

"We will remember you with pride and with humility. . . . We shall keep on remembering you."  
—President Roosevelt.

# THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

"... It is equally important that you complete the victory over Nazi ideas."  
—Gen. Bradley.

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Friday, Dec. 29, 1944

## U.S. Gains on 35-Mi. Line

### Churchill Nearly Hit By Sniper

ATHENS, Dec. 28.—Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Minister Anthony Eden, after narrowly escaping assassination by a sniping machine-gunner, left for London today with a Greek peace formula in their pockets. It called for a regency to supplant King George II.

A burst from a hidden machine-gunner had zipped past Churchill yesterday as the Prime Minister and his party stepped out of the British Embassy for an armored car tour of Athens. A Greek girl was killed just 30 yards away from him. The party, which included Eden, Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander and Maj. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, calmly proceeded with the tour.

#### Archbishop Likely Regent

A conference of the warring Greek political factions, brought together by Churchill, reached a unanimous decision favoring a regency and it was officially announced that Churchill and Eden would recommend its appointment to the Greek king in London, who heretofore has been opposed to one.

The regent probably would be Archbishop Damaskinos of the Greek Orthodox Church, an ardent anti-Fascist who is believed to be acceptable both to the left-wing EAM (resistance front) and the Rightists. Premier George Papandreu offered to resign.

The regency then would be faced with the task of reconciling the warring political factions. This Papandreu has failed to do, but conditions under which the regency would operate would be more favorable than those confronting the present government.

#### Big 3 to Review Situation

Before his departure, Churchill told a press conference that he, President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin would review the Greek situation at an early meeting and that if the Greeks fail to solve their differences "an international trust might be necessary" to rule the country.

To the sound of sniper fire outside the embassy and the thud of British artillery shelling ELAS positions, Churchill declared determinedly that British armed intervention would not stop until the differences were settled "either by free negotiation or by the increasing use of military force." The British will not withdraw, he added, without "guarantees, in which we can believe, that a fair and decent government will be set up which will not pay off old scores on either side."

### Army Again Orders Seizure Of Montgomery Ward Stores

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—The War Department, acting on a Presidential edict, today ordered seizure of Montgomery Ward properties in seven cities after the nation's largest mail order house had refused to comply with War Labor Board directives.

It was the second major crack-down this year against the company. Last spring Ward Chairman Sewell Avery was physically ejected from his Chicago office.

Army troops this morning were moving to take over Ward properties in Chicago; St. Paul, Minn.,

### Where Americans Hack at Bulge



Stars and Stripes Map by Baird  
American forces drive ten miles to relieve the Bastogne garrison, besieged for seven days, while German radio reports U.S. recapture of Echternach, on the Luxembourg-German border.

### 'Jerries Really Laid It On', Survivors Say of Nazi Push

By Charles Kiley

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

The dynamite behind the German counter-offensive is gone, according to SHAEF. The advance is slowed down, and in some sectors Americans are moving up again with the balance of strength they lacked when their lines were forced to bend and yield under superior enemy power.

### Merchants Urged Not to Cheat GIs

Representatives of the French exporting industries adopted a unanimous resolution yesterday urging French merchants to charge Allied soldiers and French customers the same prices. The action was taken at a meeting to study trans-Atlantic business relations after the war.

At the same time the Paris newspaper Combat, commenting on a tendency it saw among some Frenchmen to berate the Americans for not bringing enough food and fuel for the civilians, reminded its readers that the Americans were giving something more precious—their lives.

Saying that most GIs seen in Paris were on their way to bloody battles, the newspaper commented: "There you have their Christmas gift—instead of chocolate."

### Berchtesgaden Vacated

MOSCOW, Dec. 28 (UP).—Adolf Hitler is believed here to have abandoned his Berchtesgaden estate because of the advance of the Soviet Armies toward Austria, bringing the fighting front within 200 miles of his mountain hideout.

But Jim Williams and Abe Rich, a couple of doughfeet from an outfit that caught one of the first blows of the attack near the Luxembourg-Belgian border on the morning of Dec. 17, are around to testify that the Jerries really laid it on.

Williams, a communications platoon chief and staff sergeant from Harrisburg, Pa., and Rich, rifle company Pfc from Ozone Park, N.Y., came out of the line yesterday with one of the first reports of the counter-offensive by those who stood in its path.

They told of regimental and battalion commanders, colonels, ma-

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### Nazis Retake Barga In Italy Offensive

15TH ARMY GROUP HQ., Dec. 28 (Reuter).—German troops who attacked in force in the mountainous west coast sector of the Italian front northeast of Leghorn have recaptured the small town of Barga, two and a half miles east of Galliano on the Serchio River, and are continuing to press back leading Allied elements.

Springing suddenly from their snowbound mountain defenses, the Germans launched an offensive on a seven-mile front down both sides of the Serchio River and around the key road junction town of Galliano, some 40 miles northeast of Leghorn, Fifth Army supply port. Only meager details were released on the German drive, but it was officially admitted that slight withdrawals had been forced and some ground relinquished around Barga. This part of the Apennines was last announced as entrusted to the U.S. 92nd Div.

### 32,000 Held as Pro-Nazis

Frenchmen interned or imprisoned on suspicion of pro-Nazi activities now total 32,000, Interior Minister Tixier reported yesterday. Of these, 5,000 cases have not yet been investigated.

### 3d Army Cracks Bastogne Siege; Nazi Flank Reels

Field Marshal von Rundstedt's south flank appeared to be wobbling last night as official reports showed American forces which had driven 10 miles in five days to relieve Bastogne advancing along a 35-mile front. The siege was raised by a U.S. Third Army armored force.

As a pea-soup fog descended on the frozen hills of Eastern Belgium and Luxembourg, the Germans admitted for the first time that their 11th-hour blitz is on the defensive between Bastogne and Echternach.

German radio said last night that American troops had recaptured Echternach on the Luxembourg-German border.

Latest official battle reports, still 36 hours behind front developments, showed:

1. Americans held their mile-wide corridor to Bastogne against the first strong Nazi counter-attack.
2. German armor patrolling toward the Meuse was mauled by Allied forces.
3. Powerful Nazi attacks between Stavelot and Marche toward Antwerp supply lines were smeared.
4. U.S. forces recaptured Grandmenil and Manhay in the west tip of the enemy bulge, according to U.P.

The German Transocean Newsagency Correspondent, Guenther Weber, reported last night that the Germans had gone over to "an elastic defense" on the south flank which forms the belly of the bulge.

### Soviets Enter Buda Streets

MOSCOW, Dec. 28 (AP).—Red Army units, under clouds of smoke from burning buildings, pushed into the streets of Buda on the western bank of the Danube River today but in Pest they found grim resistance from suicide forces.

(The Berlin communique admitted that even as the Soviets fought to reduce Budapest itself they hurled strong new forces into a mounting offensive beyond the bypassed city, driving westward toward Austria.)

In Buda several streets already were in Russian hands. There was

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It was the first indication from an enemy source that the Christmas blitz had hit a snag.

Channelized by Allied pressure on its north and south flanks, the bulge was being squeezed as its western tentacles groped to within three miles of the northern bulge of France north of Charleville.

#### Yanks Cross Sure River

Sizable enemy forces in the vicinity of Ciney and Celles were reported. The whole western perimeter of the bulge was fluid, with both U.S. and German tanks milling around without making any strong attacks.

In central Luxembourg, Americans crossed the Sure River in three places.

Northwest of Echternach, enemy troops were withdrawing back into

(Continued on Page 8)

### New Capes for GI Snow-Fighters



T/4 Marvin C. Eans, of Owensboro, Ky., demonstrates the snow cape now being issued First Army troops on the Western Front. White rags camouflage the rifle.

