons, the kind of ankle-fitting trousers youngsters commonly wear in Holland. Epaulets on the shirt were bordered in red and fastened by a cheap metal button. His little overcoat was dark blue and he had a felt visor cap to match.

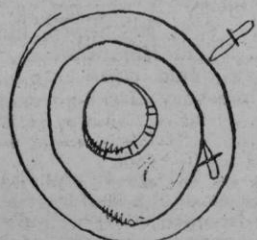
Every one called him little Wilhelm. His real name was a Dutch tongue twister and anyway it can't be used because both his parents are in jail as political prisoners of the Dutch government. They were ardent Nazis and that was why little Wilhelm went to the German sabotage school at Antwerp.

#### Only 14 Years Old

Wilhelm admits his old man made him go. Although he was the only kid in the little Dutch village who was eligible, by reason of Nazi parentage, his going to the school nevertheless would strengthen his father's prestige with the local Gestapo agent. Then, too, there was the matter of money. Not only did the kid get an allowance while he was going to school, but his parents got paid also.

Little Wilhelm was only 14 when he left for the big city. He had had seven years of schooling and apparently was well brought up religiously. Naturally he was too young to realize that his religion and the Nazi teachings were incompatible. So, with the same deadly earnestness with which he once said "Heil und Sieg, Wir Winnen den Krieg" he blesses himself before taking even a bite of K ration.

There were 400 Flemish boys in little Wilhelm's class at Antwerp. It was a nine-week course and essentially the same as the train-



ing given the Hitler Youth in the Reich proper. In fact, all the kids in the class were members of the Flemish version of the Hitler Youth. Physical training and use of weapons accounted for most of the school day as the course was

supposed to be preparatory to going into the armed forces. An indication that the kids might have been called up soon, at least for AA defense, was the fact that they had extensive training in aircraft identification.

#### It Might Have Worked

The U.S. Army's chief interest in little Wilhelm is in connection with his sabotage training. The sabotage course at Antwerp undoubtedly was elementary compared to the type of training which, according to authoritative sources, is believed to have been in progress inside Germany for many months. The kids in the border countries could only be expected to menace military operations temporarily, whereas the Nazi high command apparently expects the Hitler Youth and other Nazi organizations to carry on guerrilla warfare by underground supervision for some time after defeat.

The Nazi idea of training these kids in sabotage methods and sending them back to their respective towns to await the arrival of Allied troops might have worked except for the fact that the German Army got caught with its pants down and training was interrupted. The liberation of the Low Countries, especially parts of Holland, came so far ahead of the Nazi timetable that the scheme can be chalked off as a failure generally.

However, little Wilhelm's training is worth noting because it shows what we can expect to meet inside Germany. It is also worth noting because it emphasizes more than anything else the extent to which children under Nazi domination have been robbed of the normal characteristics of childhood and encouraged to become hoodlums for a phoney cause.

#### How to Slash Tires

One of the prize possessions of the kids when they left sabotage school was a special knife for use in slashing the tires of American vehicles. All the kids were proud of the knife, just like any kid at home is proud of his first Boy Scout knife. It is really a slick little gadget. A push button slides the blade out of the handle and locks it open so that tires can be cut without danger of the blade folding in.

According to the diagrams the German officer put on the blackboard, the place to make the cut is on the side wall of the tire, just below the tread or at the edge of the rim. Wilhelm said the in-



Little Wilhelm is not shown, but here are two other Hitler bobby-sock fans trained in Nazi sabotage schools. They were captured sniping at Yanks in a wood near Aachen. Just kids—but dangerous.

structor told them tires would be more difficult to repair if they were cut that way. If the tread were slashed, the tire could be vulcanized too easily, the kid remembered the instructor saying.

The young saboteur trainees were instructed how to plant a special type of incendiary charge in vehicles. These gadgets, as far as can be made out from Wilhelm's description, are about the size of a grenade. They are set off by what Wilhelm describe as a "push fuse." It is set in motion by the vibration of the motor or jolting of the vehicle. He said the "bomb" will burn from five to ten minutes with a small, intense, blue flame. They were to be fastened somewhere near the motor or gas tank by wire.



According to the kid, each trainee was given a supply of 10 to 15 incendiaries when he left school. They were to be taken to their village or town and hid until Allied troops liberated the area. For some vague reason little Wilhelm never got his supply.

#### No Proof of Use

From repeated questioning of the kid and from his own unsolicited remarks, it appears that the German officers were careful to brief their students as to the best way to conduct themselves to avoid arousing suspicion. Of course, they were instructed not to wear their school uniform around town when they got home. They were told to mingle with the other kids and, when Allied troops occupied the place, to hang around them, to be friendly and even helpful and to show a normal amount of curiosity in the equipment.

No actual proof of the incendiary charge having been used has been brought to light as yet. However, in at least two cases where trucks have mysteriously caught fire in a German border area, it has developed that children were playing around the vehicles at some time while they were parked.

Instruction in demolition seems to have been limited to bridges, according to what the kid has said. But, since demolitions are recognized as the guerrilla's most

effective weapon, it is reasonable to believe that such instruction has been more extensive at sabotage training schools inside the Reich.

The diagram the kid seems to remember best, and often reproduces on a scrap of paper, is that of a simple bridge showing small charges placed at intervals and connected by wires along one beam, or span. This is the method little Wilhelm says was to be used to dynamite fixed bridges. In the case of a drawbridge, he says, the charges would be placed at the hinge of the draw mechanism.

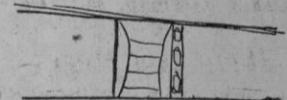
Wire cutting was part of the sabotage curriculum at the Antwerp school. Wilhelm said he was told to bury the ends of the cut line so that repair crews would have added difficulty in fixing a break. It also developed from questioning him repeatedly that slyly placing a line across the rail of a train trolley track was suggested.

A good part of the instruction was based on the idea of making use of these kids to menace military operations in the rear of an

shell and would thus bring about some fumbling with the line ammo.

In the case of artillery shells, the kids were shown how to unscrew the projectile fuse ring and were told to fill the fuse chamber with water or snow as a means of dudding the ammunition.

They studied English at Wilhelm's class at Antwerp—but not from a cultural standpoint. Instead of wasting their time translating children's books, they



were drilled in practical military English that would enable them to get the drift of conversations overheard around troops. The idea was that they should listen for information that might be of value to the Krauts and then attempt to get through the German lines. Also, they were to listen for locations of installations and gun positions, where they might be able to steal something of value or perform an act of sabotage.

#### Not A Normal Kid

It isn't hard for the kid's keepers to imagine how well little Wilhelm might have done as a saboteur if the conditions had been favorable. He's one of those boys who's a natural for any Joe or outfit to take under their wing. He's a pleasant, quiet, helpful sort you like to have around. In fact, before he decided to turn himself in to the Yanks, he worked for a couple of days peeling spuds for an outfit of British Tommies. He's the kind of a kid who wouldn't arouse your suspicion if you saw him monkeying around a truck or jeep because his curiosity would seem so genuine, so personally reminiscent.