# THE B BAG BLOW IT OUT HERE

### Pans Cheesecake

Our answer to the two "Pin Up" gals, in S & S, Dec. 11, who asked "Are GIs tired of us?" is yes! We are more than fed up with this idiotic, simple-minded, so called "morale booster."

The only pic a GI needs is one that is personal to him and him alone. Do you believe one look at a half-dressed girl will spur the individual to greater glory? We think not. Three years is too long without the real McCoy. — Cpl. Bill Forley, FA, and 43 others.

(We counted 'em.—Ed.)

### Feet First

Here's an old Russian preventative for frostbite on trench feet. Wrap your feet with toilet paper, then some wax paper, over which you put the sock.—Cpl. J. J. Atuk, Hosp. Plant.

### Movements

This is beyond doubt one for the books. We are a 24 AM Howitzer outfit that has been seen pulling into positions still occupied by the infantry. After making three occupations of positions in as many days, our cannoners, truck drivers and crane operator were bleary-eyed from lack of sleep. They were



told that that night they would have to move the guns—move No. 4—500 yards from town because this town was being taken over by a Div. HQ.

We've been up to our hips in mud since we landed, so the first time that we can get our fannies out of the mud for a day or two, someone comes along, outranks our captain and battalion commander (who, incidentally, is a major) and orders us out of town, claiming the billets for his hard-working (?) and mud-weary (?) Div. Hq. troops.

There was sufficient room for practically two divisions in the town yet our battery was ordered out—like Liza—into the cold.

We aren't bitching about moving forward or moving when it means pushing the Germans back, but this unnecessary move to suit the whim of a short-sighted officer is too much.—Cpl. E. F. Perdos, FA Battalion.

### Ammo Shortage

I am in a FA unit and when we move into a new position, I notice all kinds of small arms and tank ammo laying around. I counted 500 rounds of 30 cal. and 12 hand grenades at one point. At the front doughfoots ask us for our grenades.

Why can't we have someone pick up this ammo left behind by infantry and armored units? At least units like ours could do this job if we had some place to turn it in. This also could apply to clothing and other equipment. How does that sound to you other GIs? —T/4 Al Arrison, 1st Div.

### Police the Area

We know an area should be kept clean and we try to as far as possible, but when you have to pull men off a detail that is issuing food it becomes a damned nuisance. The detail works for an hour straightening up. Mr. Big Brass passes through. According to him

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the area still stinks. The outcome of such an inspection results in an argument headed by one question: Which is more important, picking up a piece of muddy paper or issuing food to the front-line troops?

Another reason for this little bitch is to let the GIs know that 1/Sgts are not responsible for all the dirty details dished out.—1/Sgt. Clyde Cumberland, Rhd. Co.

### Holds That Line

I have an idea for stringing up communication wires. Use an enlarged picture hook—the kind that takes one nail and holds lots of weight—to hold the wire up off the ground. It would be easy to put up a line of hooks and extra wires could be easily added or removed.—Pvt. J. Garson, T.D. Bn.

### Deplorable Example

I wish to report the most pathetically laughable incident of my stay in this man's army.

Today, in the quest for fuel for the battery, we ventured back and, my jeep driver and I espied a pile of coal bricks. Before we had a chance to ask for some a lanky red-haired Lt. Col. exploded with "What the hell are you doing, Misters?" then hastily continued: "This is my CP., MY CP!" He asked me what my right hand was for.

I was too stunned by the whole ridiculous situation to reply.

This incident is difficult to comprehend except the idea behind the whole thing. Here was this Lt. Col. knocking himself out in effort to assert authority. I have never seen a more deplorable example of what happens to authority when it is vested in the wrong man.—Lt. F. H. C., FA.

### Joe Pro

Our Bn. CO came up to the front lines yesterday and spotted two large holes, one a shell crater, the other an abandoned mortar position, which he ordered filled. To me a hole is a hole and I feel pretty damned silly standing on the front line heaving a shovel and trying to tidy up some Dutch apple orchard by day and pulling guard half the night.

Orders is orders, so we fills 'er up 'cause the big operator done spoke the law. Are some of these operators ever going to smarten up and treat us as men?—The Rheumatic Deacons, Para. Inf.

### They Can't Do That!

Why the hell did the AEF station deprive us of the entire broadcast of the Army-Navy game, the biggest game of the season? —The Ack-Ack Boys.

### Private Breger

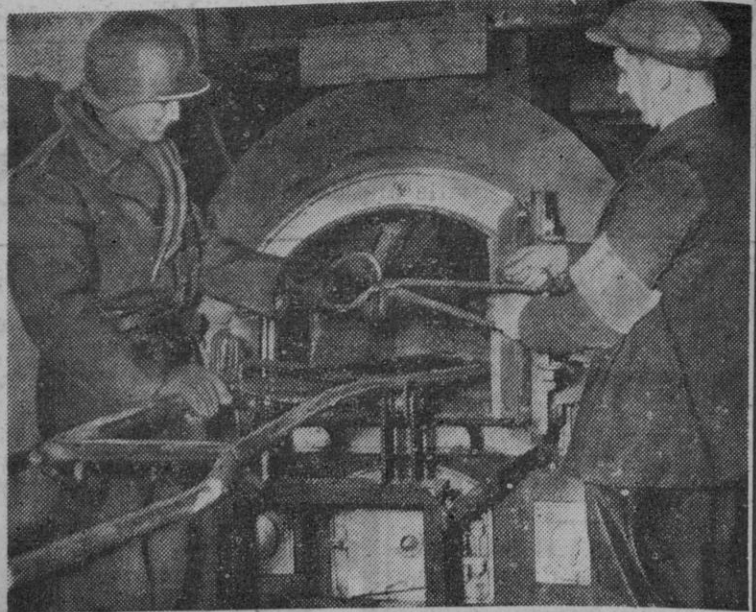


"He refuses to put the earphones on, Sir, because of the strong language our flyers use!"

### An Editorial

# Notes on the Holiday Mail

THE holiday mail includes pix of the Struthof concentration camp at Natzweiler. Here's a sample—a high temperature oven for roasting the victims. Note the steel litter for easy insertion of the corpses. "Another example of Nazi thoroughness in death," says the tag line of this U.S. Signal Corps photo, "is the dental forceps used to extract gold from the teeth of the human fuel."



Atrocity tales are hard to believe. Even a photo doesn't carry conviction. You don't actually see the Nazis and their victims. You don't hear the shriek. You don't smell the flesh.

Yet some of us who could never get fertootzed about Lublin and Lidice, Oradoursur-Glane and Natzweiler get goose flesh about them now.

Like the colonel telling about his exec. His body was found stripped in a ditch, he said, a bullet in his back. Or the acid-throwing Nazi 'chutists carrying small phials of sulphuric acid to throw in our

faces. Dressed in uniforms taken from captured Americans who were stripped to their underwear and shot.

Or the item in last Friday's paper about the film found on the official photographer of an SS Panzer Division. They showed American dead stretched out in even rows. "They had no GI equipment," the story said, "an indication that they did not die in battle, but were massacred."

Or that item of December

25th headed "SSmen confess to butchery of Belgian women and children"—near Stavelot. "Seven members of Hitler's elite signed sworn statements that they had participated in the massacre of more than 20 civilians."

Hardness, not hate—coolness, not passion—are needed to throw back this German drive. But if anyone still thinks he's playing for marbles—and, believe it or not, some do—maybe the holiday mail has a special message.

# SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE

Tanks for the Ride Sgt. Jerome Degenhardt, of Milwaukee and 30th Inf. Div., was riding on a light tank when Germans started shooting with bazookas and an anti-tank gun from a roadblock.

Degenhardt vaulted off the tank and firing his M1 as he ran, charged the flank. After the barricade and dead bodies were removed, the sergeant climbed back on his perch and the tank continued.

### Polite Nazi

There was a knock on the door. Pvt. Peter Mayus, of Roebing, N.J., and the 30th Inf. Div., opened it and a smiling Jerry stepped into the

little house in the Siegfried Line. The Jerry said "Kamerad!" and as the flabbergasted Mayus held the door open, six more Germans filed in to surrender.

### Hand-to-Hand

Pvt. Benny Malinski, of the 83rd Inf. Div., speaks German fluently. In a recent night attack on an enemy town, Benny shouted to two Germans to come over to him. When they got in range, he swung his rifle butt twice, knocked out two Jerries in his first encounter with the enemy. "Saves ammunition," Benny says, tersely.

### Vet School Scholarship?

T/5 Julius Tolney, of Buffalo, N.Y., varied the routine GI-assists-in-childbirth act when he acted as midwife to a cow. Tolney's surgical instruments were a wheelbarrow and a set of pulleys.

### So Sorry

A veteran of the Russian front who joined a Wehrmacht unit in Lorraine was disgusted when a non-com pulled out a pistol and threatened the new men during a pep talk.

That night the Jerry volunteered for a patrol, then took off to the American lines to surrender. Interrogators thought he was stalling when he said he couldn't remember the name of his unit, until a couple of days later they received a note from the rear. The message contained the information they wanted, along with an apology from the German for not having remembered it sooner.

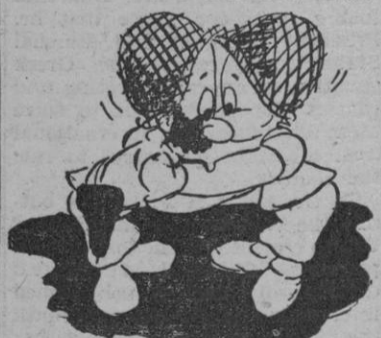
### A Nozzle Hosing

T/Sgt. S. T. Richardson, of Sherman, Tex., and the 36th Inf. Div., was gassing up on a French road. Out of the dusk walked 11 Germans. Caught without a weapon, the Texan pointed the nozzle of the hose

at them and the Germans raised their hands. They were turned over to two radiomen who came along later.

### French Medal

When two men of his cannon section in the 94th Div. cleaned out a German mine field so the guns could move in, Sgt. Stephen Arty, of Philadelphia, thought the soldiers should be decorated. Later



that day two Croix de Guerre medals were found among rubble of a nearby house. Arty pinned them on Pfc's Robert T. McLaughlin, of Struthers, Ohio, and Don R. Mauk, of Estherville, Ohio, then kissed each GI soundly on the cheek in traditional manner.

### Births

FOLKS AT HOME SEND THESE GIs SWIFT NEWS OF SIR STORK'S ARRIVAL: PVT. Ernest W. Haigh, Newton Falls, Mass.—boy, Dec. 9; Sgt. Joseph Cerasa, New York—Joseph, Dec. 12; Sgt. Stan Jutca, Abbeville, La.—boy, Dec. 12; Lt. Robert O. Rollo, Cicero, Ill.—Jerry Robert, Dec. 17; T/Sgt. Chester L. Wolfe, Boston—Craig Lawrence, Dec. 17; Lt. Lawrence D. Stockford, Kalamazoo—Michael Lawrence, Dec. 19; Sgt. Andrew Babish, Sturgeon, Pa.—Andre, Nov. 20; Pfc Leon Silver, Bronx—Allen Melvin, Nov. 25; Lt. Harry T. Rippens, Pasadena—boy, Dec. 20; Cpl. Robert R. Tompkins, Bronxville—boy, Dec. 18; Pvt. Herbert Wagner, Bronx—Barbara Ann, Dec. 21. PHILARD McClure, USN, Newcastle, Pa.—girl, Dec. 18; Lt. John C. Sherry, Jersey City—girl, Dec. 17; Cpl. Lawrence Cohen, Dorchester, Mass.—Carole and Cynthia, Dec. 12; Lt. Bernard S. Reinberg, Rockaway Park, N.Y.—Madelyn Regina, Dec. 1; W/O Joseph J. Cangelose, Orlando, Fla.—Elizabeth Ann, Dec. 23; Pfc Louis Geanopoulos, Schenectady—girl, Dec. 3; Pvt. Sol Gugich, Bronx—Craig Ralph, Nov. 8.

**This Was America Yesterday:**

# Victory's Up to Joes—Navy Secretary Says So

By Phil Bucknell  
Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Secretary of the Navy Forrestal's speech in Washington today was a salute from the Navy to the Army.

"The man with the rifle and hand grenade," he said, "is the one who in the final analysis wins victory."

"The Navy cannot express itself too strongly in its admiration and respect for the deeds of our soldiers in France and for the military genius of Gen. MacArthur and his troops in the Philippines," he said.

And while the speechifying was coming in good, Congressman John E. Sheridan (D.—Pa.) said in Philadelphia that soldiers he visited in Europe do not favor the proposed "rotation system" whereby troops would be brought home for rest periods. The Congressman, a member of the Military Affairs Committee which inspected the ETO, was talking at a Shrine dinner where the fare apparently, was fine. "Out of a million and a half troops," he wagered, "I don't believe there are a hundred who want to come home before the job is finished."

## Nation Prepares to Greet 1945

IN Chicago, New Year's Eve celebration in night spots will cost anywhere from two dollars to the \$17.25 minimum at Camellia House in the Drake Hotel. Despite this Parisian stinger, the Drake management says 90 percent of reservations have been snapped up. Cheap Johns can go to the Palmer House Empire Room for \$14.25 minimum.

The fact New Year's Eve falls on Sunday will muffle the popping of corks in many parts of the United States, but where laws permit the outlook is for a rousing welcome to 1945. New York will be New York, but in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Birmingham and other Sunday-conscious communities Papa will have to do his falling down in the kitchen. In Utah he can't dance, but can drink all he wants to if he brings his own.

## 'Ike' Is Time's Man of the Year

TIME MAGAZINE announces its selection for Man of the Year is General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, who "took more than Hitler gave him." Newsweek talks grimly, says they're getting down to business harder than ever. "With almost the urgency and earnestness of 1941 and '42 the nation, not only the administration, is devoting itself to the problems of manpower and production. Peace jitters and VE Day preparations are now forgotten."

Everything's all right at home, though. The Bogarts have made up again. Mayo Methot Bogart told reporters today that Humphrey, screen toughie, came home Christmas night and "naturally there will be no divorce." Naturally.

AND just to prove everybody's happy this season, Samuel G. Hibben, Westinghouse engineer, announces the Statue of Liberty will be illuminated with 112 powerful lamps to signify surrender of Germany or Japan. He didn't say when, but promised, after the war, new electric floodlights on the Old Girl equivalent to 2,500 times the light of the full moon. On that hypothetical occasion, it may be assumed, she won't be the only Old Girl—or Old Boy—all lit up.

As the Western Front steadied, New York newspapers carried optimism into the headlines. There was a tendency in later editions to tone down this exuberance, and now sober appraisals of the long-time effect of the Nazi push are appearing.

## Look Rounds Up 1945 Forecasts

OTHER newspapermen eyed 1945 with somewhat more optimism. Look magazine presented a round-up of predictions by 16 news analysts and public figures. Here are some of the forecasts:

MAJ. GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT (NY Herald Trib.)—"We shall mop up Germany, fight in China, prove the United Nations set-up, and Spain will oust Franco while Russia joins the battle against Japan."

RICHARD WILSON (Look Washington Chief)—"Demobilization will be the big thing in the U.S. and Japan will be fought with less than half our land forces and even fewer when Russia joins us."

DREW PEARSON (Capital columnist)—"In my opinion the biggest story of '45 will be the detailed revelation of Hitler's death."