In Germany, apparently, we must go on the assumption that the enemy goes almost to the cradle. Already we can conclude that victory over Germany cannot be won by just blasting its cities, killing its soldiers or even over-running the entire country. It can only come when they know from the cradle up what the little Dutch kid is slowly, painfully trying to savvy.

The crude drawings reproduced on this page were made by little Wilhelm as he explained lessons he had received in:

- a. Where to slash a tire.
- b. What an incendiary bomb looks like, and
- c. Where to place bridge demolition charges.

They are reproduced exactly as he drew them in his childish scrawl.

advancing force. For example, they were given considerable instruction on sabotaging ammunition at artillery and AA gun emplacements.

They were instructed to hang around AA gun positions and wait for an opportunity to reverse a shell in the ammo storage. They were told to lift up the top two shells and turn over the third one down so that the change would be less apt to be noticed by the gun crew. The idea, according to the kid, was that in rapid firing the ammo passers would not be likely to notice the turned around





# Engineers Won Roer Battle..

## A Flooded River Raked By Withering Kraut Fire Was Their Foe In The Tough Mission Of Getting The Doughs Across

clear the river slopes of barbed wire and underwater mines—mines left by the Krauts and inundated by the rising waters.

In the meantime, the assault boats, the storm boats, the foot-bridges, floats and the duckboards and all the other materials needed for the crossing had to be gotten down to the river—without detection by Kraut artillery observers. This movement was all done at night—and unwelcome light came from the moon.

The dirty work was never done. It went on in the same, unheralded, unnoticed way it had always gone on. Appreciated only by the infantryman who knew his life might depend on these sweating combat engineers. Appreciated only by the Brass who knew that the success or failure of the whole operation depended on this one lone battalion of combat engineers. Appreciated only by the "matka" Krauts on the other side, who knew that this was an engineers' battle and that the Roer River—not they—was the only thing standing between them and a soft six-foot spot of "Lebensraum."

The jump-off was postponed twice. The infantry sweated it out. The engineers just sweat. Then the word came down.

The assault infantry waves would go across at 0330 hours, Feb. 23, preceded by a 45-minute artillery barrage from scores of guns on the First Army front. The Blue battalion of the 28th Infantry would paddle themselves across in assault boats at 0250 on the southern sector to reach the town of Stockheim and secure the flank.

As soon as the artillery preparation finished, units of the 12th Combat Engineer Bn. would immediately begin ferrying troops across in both assault boats and storm boats, while other units would be getting the infantry across. It was slow—but the infantry was getting across. That was the important thing: The infantry was getting across.

Baker Company had run into the same difficulty on its sector. The river—the river—the river. The enemy fire was bad and it was concentrated. The men could take that and they did, but that river swamped their foot-bridges and swamped the assault boats and storm boats in which the engineers tried to cross to the far shore to anchor the cables.

Charley Company tried the storm boats first. The motors wouldn't work. Then the assault boats. They got some of the infantry across under a murderous hail of fire, but many of the boats were lost—too many. Too few "doggies" were getting across the river by this method, so it was decided to put C Company with A company to keep the ferries running and keep trying to get a foot-bridge across.

There was no relief. By 1800 hours all attempts to get the foot-bridge across the rapacious Roer had been given up and all existing engineer members of the 12th Bn. were ordered to stay at their posts and operate the ferries. Three were in operation, two in the northern sector and one in the south.

Able, Baker and Charley Companies had been on the bridgehead since the jump-off at 0330 hours. They had had no relief. There was nobody to relieve them. One 12th Engineer platoon, commanded by Lt. Medding, was held in reserve for the mine-clearing job on the roads on the other side of the river when and if the armor should get across. This platoon had to be held. All members of the headquarters and Service company who could possibly be spared from more pressing duties were rushed to the bridge sites.

The ferries kept operating. At 0500, Feb. 24, every "doggie" of the two assault regiments was across the river and on the way to Duren city proper.

By 0900, the Corps engineers had gotten the Bailey bridge across and the TDs and tanks of the 644th TD battalion, attached to the 8th Division, were crossing to relieve the hard-pressed "doughs" on the other side.

The 12th Combat Engineers, A, B and C companies, stayed at their posts to carry on the ferrying if the Bailey should happen to be shot away by the Kraut artillery on a hill above Duren.

Lt. Medding's platoon was already on the other side beginning their mine clearing and demolition.

The infantry was across. The tanks were across. The light, and some of the heavy weapons were across. The necessary supplies were across. The Roer was licked.

The half-starved gaunt battle giants of the 12th Engineer Battalion could rest now—for a little while—and count the cost of a river crossing. They licked their wounds, but they were proud. They carried their sadness like brave men. Some looked at each other and in that look was the affection and the love of men who have faced the most awful thing life has to offer.

Most of them just flopped—and slept in utter exhaustion. When they awoke they would have time to decide that they were—Engineers—and Infantry—and Sailors.

## Their Job Was to Span River for Infantry

By Joe Weston  
Warweek Staff Writer

WITH THE ENGINEERS, on the Roer.—The Golden Arrow spearhead of the 8th Infantry Division was launched across the raging Roer River toward the tormented belly of Cologne by a battered bunch of combat engineers who never had time to decide whether they were engineers, or infantry—or sailors. They never had time because the 12th Combat Engineer Bn., supported by a Corps Engineer Bn. had the back-breaking and blood-letting job of getting a Division of "doggies" across a racing river and into the town of Duren on the other side.

They never had time because the raging ten-mile-per-hour current of the swollen Roer sank their foot-bridges. Because concentrated Jerry mortar, artillery and MG fire snapped their ferrying cables and swamped their assault and storm boats and killed their men who carried on in the face of the murderous hail of steel.

They never had time because they were too damned busy getting infantrymen and supplies across the Roer.

Books may one day be written about combat engineers in general and about the 12th in particular but 2/Lt. Armando Pollicastro, Tukerton, N.J., a platoon commander of Able Company said it all and said it better when he replied to his Bn. CO's query, "Can you get that ferry cable across?" "Sir," he said with as much emotion as a walking dead man is capable of having, "We haven't eaten or slept for sixteen hours. It is impossible to get and keep that cable across the river. But we'll do it somehow."

"Get 'em Across."

They got the ferry cable across. The general mission of the 12th Engineers was a masterpiece of simplicity—on paper. "Get the assault troops across." That was all.

It would have been as easy as writing it—except for the river.

most every night, with engineers and infantry patrols trying to paddle across the river in assault boats—testing the angry current, finding out how close to a predetermined point on the far shore they could land the boat. Many of the pick-and-shovel men didn't come back. Shall-arms fire got some. The river got most.