LEO CHERNE (Research Institute Secretary)—"1945 will see 50 percent victory, 20 percent of veterans returning, 45 percent of war contracts cut, eight percent unemployment and 100 percent peace finally in sight."

EDWARD R. MURROW (CBS European staff)—"Conflict will develop between Russia and western powers while Italy may disintegrate, and plague and pestilence will peril Europe."

ARTHUR KROCK (NY Times, Washington Bureau)—"I predict that most, if not all, other predictions in this issue of Look will be wrong."

# Army Hospitals Get Clean Bill Navy Reveals New Transport

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—Army hospitals got a clean bill today from a House Military Committee in a report which said that, generally speaking, sick and wounded are receiving the "best of treatment."

Investigation resulted from "rumors of a disquieting nature that sick and wounded soldiers in many instances were being crowded into crude, uncomfortable, makeshift buildings, often inadequately equipped and insufficiently staffed with doctors, nurses and attendants."

## U.S. Income 159 Billions

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—The national income rose to a record high of \$159,000,000,000 and production reached the new peak of \$197,000,000,000 in 1944, the Commerce Department announced, adding that the nation had now passed its wartime high of economic activity.

SAN PEDRO, Calif., Dec. 28 (ANS).—The U.S. Navy took the wraps off its latest vessel for amphibious troops—a speedy, well-armed, specially-equipped assault transport. The new vessel is designed to carry foot soldiers right to the enemy shore, unload them quickly and protect them as they fight.

Previously, invasion troops have been carried in cramped quarters of converted passenger ships. The new assault transports, small and compact, have specially-constructed quarters and modern galleys. They are equipped with four-tier bunks and air conditioned to combat sea sickness. Capt. E. P. Abernethy, veteran of Pacific landings, said the new transports, which are in production, have been designed to hurl ground forces ashore so fast and in such great numbers that initial enemy resistance will be overwhelmed quickly.

## GI Entertainers Get Awards



For entertaining U.S. soldiers overseas, Helen Parrish, Lorraine Rognan and Patti Thomas proudly display the certificate they received from the USO in Chicago.

## Doctors Testify Chaplin Is Not Father of Carol

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28 (ANS).—A blood test showed that Charlie Chaplin could not possibly be the father of Joan Berry's baby daughter, two physicians testified in the paternity case, which is drawing to a close.

Judge Henry M. Willis admitted the evidence, but declared it was not conclusive, and one doctor admitted there "could be" an error. Later curly-haired Carol Ann was placed on view within a few feet of Chaplin, who maintained an impassive mien.

The defense, conducted by Charles Millikan, constituted a denial of any sex relations with Joan Berry within a year of the time she said Carol Ann was conceived, and evidence of various associations with other men "about that time."

"I did not... No... I did not..." met detailed allegations, one of which was that the pantomimist stood nude before a mirror, flexed his muscles, and inquired of Joan, "Do I look like Peter Pan?"

Millikan, cross-examining Miss Berry, sought to elicit testimony connecting her with other men but she denied she spent a day and night in Tulsa with J. Paul Getty, referred to as an oil millionaire. She ran sobbing to her attorney's arms, after identifying letters she wrote to Chaplin from Tulsa.

She denied that she stayed "many times" in the Beverly Hills apartment of Hans Ruesch, writer, but admitted she was there once, when she donned Ruesch's pajamas.

## Job Training Plan Termed 'Explosive'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—The Armed Forces Committee on Education expressed concern today that a situation of "quite explosive character" may develop if a postwar GI educational program trains thousands of ex-servicemen for jobs which do not exist.

It suggested this problem be tackled by co-operation among educational institutions with financial aid from the federal government.

The committee was appointed by President Roosevelt at the time he signed legislation for drafting 18 and 19-year-olds. Headed by Maj. Gen. F. H. Osborn, the committee has been discharged at its own request, the President disclosed today. Its reason was that its recommendations were largely realized in the enactment of the GI Bill of Rights, in which schooling for veterans was provided.

## Portland's Food Binge Ends With OPA Edict

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 28 (ANS).—Portland's rationed-food free-for-all came to an end today as grocers—presented with a formal order—began enforcing new OPA regulations.

Food buyers swamped stores Tuesday night after learning that grocers were still selling goods point-free and accepting expired stamps because they had not received the official OPA order issued Monday which rationed sale of canned goods and most meats. Police were called to two stores to handle crowds.

## General Lays Nazi Advance To 'Our Lack of Information'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—Gen. Peyton C. March, World War I chief of staff, declared that progress of the German counter-offensive could be attributed to our lack of information about enemy movements and strength, and inability to judge from such information as we had from the underground.

In a statement to International News Service on his 80th birthday, March declared that Von Rundstedt's offensive has given the Allied high command direct information for the first time on the large numbers of the enemy which still must be defeated in order to reach Berlin.

### Problem Will Be Solved

Now that we know, it is a military problem that will be solved, he said. He predicted that the solution may be costly and refused to say the war in Europe could be ended in 1945.

As to Japan the general said, "We have not begun to fight... they've got to be killed. No such thing as unconditional surrender is known to them."

## Houston Wife Yields Mat To English Unwed Mother

HOUSTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—The decision of a soldier's wife to grant her husband freedom to marry an English girl, the unwed mother of his daughter, was disclosed here when Mrs. Frances E. Smith, of Houston, filed suit for divorce from J. B. Smith. Smith is stationed "somewhere in England."

Miss Ida Willington, of Warrington, Lancashire, wrote to Mrs. Smith, "I just wanted to tell you what happened. I don't ask you to get a divorce, but if you should, I would marry your husband. I'm sure he wants to marry me. I didn't know he was married until too late."

## Worst Fire in 30 Years Suffered by Kansas City Wallace Predicts Peace Depends on 'Jobs for All'

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 28 (ANS).—Kansas City's first general alarm fire since the stockyards burned 30 years ago gave firemen an eight-hour battle yesterday. The blaze destroyed a wax company warehouse, damaged two adjacent buildings and leaped 60 feet across the street to ignite two other buildings.

## Negro Composer Wins Prize for Overture

CINCINNATI, Dec. 28 (ANS).—William Grant Still, Los Angeles Negro composer, today won a \$1,000 war bond in a nation-wide contest for writing a jubilee overture celebrating Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's 50th anniversary. Deems Taylor, composer, critic and writer, was one of three judges who voted unanimously for Still's work, "The Festive Overture."

## Everybody's Doing It

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—America's wartime marriage boom will affect the nation's economy for many years, the Commerce Department predicted today, while disclosing that marriages in the last four years broke all previous records.

## 'Going My Way' Is Chosen Best Film of 1944 by Critics

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The motion picture "Going My Way" was chosen the best of the year today by New York film critics, who also voted it top honors for direction and best male performance. They awarded special recognition to the Army for factual war film "Memphis Belle" and "Attack."

On the first ballot, 16 critics cast 11 votes for Barry Fitzgerald's performance in the role of the aged priest in "Going My Way." Bing Crosby received two votes for his performance in the same film and Alexander Knox received two for "Wilson." Fred MacMurray received one for his part in "Double Indemnity."

Tallulah Bankhead was chosen as the best female performer for her work in "Lifeboat." With ten votes, Ingrid Bergman in "Gaslight" and Barbara Stanwyck in "Double Indemnity" were second and third respectively.

## House Group Says Jap War 'Just Starting'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Reps. Margaret Chase Smith (R-Me.) and Walter C. Ploeser (R-Mo.), members of a congressional group back from a 25,000-mile tour of Pacific naval installations, warned the nation today that it faces a long and tough fight against the Japanese.

"The Pacific war has just begun," Mrs. Smith, House Naval Affairs Committee member, said. "We won't really get started until we get bases close enough to Tokyo to permit land-based bombing by medium bombers."

Ploeser, a member of the Navy Appropriations Sub-Committee, praised the armed forces for accomplishing miracles, but cautioned the Pacific war "would be a long haul."

"We can't judge economic conditions in Japan, but the Japanese soldier and sailor never surrender and the civilian has the same attitude," he said.

### Supply Lines Long

Both stressed transportation as the major problem and urged the education of the public to the difficulties in maintaining continually lengthening supply lines.

Mrs. Smith reported morale high despite difficult conditions and termed the treatment of casualties "almost miraculous."

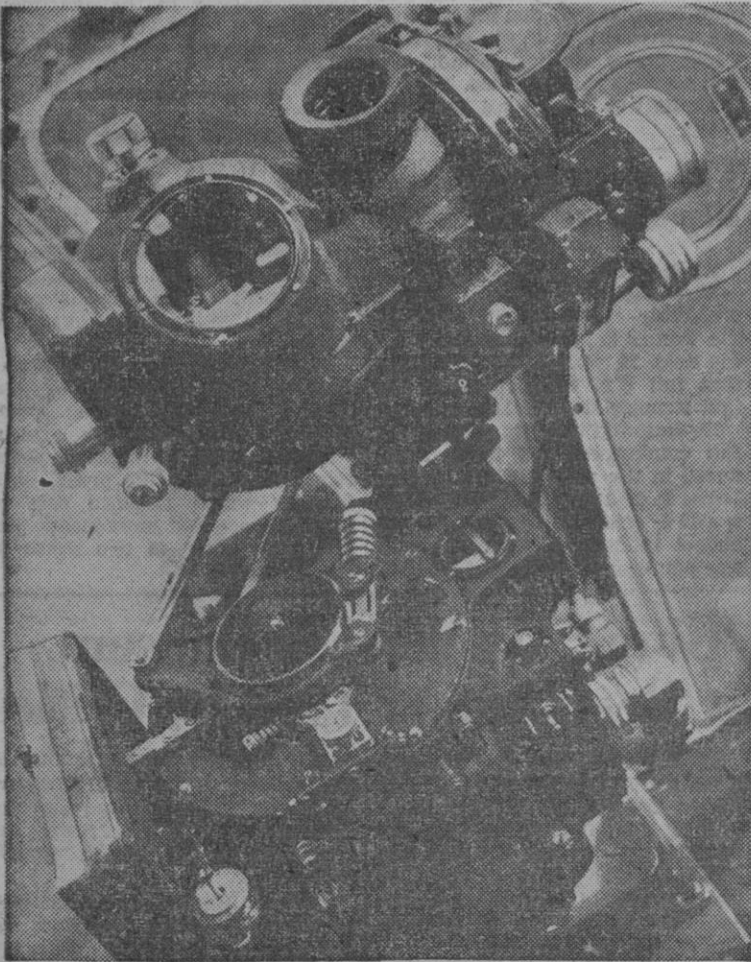
When told of a group of Army nurses who have worked 18 to 24 hours for many days in an island evacuation center, she said: "Men and women fighting in the Pacific are too modest."

Mrs. Smith was enthusiastic in praise of Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific commander. She was one of nine Naval Affairs Committee members who visited the Pacific during a 17-day trip.

## Grease Rack Mistaken For Robot Launcher

WITH THIRD ARMORED DIV.—Sgts. Gerald M. Jennings, of Kansas City, and James A. Smith, of Sidell, Ill., supply battalion men of the Third Armored (Spearhead) Div., halted their wrecker in front of a house and set about erecting a first class grease rack. Civilians, noting the activity, promptly began to move out of the house. Upon inquiry, it was discovered they believed the grease rack to be a launching platform for U.S. buzz-bombs.

## Third Eye of the Bombardiers



This is the first released picture of one of the U.S. Air Forces' most carefully-guarded secrets—the Norden bombsight. The removable upper half contains a vertical gyroscope and a range-computing device.

## Maj. Richard Bong, Pacific Theater Ace, Paces Air Force With 40 Planes Downed

### McGuire in Runner-Up With 30; Gabreski's 28 Still Third

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS).—Maj. Richard Bong, of Poplar, Wis., continues to lead the list of 34 air force fighter aces who have destroyed 15 or more enemy planes in combat. The WD's latest list gave the Southwest Pacific ace 38 kills but he has since been credited with two more, it was revealed.

Bong's theater-mate, Maj. Thomas B. McGuire, of San Antonio, is runner-up with 30. Lt. Col. Francis Gabreski, of Oil City, Pa., now a prisoner in Germany, has 28.

Maj. Robert S. Johnson, Lawton, Okla., Eighth AF, follows with 27; Maj. George E. Preddy, Greensboro, N.C., Eighth AF, 24; Capt. Don S. Gentile, Piqua, Ohio, Eighth AF, 23; Maj. Gerald T. Johnson, Eugene, Ore., 15th AF, 23; Maj. Fred J. Christenson Jr., Watertown, Mass., Eighth AF, 22; Col. Neel E. Kearby, Dallas, 22, missing in action.

Col. Glenn E. Duncan, Houston, Eighth AF, 21 1/2, missing in action; Capt. John J. Voll, Goshen, Ohio, 15th AF, 21; Maj. Walker



Lt. Col. Francis E. Gabreski

M. Mahurin, Ft. Wayne, Ind., Eighth AF, 21; Maj. Jay T. Robbins, Coolidge, Texas, Fifth AF, 21; Lt. Col. Robert B. Westbrook, Hollywood, 13th AF, 20.

Col. Charles H. MacDonald, St. Petersburg, Fifth AF, 20; Lt. Col. Thomas J. Lynch, Catawba, Pa., Fifth AF, 20, killed in action; Col. Hubert Zemke, Missoula, Mont., Eighth AF, 19 1/2; Lt. Col. David C. Schilling, Traverse City, Mich., Eighth AF, 19; Col. David L. Hill,

### Pilot Gets Hole-in-One As Bomb Hits Chimney

WITH NINTH AF, Dec. 28.—He doesn't exactly claim it as precision bombing, but Capt. Clayton K. Gross, of Spokane, dove his fighter-bomber at a building in the battle area yesterday, and dropped a 500-pound bomb right down the chimney.

"It slipped right down the hatch," Cross said. "There was either a lot of ammunition or gasoline in there because the whole building exploded in a sheet of white flame."

### Ammunition Gone, TD Crew Fights On

After successfully spanning the Moselle in support of the 90th Inf. Div., A TD Bn. platoon commanded by Lt. Kenneth Sutter, of Sioux Falls, S.D., was isolated along with infantry troops by a counter-attack. Although the platoon had only one tank destroyer, Sutter elected to fight it out.

The TD, commanded by Sgt. Joseph Lalish, of Ford City, Pa., was hit seven times but the sergeant and his crew continued to fire until their ammunition was exhausted. Wounded, they refused medical aid, and crawled through shellfire to the infantry firing line to join the fight again with small arms until the attack was beaten off when help arrived.

The TD crew, in addition to Sgt. Lalish, included Cpl. George Reed, of Cleveland, Ohio; T/5 Tommie Lynch, Chickasha, Okla.; Pvt. Critton D. Clayton, of Durham, N.C., and Pvt. Frank N. Lajeunesse, of Red Lake, Minn.

### Medics Duck Bullets To Rescue Wounded

WITH FIFTH ARMORED DIV.—Learning that two wounded men lay in a burning building in a German town from which American infantry troops had just withdrawn, three Fifth Armored Div. medics volunteered to rescue them. They dove an ambulance through enemy light arms fire, gave the patients first aid and returned with them, still under fire.