The Roer didn't get Engineer Cpl. Maurice Murphy, of New York City, or Pfc "Shorty" Anthofer, of Dedham, Iowa.

"We took six 'doggies' of a 13th Infantry Regt. patrol across," said Murphy. "The boat swamped half way over. The rest started swimming for the near shore. Anthofer and I struck out for the far shore. A machine-gun started after us. They missed. We crawled up the bank. Three Krauts loomed out of the darkness and hollered 'Kamerad.' We brought 'em back alive in an assault boat the next night," he said.

Murphy holds a Purple Heart with four clusters.

But this type of thing was just kid-stuff for the engineers.

More important, but far less glamorous, tasks remained to be done before preparations for the assault crossing could be called complete.

Observed Roads

There is damn little for the historians to chronicle in road-work. Just plain, back-breaking, monotonous pick and shovel work. But without it—and the engineers to do it—the river crossing would have been one of those tragic things which military communiques mention as "our troops withdrew according to plan."

Although the infantry—the famed 28th and 13th Infantry Regiments of the Golden Arrow—had already taken the river towns of Rolsdorf and Lendersdorf which was the first necessary step, the road net on the 8th Division sector was a muddy, shot-up, crater-pocked mess.

There were no north and south lateral roads running parallel to the front. The secondary roads radiating around and through the two riverside towns in other hands were almost impassable to heavy traffic and were also under direct enemy observation. Kraut artillery—done made the most of it. The main road running through Rolsdorf was appropriately named 88 Boulevard by engineers who spent many a weary day and night digging through it.

The Far Bank

During the day, observers in the town kept a constant watch on the stake, gauging the rise and fall of the river. At night, other engineers crawled out to the stadia to feel the notches. Thus, a 24-hour check was kept by the men of the 12th on the depth of the river.

Illustration by John R. Fischetti.

### GI Sweats Out U.S. Barrage One Shake From Enemy

Sgt. Mickey Camillo, Linwood, Pa., A Company of the 3rd Platoon, is about the only 12th Bn. engineer who started the Kraut side and worked his way back home.

Nine days before the jump-off, Mickey took a three-man engineer and a nine-man infantry patrol across the river in an assault boat. The patrol across the river in the Jerry boat capsized and Camillo headed for the Jerry side which was nearest. An MG spotted him and shot away the sleeve of his field jacket. Then it jammed—and Mickey scrambled to safety. He managed to get to the cellar of a row of apartment houses which had been the target for our artillery. It was not in very good shape. For nine days he played hide and seek with the Jerries in the network of cellars. Every time they would come into one he would get out. When they left he would come in again.

T/5 John Hoglund, Providence, R.I., is an A Company 2nd Platoon medic. He holds a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. For seventeen hours he stayed on the bridge site with his engineers.

When an infantryman suffered a nasty leg wound, Hoglund, realizing that an amputation was necessary to save the man's life, amputated the soldier's foot from the ankle, using only the implements he had—a penknife, sulfa pads, bandages and a tourniquet. All this while he was under heavy mortar and artillery fire.

Hoglund, who received his citizenship papers before coming overseas, was a farmer in Sweden, a wood-chopper in Maine and an angel on the Roer.

## Blood, Guts and Grit Conquered The Turbulent Roer



Map shows Eighth Division Sector, comprising southern half of Duren and all of Krauthausen. Combat engineers braved enemy artillery and machine-gun fire in setting up three ferrying cable sites (shown by arrows) for the hazardous river jump.



The shell-rocked town of Rolsdorf in foreground was a living hell when the fighting Eighth Division spearhead stormed the Roer in the face of blistering fire from the enemy heavily entrenched in Duren, across the flood-swollen Roer River.

### These Lessons Were Learned on the Roer

<b>DO</b>	<b>DON'T</b>
Overhaul your storm-boat motor before attempting a major crossing.	Use the storm boat when the more stable double-ended assault boats will do. Speed isn't everything.
Use skilled men to operate storm-boat motors. Lives depend on its successful operation.	Trust to luck that a motor will run when you want it to.
Organize your assault-boat teams and have experienced paddlers.	Don't throw away your paddle or let your boat drift away after you have reached shore. They will be needed to bring you reinforcement.
Have plenty of spares of everything on hand. You will always use up MORE than your maximum requirements.	Ever assume that most things will go "according to plan."
Have adequate reserves of engineers.	Think that combat engineers can put out superhuman efforts forever without relief. They are good—but have some human attributes.
<b>AND...</b>	
Get the ferrying cables in quick. Check with those higher to see that you have the dope on the best methods. It will save labor and lives when it counts. Use improvisations and expedients only after proved and tried methods fail.	

Chief Engineers Office ETO.





## Calling Their Shots!

### Artillery FOs Matched Wits With Heinie and Discovered A 'Hospital' Spitting Death

By Michael Seaman  
Warweek Staff Writer

INSIDE GERMANY WITH THE 102nd INFANTRY DIVISION.—1/Lt. Stanley L. Matthews had to make a split-second decision. If he was wrong in his judgment, the results would gnaw at his conscience, and might be disastrous to our Army. The 24-year-old forward artillery observer from Rockville Centre, Long Island, realized this as he pulled powerful binoculars from inside his battle jacket.

While mounting the glasses to his eyes the radio message from a tank commander of an Armored Division raced through his mind. The call had been brief: "Our tanks are drawing fire from the vicinity of the building at . . ." and the voice gave the map coordinates.

The building seemed to leap 200 yards closer when he had focused the individual eye-pieces. The building was intact he could see at a glance, which alone set it apart from the rest of the town of Linnich, Germany. It was different in another way, and for some reason he had to discover quickly. Artillery had not battered it because it was the only building in town not suspected as an enemy stronghold.

#### No Signs of Life

Time was precious. American lives in a column of tanks moving down a road were in peril. Enemy artillery was poking the fields on either side of the road, but had not yet scored hits on the lumbering tanks. His glasses searched the ground level of the building, then the second floor. Windows, without glass or blankets over

them to keep out the cold rain, were black squares against the red brick side of the building. His gaze roved swiftly to the third floor. The same careful search revealed a deserted appearance. He swept the fourth floor with the glasses, from right to left, and back. No sign of life anywhere inside the dingy place.

His glasses tilted upward to the steeply pitched roof. No smoke curled from twin chimneys at the left end of the building. He moved the glasses to the right. Then he saw why the building had been kept inviolate from the fury of war. Faintly crimson against a background of rain-washed brown tile was a red cross, the international sign of a haven for the sick and wounded. It was a hospital. Or, was it?

Not satisfied, yet knowing our tanks were running a gauntlet of enemy fire, he lowered the glasses to sweep the ground level for the second time. Instantly his trained eye detected something that stiffened him into fierce concentra-

tion. A tell-tale wisp of smoke from a German 88 firing a round popped into his vision. The gun was cunningly emplaced at one corner of the building—the supposed hospital.