For their work, Pvts. Transito E. Sandoval, of Trinidad, Colo.; Raymond L. Anderson, of Washington, D.C.; and Pvt. Stephen Znoj, of New Bedford, Mass., were awarded Silver Star medals by Maj. Gen. Lunsford E. Oliver, division commander.

### Cellar Radio School

In a shell-torn cellar just behind the American lines in Germany an engineer combat group has opened a radio school. 1/Lt. Louis C. Welch, of Rochester, N.Y., is schoolmaster.

### Army Releases List of Pilots With 15 Or More Kills

Victoria, Texas, 14th AF, 18 1/2; Capt. John T. Godfrey, Woonsocket, R.I., Eighth AF, prisoner in Germany.

Lt. Col. Herschel H. Green, Mayfield, Ky., 15th AF, 18; Capt. Duane W. Beeson, Boise, Eighth AF, 18, prisoner in Germany; Maj. Walter C. Beckham, De Funiak Springs, Fla., Eighth AF, 18, prisoner in Germany; Maj. Don M. Beerbower, Hill City, Minn., Ninth AF, 17 1/2, killed; Capt. James S. Varnell, Charleston, Tenn., 15th AF, 17; Capt. Cyril Homer, Sacramento, Fifth AF, 17; Maj. Edward Cragg, Coscob, Conn., Fifth AF, 17, missing; Capt. Glenn T. Eagleston, Alhambra, Calif., Ninth AF, 16 1/2; Lt. Col. William Reed, Marion, Iowa, 14th AF, 16 1/2.

Maj. George S. Welch, Wilmington, Del., Fifth AF, 16; Lt. Col. Richard E. Turner, Bartlesville, Okla., Ninth AF, 16; Maj. Samuel J. Brown, Tulsa, 15th AF, 15 1/2; Maj. Bill Harris, Springville, Calif., 13th AF, 15; Capt. Richard A. Peterson, Alexandria, Minn., Eighth AF, 15.

## Lucky German Almost Corpse

WITH SECOND INF. DIV.—Drawing a bead on the German who was stealthily making his way towards his covered position, Sgt. Russell Ermatinger, of Detroit, Mich., and the Second Inf. Div. called on him to halt and throw up his hands.

Instead of complying, the Nazi raised his rifle and looked around for the hidden Yank. The 23rd Infantryman fired.

It was Ermatinger's turn to be surprised—instead of toppling over dead, the German threw down his rifle and raised his hands in surrender.

"If I hadn't been firing rifle grenades just before that, and forgot to take the blank cartridge out of the chamber, he'd be six feet under terra firma right now instead of in a PW camp," Ermatinger said later.

### Crew Uses Light Tank To Evacuate Injured

The Sherman tank had been knocked out by 88s and still was under fire. The light tank crew of the 66th Armored Regt., Second Armored Div., saw that enemy infantry made a dismounted rescue impossible, so they drove their speedy but lightly armored vehicle alongside the Sherman.

Using the big tank as cover, Sgt. Chauncey Wysenski, of Lockwood, Ohio, evacuated the wounded, who rode in rear deck with Wysenski holding onto those most severely injured.

Others in the light tank crew were: Pvt. Howard W. Eibling, of Dayton, Ohio; Pvt. John Lesica, of New York City, and Pvt. Oscar Seastrom, of Rapid City, S.D.

## Brooklyn Swede Grabs 88 —In Best Ebbets Field Style

WITH FOURTH ARMORED DIV.—Swede Nelson had just cut the engine on his tank, "Bottle Baby."



so he and the crew could hear incoming shells when—wham!—something hit the turret.

## Germans Raid Depot, Find GI Duds to Liking

WITH U. S. FORCES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, Dec. 28 (AP).—Nine members of a quartermaster company hidden in an old creamery storage vault resentfully watched Nazi tankmen ransack bins of new American combat clothing "like a bunch of children."

"The Jerries were tickled pink to get that clothing," said Pvt. B. C. Mallory of Mineral Wells, Tex. "They all picked up some, waved it around and kept yelling, 'Amerikan kaput, Amerikan kaput'—Americans finished, Americans finished."

The nine men hid in the creamery seven hours before American artillery drove the Germans from the town.

One of the first Germans into town leaped out of one of the tanks and called out in good English, "Everything's clear. Come on out."

### Sounded Like German

"It certainly sounded like an American doughboy and one of our men started to yell to him," said Mallory. "But some of us could see he was a German and we kept quiet."

Each time the Nazis came through the building to search it, the Americans ducked into the vault for milk cans and escaped detection. They made their way back to their own positions after the enemy tanks pulled out.

The other eight men were: Cpl. Benjamin E. Ondrusek, of Yoakum, Tex.; Pvt. Smith Taylor, of Corvin, Ky.; Pfc. James Morris, of Lebanon; Pvt. Herschel White, of Wichita Falls, Tex.; Pvt. Mandred E. Davis, of Pampa, Tex.; Cpl. E. J. Kopecky, of Sweethome, Tex.; T/5 Herman Pope, of Knightstown, Ind., and Pfc. Dale Phelps, of Lytle, Tex.

## 'Commando' Kelly Gives Injured \$500

BUTLER, Pa., Dec. 28 (ANS).—Sgt. Charles (Commando) Kelly sent a \$500 Christmas gift to a military hospital near here, Col. D. J. Gentzkow, hospital commandant, revealed.

Kelly, placing receipts from the book "One Man's War" and magazine articles on trust in a Pittsburgh bank, said he wanted to share his good luck "with other guys."

Possessor of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Silver Star and British decorations for exploits in Italy, Kelly now is stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga.

### 22 Nazis Capitulat To Empty Flare Gun

WITH FOURTH INF. DIV.—T/Sgt. Oree Howell, of C Co., Eighth Inf., was firing on a group of fleeing Jerries when his machine gun jammed. He spied another weapon on the group and used it to cover 22 Germans, who capitulated.

The weapon was an empty flare gun, but neither the Germans nor Howell seemed to notice it until other men from his company came along to help bring in the prisoners.

Swede looked at the smoke coming from the rear of his Sherman and was debating whether or not to get out when—wham!—another shell hit. And there sat Swede, holding the sizzling piece of metal in his hands.

"I felt like a damn fool," he said, hours later. "There it was, a red hot armor-piercing 88, and I caught it like you'd catch a baseball."

The armor plating had taken up the force of the shell and by the time it got through, it was spent and burning in Cpl. John (Swede) Nelson's hands.

Thinking back on it, this Brooklyn tanker figures nothing ever swatted in Ebbets field could match that catch.

# Desperate Nazis Attack American Tanks With Bare Hands

## Foe Is Blasted From the Tops Of Shermans

**By Marshall Morgan**  
Stars and Stripes Special Writer

**WITH AN ARMORED DIVISION, Germany.**—German troops so desperate or battle-crazed that they attacked American tanks with their bare hands, only to die under crossfire from the tanks themselves, have been encountered by spearheading ankmen of this armored division in Germany.

The weird, Jap-like onslaught occurred this week near a flattened German village as Shermans of a tank battalion pushed their steel snouts hard against the breastbone of the Siegfried Line.

**Voices on Top of Tank**

Advanced tanks of A Company, under cover, had buttoned up under intermittent artillery fire.

Sgt. James Crisp, tank commander, heard voices in excited conversation, then the sound of boots scraping on top of his Sherman. In perfect English came the cry: "Surrender, in the name of Hitler!"

The order was accompanied by imperious but ineffectual pounding. Fifty yards away in his own Sherman, Lt. Harold I. Fiedler, in response to a hurried inquiry from Crisp, took a periscopic squint.

"There are Jerries all over your tank," he told Crisp.

"Okay," replied Crisp. "Let 'em have it from there, will you?"

As Fiedler swung his .30s, Crisp's voice came through again.

"They're all over you, too—I'm cutting loose at you!"

**Held Hatch Down**

In a third tank Sgt. Herchel Whitaker, the din of machine-guns in his ears, involuntarily reached up to hold down his hatch as invisible hands tried to lift it.

"Gentlemen, let us in!" came the astonishing demand.

Whitaker sent his SOS and a hall of American machine-gun bullets raked his turret.

Two minutes later, when all was quiet, the tankers opened their turrets and had a look at their handiwork.

It wasn't pretty, but—C'est la guerre.

## GIs Seek Venison, Bag Nazi 'Chutist

Pfc L. W. Ford, of Detroit, and Irving Rakoff, of the Bronx, assigned to a town major's office, brought back no venison from their deer hunt in a nearby forest preserve, but they did bag more dangerous prey.

Driving a truck through the woods, they spotted a German parachutist in the underbrush. Ford stopped the vehicle and Rakoff ordered the Nazi to drop his weapons and come forward.

When the parachutist was in the truck and under guard, they resumed their hunt for deer, but so many parachutes appeared along the side of the road that they decided to turn around for reinforcements. They met same in a V Corps patrol, who took over their prisoner and went after the remaining Jerries.

## Bombardier Pinch-Hits For Absent Chaplain

In the absence of the regular chaplain, 2/Lt. James R. Harl, of Bloomfield, Ia., a B26 bombardier, conducted Sunday services at a bomber base in France.

Harl, who had planned to enter the ministry before the war, volunteered to take over for Capt. Charles J. Fix, of Pulaski, Ia., who was called away from the base.

**Maintains Outpost**

S/Sgt. Stephen G. Butchko, of Phillipsburg, N.J., organized a machine gun outpost 500 yards in front of his Second Armored Div. company's line and maintained it for seven hours during enemy counter-attacks.

## Argues with General; Gets Medal Anyway

The general saw a soldier race through heavy fire, turn his sub-machine gun on a machine-gun nest and then set up a mortar section and direct its fire against Germans in a village ahead.

Later, the CP of Maj. James H. Hayes, of Philadelphia, commander of the Second Bn., 317th Inf., 80th Div., the general said: "Hayes, I want you to decorate one of your men. I watched him practically run that show and I want him to receive full credit."

Brushing aside all protestations, the general insisted. Hayes received the Silver Star.

## Medic Drivers Share Dangers Of Front Line

**By Allan Morrison**  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

**WITH THE THIRD ARMY.**—The boys who drive the Army's ambulances from collecting stations near the lines to clearing stations and evac hospitals have had their share of shelling, mortaring and sniping.

On a mission with the Fourth Armored Div., Pvt. William Jones, of Indianapolis, Ind., and Pvt. James Jackson, of Dayton, O., drove their ambulance full of casualties through a town. They were fired upon several times but did not realize until they got back that the town was in German hands.

"We try very hard not to repeat mistakes like that," Jones said.

**With Cavalry Squadron**

Many of the drivers are getting used to driving through dubious territory. Right now three ambulance teams are up with a cavalry squadron with which they have worked for nearly a month, picking up and returning wounded.

Drivers like Pfc Hylon Lucas, of Gary, Ind., and Pvt. Wm. McPheeters, of New Albany, Ind., are veterans of this ambulance outfit's "cavalry troop." Then there are men like Pfc Oscar Lynch, of Chattanooga, and I/5 Benjamin Henderson, of Detroit, who walked up to a Bailey Bridge across the Seille River under terrific shelling and picked up wounded tankmen. They know that ambulance men often take it where it's roughest.

Members of a Negro ambulance company that has platoons assigned to the Fourth Armored Div., 26th Infantry Div. and a cavalry squadron, these men have carried hundreds of wounded during the Third Army's drive across France.

## U.S. Presents Medals To French in 1st TAF

**FIRST TACTICAL AIR FORCE BOMBER BASE, Dec. 28.**—The U.S. Distinguished Service Cross has been awarded Gen. Jean L. Piolet, French bomber group commander, following entry of American-trained B26 Marauder units into the French First Air Corps.

Thirty-nine U.S. Air Medals were also presented to French officers and enlisted men by Brig. Gen. Robert M. Webster, deputy commander of the 12th USAF, formerly chief of the Mediterranean Marauders, in which the French airmen served.

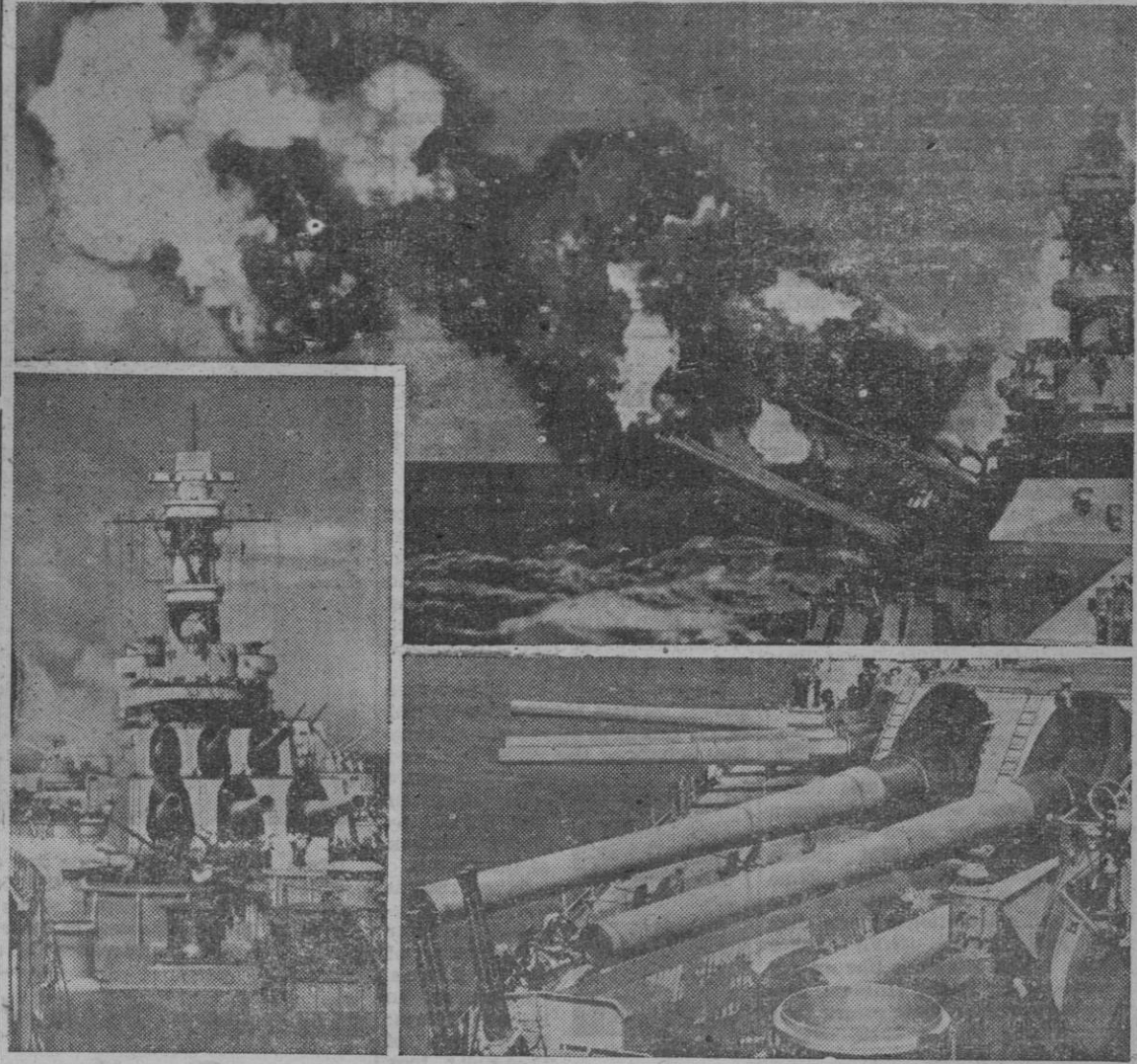
## Anybody Want a Horse?