#### Couldn't Afford Mistake

The young Purdue University graduate was satisfied. He flipped the switch on the two-way radio inside the tank turret from which he was doing the observing and spoke: "Give the building all you've got with our artillery. It's not a hospital now, and there's Jerry artillery hidden around it."

During a break that day, as smoke spiraled from a cigarette in his hand, he told why the decision he had to make had worried him. His comrades of B battery of a field artillery battalion were in accord with his opinions.

"If I had been wrong, ordering artillery fire on an occupied hospital would have set a precedent which the Jerries might have used with justification for all-out war, even on our hospitals and aid stations. The building may have been a bona fide hospital before we moved on the town, but when I was asked to judge the place it was a perfect set-up for enemy artillery.

#### The FO's Responsibility

"The fact there was no glass in the windows, or blankets to keep out the cold and rain, or fire to keep patients warm, were the clues that made the building seem a phony to me. The 88 I saw firing on our tanks clinched my decision to order a saturation of fire. When we swept by the building we found not one but four cleverly hidden 88's and dead German artillerymen."

The beat-up house serving as a command post, a shell of bricks filled with a jumble of wrecked furniture, was quiet a few moments. A salvo from a nearby battery roused the battery commander, Capt. Russell G. Connolly, 31, Pittsburgh, Pa., to some comments on the value of a forward observer in the close teamwork of infantry and artillery. His quiet voice carried the conviction of sincerity.

"Only frontliners can realize the terrific responsibility of forward artillery observers. And no one but the doughboy, slugging it out in house to house fighting, can appreciate the dangers the FO runs up against in a day's work.

#### Casualties Are High

"We refer to the trio of observers in the battery as 'Our 24's.' Lt. Matthews is that age, and so are 1/Lts. Thomas F. Lindsey, of Lawton, Okla., and Richard S. Cornell, of Jamaica, L. I. It takes youth to do the job with the precision and snap judgment demanded by modern war.

"Casualties are high among FO. Not long ago Jerry knew we could only use one certain building for an OP. The building was under constant artillery and mortar fire. Mortars knocked out our wires. It was absolutely necessary to establish contact with the rear to direct artillery fire in support of our infantry. It was done, under fire.

Lt. Cornell's tipped cigarette arched in a glowing parabola to a puddle, hissed, then sank in the coffee-colored water. He volunteered some more facts on the little-understood job of forward observing.

"The FO should know basic infantry tactics because his work is so closely associated with actual attack. A day with a squad now and then is a good practical school to learn tactics of ground fighters. The OP is often as close as 50 yards to the actual fighting zone. Any place the FO can see the battalion he is covering in action is the right spot. It may be a fox-hole, a tank moving to cover infantry, the top of a hill, a pill-box, house roof, or even a church steeple. I have even used a Chic Sale house to spot my shots.

#### 6 x 30 Glasses Best

Lt. Lindsey came in from the rain just as Cornell finished speaking. He shrugged his raincoat and immediately took up the lull in the conversation.

"When you're on the move, the 6 x 30 binoculars are the best visual aids. Shorten the straps so they can be tucked inside the jacket when not in use. A pair of glasses draped outside your jacket is a sure invitation for some Jerry sniper to get you in his rifle sights. Also tuck your map case inside your blouse, or hide it when you must use it.

"The One-eyed Monster, our name for the 20-power spotting telescope, is useful in a stable position, where you can improvise a steady rest. Tremors are greatly magnified in the scope and you have a hard time picking up the little tell-tale signs that mean enemy positions.

#### FO's Ten Commandments

Suppose the quartet of artillery officers was asked, you were called upon to draft Ten Commandments that the FO should follow in his work, what would those Ten Commandments be?

Out of that huddle in what once was a house, the four agreed that the ten most important things an FO should keep foremost in mind are:

1. Pick a spot where you can observe your sector and support attacking infantry even if it means you must set up the OP in a spot likely to get a heavy dose of enemy fire. Be aggressive, always look for a better place from which to direct fire. Work with other observers. Fire so that the enemy is buttoned up and our foot soldiers can swarm over him when the artillery lifts.
2. Keep your own artillery informed at all times about the position and progress of attack of your own infantry, and also about the enemy and his positions.
3. Keep communications intact with the rear either by radio or phone. It's a good idea before the jump-off by the infantry to give the radio a dry-run test to make sure it will be heard at the rear.
4. Accomplish your mission with as few men as possible. Four men comprise the OP

team; the FO, a sergeant who relieves him from time to time, a radio operator, and a jeep driver. The sergeant who relieves should be in reserve, somewhere near the OP, and he should know how to conduct fire as well as the officer if the latter becomes a casualty.

5. Set up the OP in a spot which offers the widest scope of vision but which is least likely to be suspected as such by the enemy. Avoid church steeples because the enemy pounds them first with his artillery.

6. Keep your equipment such as compass, maps, radio, power phone, jeep, binoculars and scope in good condition. When the jeep is not in use camouflage it carefully. It's impossible to move the heavy SCR-610 radio except by jeep. Keep a spare Jerry can of gasoline in the jeep for emergency in case the infantry moves so fast that it outruns supply.

7. Go light. There are many things that you can do without that are SOP according to the book but which have little practical use up front. The trailer on the jeep is one. It's hard to turn or back with the trailer. Make a rack on the outside of the jeep for the radio. On the move the binoculars and map case are the most important things to carry next to a weapon, which you may have to use to fight your way out of a tough spot.

8. Plan your defensive fire as soon as the infantry advance has stopped. Jerry invariably counter-attacks at the weakest point, generally the juncture of units such as the point where the left flank of one unit touches the right flank of another.

9. Make contact with the unit infantry commanders at once to make sure the defensive fire satisfies them. Have the artillery supporting the infantry fire a few rounds so the doughboys know where the defensive fire curtain will fall when the counter-attack begins.

10. At all times keep higher headquarters informed of the infantry front line situation. Rear areas' only knowledge of the fluid front areas is through the FO.

As a parting suggestion, Lt. Matthews said all markings on a plastic map case should be kept to an absolute minimum and done with a China pencil.

"One wipe with your sleeve erases all information of value to the enemy in case you are about to be captured. Those kids cleaning out single houses, one by one, are depending on you and the artillery to keep them moving and moving—always deeper into Germany."

Illustration by Dave Zwilling.

## THE OLD SERGEANT'S CORNER



If in reasonably good condition, the double-ended G.I. shelter-half can be made into a fairly good "pancho"—allowing the freedom of action and protection for equipment that the G.I. raincoat does not.

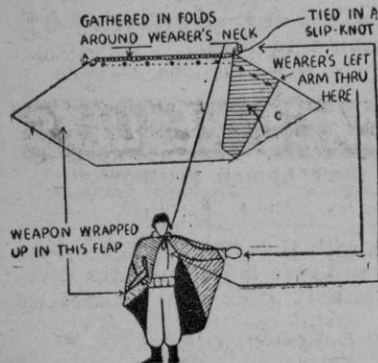
To make it up, lay the shelter-half flat as shown in the sketch, with the buttons along the top edge on the other side of the shelter-half from the user, and the tent rope attached to the cloth loop in corner "A." Leaving about four inches of free rope away from this cloth loop, tie a knot in the rope; pass the rest of the rope thru the metal eyelet, and tie another knot

tight against the other side. This keeps the rope from pulling either way thru this metal eyelet.

Next, lay the rope along the top edge of the shelter-half and button the edge back on its own buttons—forming a sort of "hem" for the rope. Fold flap "C" to the left on top as indicated and button up the buttons along its top edge. Pass the rope thru the metal eyelet at point "B," then, thru the rope loop on the tip of flap "C"—and, finally, thru the cloth loop at corner "B."

In wearing, the end of rope is tied around the four-inch length of rope allowed at "A" in a slip-knot so that the wearer may yank it for quickly getting out of the pancho. The top edge of the shelter-half should be ruffled up on the tent rope so as to fit around the wearer's neck up under the helmet's edges. If locally permitted, the pancho may be painted in O.D. striping to provide a little camouflage for the wearer.

This idea is the contribution of Lt. R. H. Mecklenborg, of a Signal Aircraft Warning Bn.





This Happened in America Last Week

# World Affairs Dominant In Home News Picture

By Phil Bucknell  
The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 3.—This was the week in which international affairs have bulked more largely than ever in the news. The President's return and his speech to Congress and the nation was received favorably, although some critics complained he should have told more.

In Mexico City the conference on Latin-American affairs has been in full progress, but aside from social items like lots of politicians suffering from sickness and dysentery it is doubtful whether many people are following its progress closely. Most are waiting for the final summing up to tell us how good it was.

NEXT month's conference at San Francisco is giving Bay City hotel managers one big headache. After they had located room for all the delegates of Allied warring nations, they had to dig up more space for the gentlemen from Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Paraguay, Egypt, Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

And it is going to be a bigger headache with the usual flock of week-end GIs swarming over the place.

The curfew on night clubs has resulted on earlier staging of floor shows. Bowling alleys are opening at 8 AM, to accommodate the crowds. Only Detroit is making a good thing of the curfew. It is staying on Eastern War Time while the rest of the state goes on Central War Time. This enables the Motor City boys and girls to get in an extra hour of merrymaking.

## The Speaks Are Reappearing

SPEEKEASIES have already opened in New York to take care of thirsts which run on past the zero hour.

This writer was offered a membership card in one by his barber. Massachusetts Gov. Maurice J. Tobin was given what was termed in legislative circles a "sharp rebuff" when a bill was passed barring Boston mayors from making lame-duck appointments and giving pay raises after being elected to State or Federal office.

THE Baltimore Evening Sun lets you know just how things stand below the Mason-Dixon Line. Explaining the delay in solving the city's traffic problem, it said:

"We Baltimoreans are cautious and timid. We blow hot and we blow cold. We would and we shouldn't. We do and we don't." Then it adds: "And we have politicians." Do tell.

Washington, D.C., reported the highest income per person in the nation—\$2,048. But is only tenth in bond purchases, which might be explained by the fact that rents have risen from 35 to 150 percent.

THE NAVY plans a large new building on the Virginia side of the Memorial Bridge to keep the Pentagon Building Co. Not to be outdone by the Army, they'll probably call it the Hexagon Bldg.

The Arkansas state legislature, which once decided on ARKANSAW as the correct pronunciation, is faced with a problem. Some of the inhabitants call themselves Arkansans, others Arkansawyers. A new bill before the State Senate would call them Arkansawyers.

The best news in the entertainment world is the setting up of the Gagwriters' Protective Assn., with an office on Broadway. Its aim is to eliminate corny jokes with a radio blackout on Mrs. Roosevelt, Bing Crosby's horses and Frank Sinatra. How about Hashmarks?

## His Chickens Come Home to Roost

LICENSE Commissioner Paul Moss decided to clamp down on a show called "Trio" on the grounds that it was "lewd, lascivious and immoral." He is also an official of City Center, which Wednesday produced a ballet about "Frankie and Johnny." Papers were quick to attack it. John Chapman, in the Daily News, says it is a "dirty show which had in it bawds, a pimp, and a couple of lesbians."

The much-heralded film "A Tree Grew in Brooklyn" arrived this week and had a swell reception. Jimmy Dunn makes a comeback in it as the Irish father and Joan Blondell is the flighty aunt.

INSTEAD of giving you the Hooper ratings from Bob Hope down, this week we'll give with the soap operies and other day-time radio phenomena.

"When a Girl Marries," "Breakfast in Hollywood," "Ma Perkins," "Portia Faye's Life," and "Kate Smith Speaks" head the list. There isn't much change in juke-box favorites, with "I'm Losing My Mind Over You," "There's a New Moon over My Shoulder" (by Louisiana Gov. Jimmie Davis), and Gene Autry's "A Big Fence Around Texas" topping the list.

Betty Smith fans will be glad to know that Francie Nolan, one of her characters in "A Tree Grows," appears in a short story in the current issue of Colliers. Edgar Snow speculates on the way Russia will fight Japan for SEP readers. And Billboard informs its public on the part coin-machine manufacturers are playing in the war.

FRITZ LANG, who produced films in Germany before Adolf, is worried because he thinks the High Command got its idea for rocket bombs from blueprints of a machine he made for a picture.

"We never thought of it as a war instrument," said the woeful Lang. "We meant it as a publicity stunt." Could be Fritz is taking a little too much for granted?

## Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.



## Versatile Venus



Feminine charm—on the baseball field—shows Janice O'Hara, Kenosha, Wis. star, who plays any position in the women's All-American Baseball League, going after a high, hard one.

## Big Six Title To Iowa State

AMES, Ia., March 3. — Iowa State's basketball team rallied in the second half here last night, defeating Kansas, 61-39, to grab the Big Six Conference basketball championship.

After rolling up a 27-21 halftime advantage, the Cyclones surged out to a 40-23 lead in the first seven minutes of the second half. Kansas later cut the lead to ten points but never got closer than that to the sharpshooting Iowans.

Bob Mott, 17-year-old freshman center; Bill Block and Jim Myers, guard and forward, respectively, dominated Iowa State's scoring. Mott made 18 points, Block 12, and Myers 11. Myers' total, however, was enough to give him the league scoring title with 131 points, seven over Arthur Peterson of Nebraska.

## Joyce Wins Rubber Bout from Williams

NEW YORK, March 3.—Willie Joyce, Gary, Ind., Negro lightweight, outstuffed and outsmarted Ike Williams, of Trenton, N.J., to gain a unanimous 12-round upset decision before 14,000 at the Garden last night. It was the "rubber" match, each holding a decision over the other in Philadelphia prior to last night's meeting.

Joyce's victory may have knocked Ike out of an NBA championship bout with Juan Zurita, scheduled for Philadelphia, April 9.

# Once Over Lightly

By Paul Horowitz  
Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

WE SUFFERED a touch of nostalgia Friday night covering the fights at the Palais des Sports, where three American boxers, all former professionals in the States, met a French trio, billed as ex-champions of France. The crowd was extremely partisan, except for the handful of GIs among the 5,000 present, the referees were "homers" and the final bout of the evening between Ken Stribling, clever Negro light-heavyweight from Washington, D.C., and Victor Buttin, produced a typical hometown decision, a verdict for the Frenchman, who was hit with everything but the referee.

In the first international match, Roger Tison, a hard-punching featherweight, scored a legitimate knockout over Jose Riveras, Puerto Rican, who hails from New York City. A short right chop to the chin in the third put Riveras into slumberland and the audience howled with delight. Interallied relations were restored to a more normal pitch when Pete Morelli left-jabbed Stephan Olek, French heavyweight, into submission in the next ten-rounder. Morelli, Stockton, Calif., boy with ambitions to join the post-war challengers of Joe Louis, had Olek out on his feet in the tenth round and the judges and referee had no alternative but to give him the nod.

STRIBLING, however, was unfortunate enough to be the third principal in the international rivalry. The score was 1-1 at the time and, as it developed, only a knockout could produce a victory for the smooth American fisticuffer. Continually warned about holding Buttin with his left, while pummeling the Frenchman with his right, Stribling lost several rounds because of the "violation." From this corner, it appeared Buttin clamped the Negro's glove under his right armpit and Stribling was helpless to do anything about it. But the referee thought otherwise, and that meant the decision.

Two fans who flanked the writer, in terse statements, gave a clear picture of the proceedings in the final bout. A Frenchman declared, during the fight, "The cat (Stribling) is playing with the mouse (Buttin)." The other speaker, a GI from Massachusetts, after the fight, said, "Boy, that was a typical Boston decision!"

REMINISCENT of the six-day bike races in Madison Square Garden were the premiums awarded the fighters during the progress of the bouts. The announcer, in French, periodically informed the crowd of a 500-franc premium for Olek, or Buttin, then concluded with a 500-franc award to Stribling.

Since the Army does not permit GIs to participate in extracurricular activities of any kind for pay, Stribling's 500 francs presumably went to the Red Cross or some other war fund. It was a fine gesture by the fan who donated the dough, but mute evidence of the sportsmanship of the crowd was the utter silence that greeted the decision against Stribling. The late Joe Jacobs would have said: "You shoulda stood in bed."

## Hamilton Still Paces Golfers

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 3. Bob Hamilton, PGA champion, added a 67 yesterday to his record-breaking 65 in the opening round to maintain a two-stroke lead on the field at the halfway point of the \$5,000 Jacksonville Open golf tournament.

Two strokes behind Hamilton at 134 were the pre-tourney favorites, Harold "Jug" McSpaden, Sammy Snead and Byron Nelson. Snead hit a 65 yesterday equalling Hamilton's feat of the opening round. McSpaden shot a 67 and Nelson a 66.

Craig Wood, of Mamaroneck, N.Y., went up to 70 yesterday and a total of 137 after being tied with McSpaden at 67, Friday. One stroke back of Wood was Fred Haas, Jr., whose 67 yesterday brought his total to 138, the best amateur card in the field.

## 397th, 391st in Finals Of 9th Bomb. Tourney

HQ, NINTH BOMB DIV., France. —The 397th Gp. and the 391st Gp. met last night in the championship basketball finals for the Ninth Bomb. Div. championship as the result of semi-final victories yesterday afternoon. The 397th defeated the 416th Gp. 40-26, and the 391st sidetracked the 387th Gp., 34-28. The two losers participated in the consolation finals last night.

## Baseball Brevities

SARASOTA, Fla., March 3.—Paul Waner, most recent joiner of major league baseball's exclusive 3,000-hit club, says there is a small chance for the younger generation of baseball players to make that exalted grade. The game demands more perfection these days than it did when he was breaking in, according to the nimble oldtimer, who is still in the majors at the age of 42.

At present Waner is in sixth place among the all-time hit producers with 3,152 bingles. Ty Cobb leads the group with 4,191, followed by Tris Speaker with 3,515, Hans Wagner, 3,430, Eddie Collins, 3,313 and Napoleon Lajoie, 3,242. Cap Anson, with 3,081, is seventh.

Mel Ott seems to be the only active player with a chance to hit the 3,000-mark and needs 268 more safe blows to reach that goal. Top-flight players nearest the mark are Bill Dickey, 1,349, Hank Greenberg, 1,299 and Joe Gordon, 921, but they are spending valuable baseball years in the armed service.

BROOKLYN, March 3.—The Dodgers announced the purchase from the Boston Braves of Mike Sabena, 23-year-old infielder, in a straight cash deal with no players involved. Sabena joined Harford after an honorable discharge from the Army last year and played half of the season before being sent to Indianapolis of the American Association, where he hit .317 in 61 games.

PHILADELPHIA, March 3.—Herb Pennock, general manager of the Phillies, announced the receipt today of a signed contract from Gus Mancuso, 39-year-old catcher, recently turned loose by the Giants. Salary terms were not disclosed.

## CAGE RESULTS

- Fairmont Techs. 44, Concord 21.
  - Florida Ags. 77, Morris Brown 41.
  - Iowa State 61, Kansas 39.
  - Lafayette 70, Lehigh 40.
  - Missouri 45, Kansas State 42.
  - Moorhouse 39, Tuskegee 38.
  - Slippery Rock 51, Westinghouse Ap. 42
- Southeastern Conference Tournament
- Georgia Tech. 60, Miss. State 43.
  - Tennessee 56, Auburn 24.
  - Alabama 51, Tulane 31.
  - Kentucky 68, Louisiana State 37.

## By Chester Gould



## Yanks on Iwo Pound Wedge Into Jap Lines

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HQ., Guam, March 3 (UP).—U.S. Marines of the Third Div. advanced today to within half a mile of the north-eastern coast of Iwo Jima in a determined effort to split what is left of the Japanese garrison.

The Yanks resumed their attack after driving 600 yards to sheer cliffs overlooking the 300-yard beach on the northeastern coast.

Adm. Nimitz announced that 7,127 Japanese dead had been counted up to noon yesterday. Only 37 Japanese have been captured so far.

On the right flank, Fourth Div. Marines inched forward after being stopped five days. Fifth Div. troops on the left also advanced, but met the strongest counter-attack in several days.

Japanese planes have dropped cargo parachutes, apparently trying to relieve the garrison's drinking-water shortage.

U.S. carrier planes and other bombers from the Marianas Thursday made neutralization attacks on the Bonin Islands, north of Iwo. Navy search planes bombed Japanese-held Wake in the mid-Pacific.

## New Landing in Philippines Opens Supply Lane to Manila

MANILA, March 3 (ANS).—Gen. MacArthur today announced a landing on Lubang Island, 35 miles southwest of Manila Bay, to give his forces complete control of the shortest sea route through the heart of the Philippines to Manila.

The western end of the 300-mile passage, through which Manila can be supplied and Luzon transformed into a huge military base facing Asia, was opened by troops of the 24th Div.

Meanwhile, on Palawan Island, 250 miles southwest of Manila, the 41st Div. won "practical control of the island," MacArthur said.

East of Manila, Yanks were attacking strong Japanese defensive positions. Far to the north, Yanks in the Caraballo Mountains were unhinging enemy positions covering the Balet Pass area.

## South England Suffers Daylight Robot Attack

LONDON, March 3.—For the first time since last autumn, watchers on the east coast of England today reported a daylight attack by flying bombs. The V-bombs, apparently launched from carrier aircraft, landed in southern England. Among the buildings hit were a church and a hospital.

The latest attack followed German Propaganda Minister Goebbels' declaration that V-bomb warfare would be intensified and a statement by the British Air Ministry that the RAF has in operation a jet-propelled plane which could be used against the robots.

## GI Sentenced to Life

ALEXANDRIA, La., March 3 (ANS).—A private stationed at Camp Livingston has been sentenced to life imprisonment for drawing a bayonet on an officer and committing other military offenses.

## Stilwell Lauds Foot Forces, Calls for More Appreciation

CLEVELAND, March 3 (ANS).—Gen. Joseph W. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell, Army Ground Forces commander, had some crusty words for the Cleveland Ordnance Assn. about the tough jobs ground forces do without commensurate appreciation.

"We are beginning to realize that no matter how the war starts, it ends in the mud," he said. "It has to be slugged out. There are no trick solutions or cheap shortcuts." Termining ground forces "the sluggers who get decisions," Stilwell continued:

"If the foot soldier gets forward we win, if he is forced back we lose

## Report Mikhailovich Listed War Criminal

Gen. Draja Mikhailovich, former Yugoslav Minister of War in King Peter's government-in-exile, has been listed as a war criminal by a Yugoslav State Commission, the Moscow radio reported yesterday.

The commission said it had indisputable evidence that Mikhailovich, through his subordinate commanders, had been "in close contact with German and Italian leaders and took part with them in the extermination of people struggling for liberty."

## Detroit Strikes Hit 12 Plants; 35,000 Are Idle

DETROIT, March 3 (AP).—This city's vast war production program faced severe curtailment because of strikes and resulting layoffs which have sent more than 35,000 employees at the Chrysler Corp. and Briggs Manufacturing Co. plants home.

Regardless of any action taken at the War Labor Board hearing in Washington, it appeared unlikely that any degree of production at the 12 affected plants could be resumed before Monday.

Company officials predicted that it would be several days after the strikes' end before normalcy could be reached.

While denouncing the strikes as unauthorized and in violation of the union's no-strike pledge, United Automobile Workers CIO officials said that they looked forward to the WLB hearing for an opportunity to air strikers' grievances.

Company representatives took the stand that they could justify the discharging of employees that preceded the walkouts.

### B29 Production Hit

Possible Government seizure gave the WLB its ace in the hole. Should WLB's efforts to return the Detroit arsenal area to full production prove fruitless by early next week, a board recommendation to the White House for seizure appears inevitable.

WLB Chairman William H. Davis termed the strike "a direct interference with our war effort."

Facilities for turning out parts for tanks, Superfortresses, anti-aircraft guns, trucks and ambulances were idle as 35,234 employees left their jobs.

Of the 24,484 Chrysler employees idle, 18,734 are on strike and 5,750 were laid off because of a lack of parts.

At the heart of the trouble at the Chrysler-Dodge main plant was a union contention that production standards measuring a day's work were too high. This led to the discharge of seven workers and a protesting walkout by fellow union members.

### Increase in Metro Fares

Fares on the Paris "metro" (subway system) will be increased March 15. The second-class fare will be raised from one and one-half to two francs, and first class from two and one-half to three and one-half francs.

all our inventions, all our machines, all our weapons. All our efforts are centered on getting the man on foot forward. . . He is the only agency that can hold ground.

"Now that we are getting this more realistic view of the all-important role of ground forces, I hope to see more attention paid to the lads who are carrying the ball.

"How writers are going to make a glamorous hero out of a muddy and dilapidated GI with two weeks' whiskers and a barnyard aroma on him I don't know. That's their job and they had better work it out or circulation is going to fall off."

## Krefeld Taken; 9th Army Joins Canadian First

(Continued from Page 1)

Germans were fighting savagely to hold an escape route across the Rhine.

The enemy was trying to hold a bridgehead area from Duisburg to Wesel, between the Rhine and the Hochwald forest, where Canadian Army forces were still fighting a great battle with the best elements Nazis have left.

### Krefeld an Important Prize

The Second Armored Div. pushed from north of Neuss northward to reach Uerdingen, just east of Krefeld which was finally cleared by the 102nd Inf. Div. Krefeld had a peace-time population of 170,000. It is one of the most important railroad centers in Western Germany and was important to the Nazi war machine for the manufacture of steel and textiles for uniforms and parachutes.

The city was officially taken Friday, but its capture was not announced immediately because of continuing areas of resistance which Ninth Army forces were still mopping up yesterday.

Neuss is part of the built-up area of Dusseldorf, on the west bank of the Rhine.

While no official reports indicated any large-scale evacuation by the enemy, it was obvious that the Germans were preparing to pull back across the Rhine in the Wesel-Duisburg sector or else face destruction.

The 21st Army Group, including the Canadian Army and the American Ninth, reported that from 35,000 to 40,000 prisoners have been taken in the offensive. The First Army's prisoner bag of 10,000 would bring the total to about 50,000.

### Enemy Confused

At SHAEF it was said that the enemy appeared to believe the Ninth and First Armies' attack was driving Rhinewards from west to east instead of swinging to the north.

It was believed in official quarters that this error in judgment caused the German forces in the lower Rhineland to dispose their forces with less efficiency.

There was evidence that the fuel shortage—which helped lick the Nazis in the Battle of the Bulge—was helping defeat them in the Rhineland. North of Munchen-Gladbach, German tanks were found abandoned—out of gas.

Between Munchen-Gladbach and Krefeld, American troops were encountering more civilians who had been evacuated to these supposed rear areas.

West of Cologne, U.S. First Army forces were finding the going tougher than their Ninth Army partners in the north.

There was hard fighting along the Erft River as advanced elements of the First edged to within five miles of the outskirts of Cologne.

Other First Army forces drove into Zulpich, 12 miles from Bonn, a city of 90,000.

### Modrath Cleared

Due west of Cologne, the First Army's bridgehead was three miles deep. It was expanded with the capture of Holtrop, Anemheim, Weidenfeld and Neiderausen, where the doughs battled dug-in tanks and entrenched infantry.

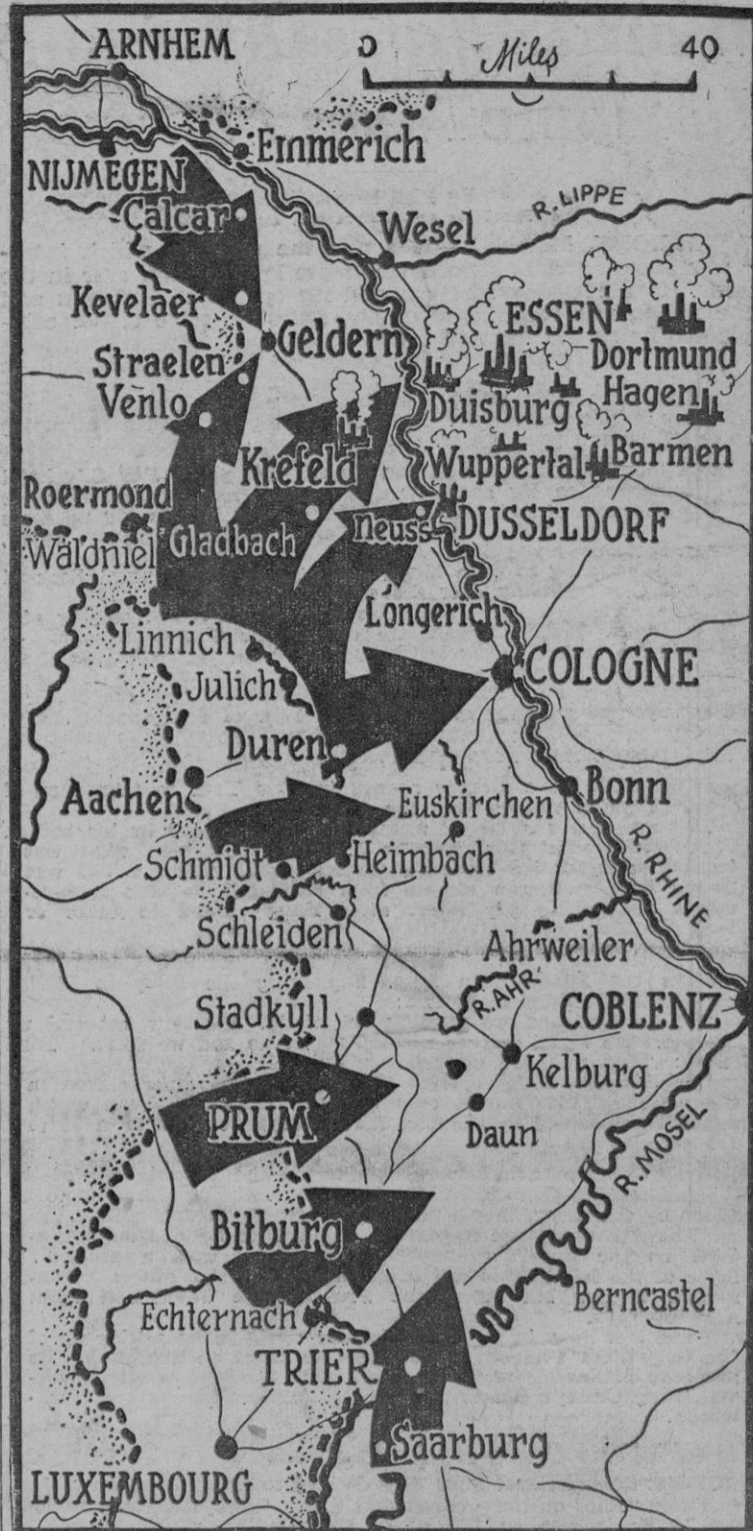
Eighth Inf. Div. forces cleared Modrath after a three-day battle and advanced 1,000 yards eastward against tank and SP gunfire to clear Habelrath. At last reports, they were fighting in the towns of Grefrath and Bollenbroich.

Ten miles southwest of Cologne, First Inf. Div. men advanced two and one-half miles to clear Lechenich and Ahren. Other American infantry and armor rolled eastward to clear four villages northwest of Euskirchen.

On the First Army's right flank, infantrymen crossed over the Schwammenauel Dam and were clearing heavily-mined areas between the Schwammenauel and Erft lakes.

On the Third Army front, a three-mile gain by the 76th Inf. Div. brought it into contact with the Tenth Armored Div. north of Trier.

Meeting of Allied Armies



Canadian First and U.S. Ninth Army troops joined forces between Krefeld and Geldern yesterday as other Ninth Army units solidified their hold on the Rhine around captured Neuss.

## Planes Hit Foe Along Rhine

Ninth AF planes yesterday flew more than 1,300 sorties to bomb and strafe German troops and supplies. Numerous barges were sunk and huge fires were started in supply dumps.

The 29th TAC, flying with the Ninth Army, sank 31 barges and damaged ten. Docks at Wesel were shattered by 29th bombs.

Second TAC said great fires blazed last night west of the Rhine as the Germans set supplies afire before they retreated.

One Yank group destroyed or damaged 81 of 150 rail cars found at Ludesheim.

Marauders, Havocs and Invaders of the Ninth Bomb Div. flew 625 sorties against communication and industrial targets along the Rhine. The 19th TAC, hampered by clouds and icing, compiled 529 sorties ahead of the Third Army in the Bitburg and Trier areas. Luftwaffe opposition was ineffective.

More than 1,100 Eighth AF Forts and Liberators bombed oil refineries and industrial plants in the Brunswick, Misburg, Magdeburg and Ruhland areas, and Chemnitz rail yards.

## Soviets Isolate Nazis in Danzig

(Continued from Page 1)

lages in eastern Pomerania yesterday.

In East Prussia, Red Army troops advanced in heavy fighting with Germans pocketed southwest of Koenigsberg. Russians also gained in the street fighting for Breslau, in Silesia.

There was only scanty news from the fronts of Marshals Gregory Zhukov and Ivan Koniev, on the eastern and southeastern approaches to Berlin. One German report said that Zhukov had enlarged his Oder River bridgehead southeast of Kustrin, but there was no amplification of the report.

## Two French Profiteers Penalized \$2,740,000

Two Bordeaux merchants were penalized a total of 137,000,000 francs—equivalent to \$2,740,000 at exchange rates—for profiteering, the Paris newspaper Les Nouvelles reported yesterday.

M. Faivre Marc, a wine wholesaler, was fined 52,000,000 francs by a French court in addition to having 26,313,000 francs confiscated. M. Lavergne, a painting contractor, was fined 44,000,000 francs by the court, which ordered confiscation of 14,702,000 francs in illegal profits.