**By George C. Walsh**  
Stars and Stripes Special Writer

**WITH THE 94th INF. DIV.**—Maj. James P. Gwynn, division provost marshal, thinks it's getting to be a pretty rugged war when you have to buckslip the whole division to get rid of two horses and \$1,300.

It started several weeks ago when a Frenchman, claiming to be a Yank, requisitioned from a farmer two horses for which he paid 65,000 francs. It took the farmer all that time to get suspi-

## Newest and Deadliest Battleship Joins U.S. Fleet



Sixteen-inch guns of the Iowa, latest and deadliest of the Navy's "Big I" class battleships, belch smoke and flame in a battle drill. At left, the armored leviathan lies at anchor after a shakedown cruise. She carries a crew of approximately 2,500, is 900 feet long and has unrivalled fire power. Bottom view shows some of the mighty battle wagon's armament, which includes nine 16-inch guns, 20 five-inchers, and 148 anti-aircraft weapons. (Japanese papers please copy).

## Lone GI Proves Stumbling Block To Advancing Foe

**By Ed Clark**  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

**WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY.**—His job is ammo carrier, but Pvt. George J. Kaminsky, 45th Div. doughfoot from Pittsburgh, single-handedly held off a strong German counter-attack in eastern France.

The sector was thought to be quiet, so Kaminsky was left alone overnight to guard an outpost for Com. G of the 179th Inf.

Nothing happened during the night, but at dawn the Germans moved in on Com. G in strength.

Crouched behind his machine-gun, Kaminsky opened fire as they came into range. He kept firing until the attack had almost smothered his position. Then, holding down the trigger of his machine-gun with one hand, the Pittsburgh doughfoot started lobbing grenades with his other hand, pulling the pins with his teeth.

Stopped in their tracks, the Nazis brought up a machine-gun of their own and began to zero in on the one-man fortress. Kaminsky "slowly fell back toward an American tank about 100 yards to the rear. With a little armor support, the 45th's two-fisted ammo carrier finished the German attack off for good.

**133-Page Letter**

Sgt. Waldo S. Bibb, of the 309th Eng. Combat Bn., 84th Div. recently wrote what he claims is the "longest letter in the ETO"—133 pages.

## AWOL on Books at Naples, But a Hero to Unit in France

**By Ed Lawrence**  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

**WITH SECOND ARMORED DIV.**—Lt. William W. Stozier, of Stovall, Ga., is still listed AWOL on the morning report of an Air Transport Command unit in Naples.

His fighting days began in North Africa with the second Armored Div., continued through the Sicilian campaign and stopped when he was classified limited service because of partial deafness.

## France to Become 36th United Nation

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (ANS)**—France will become the thirty-sixth member of the United Nations on New Year's Day when it signs the United Nations declaration here at a formal ceremony, the State Department today announced.

Ambassador Henri Bonnet will sign for France in the presence of representatives of the United Nations.

Gen. de Gaulle's Committee of Liberation—and in recent weeks his Provisional Government—has been considered as associated with, but not a member of the United Nations.

The pact, signed in the dark days immediately following Pearl Harbor states in its preamble that the signatories "subscribe to the common program of purposes and principles embodied in ... the Atlantic Charter."

## Luxembourg Becomes One of United Nations

**LUXEMBOURG, Dec. 28.**—Tiny Luxembourg finally announced that it is abandoning its neutrality after warring armies swept across its soil for the third time in five years. Only 99 square miles in area and with a population currently estimated at 200,000, Luxembourg announced that it would assume all obligations of the United Nations.

**MPs Locate Jerriicans**

Com. Z MPs of the 785th Bn. have retrieved 5,709 abandoned jerricans since the start of the current campaign to round up AWOL gasoline containers

## France to Become 36th United Nation

At a desk job in Naples, he grew restless when he read of his old outfit pacing the attack in France last summer. His application for transfer was refused.

In desperation he wrote to the commanding general of the North African theater:

"I have great admiration for the Second Armored Div. The attachment I have for it is of a family nature. I have many friends among its members and feel impelled to join them to complete the job for which I entered the service."

## Hitch-Hikes to Front

He sneaked a ride on a plane to southern France. By jeep and plane he covered the route from the Mediterranean to the Dutch-German border. He explored the Seventh, Third, First and Ninth Army Sectors for news of his unit.

When at last he found it, CO. I, 41st Armored Inf., was in combat without a CO. So he took over.

"Before we even knew he was back, he was out there checking the front-line positions," recalls I/Sgt. Lawrence Marzella, of DeFuniak Springs, Fla.

The men liked him because he had plenty of guts. They say he scorned a pistol and would lead them on patrol and into attack with a tommy gun.

On Nov. 15 a sniper's bullet got him. They buried him in a hero's grave.

## Battlefield Commission

After going from private to first-sergeant, Joseph A. Stranahan, of Brookline, Mass., and the 331st Inf. of the 83rd Div., received a battlefield commission as a second lieutenant.

## Once Over Lightly

By Andy Rooney

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—If you've always meant to read a book—and are interested in sports—ask the family to send you "Sports Extra," a collection of classic stories from sports pages of various newspapers put together by Sports-writer Stanley Frank of the New York Post.

It's a collection of interesting stories from Arthur Brisbane's account of the Sullivan-Mitchell 1888 fight at Chantilly, near Paris, through the Stanley Woodward report on Mickey Walker's art exhibit early this year.

HERE are a few of the pieces: Heywood Brown's "Ruth will Out," Frank O'Neill's "The Big Train," Grantland Rice's "The Four Horsemen," Damon Runyon's "Handy Sande," O. B. Keeler's "Emperor Jones," Bill Cunningham's "Rock of Ages," Bill Corum's "Derby Day," Dan Parker's "Doyle the Magnificent" and others by Bill Leiser, Austen Lake, Ed Burns, Joe Williams, Jack Miley, Bob Considine, Frank Graham, Paul Gallico, Ring Lardner, Westbrook Pegler, and John Kieran.

There's also a honey of a story in the book by PM's Tom O'Reilly about Sing Sing's football team. It seems there was a good reason why the Ossining team disbanded after all-victorious 1934 season under Coach Johnny Law. Time came for the last game of the campaign, a traditional game with the Port Jervis (N.Y.) Police eleven, which almost is like an Ivy League rivalry to the jailbirds, who were so proud of their record they were willing to bet their striped shirts on the game.

COACH Law was called away the day of the game and the Sing Sing players got a couple of tences working for them and covering all bets. They gave odds of 21 points for Fort Jervis before the kickoff. They scored 20 points before the half was up and muffed many other opportunities to pile it on. Then to their amazement, Law walked into the lockerroom at the half. He realized the first team hadn't cut in the second team on the deal and switched them in the last half, the seconds mopping up, 50-0, thus double-crossing the double crossers and that ended football at Sing Sing.

## Toronto Routs Rangers, 8-2

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Toronto Maple Leafs had an easy time defeating the New York Rangers, 8-2, last night with Ted Kennedy making five points on three goals and two assists.

After Grant Warwick put the Rangers ahead midway in the first period, Kennedy scored on a pass from Babe Pratt, then passed to Bob Davidson 19 seconds later to put the Leafs in front. Nick Metz converted on a pass from Lorne Carr to make it 3-1 at the end of the period.

In the second period, Gus Bodnar and Nel Hill tallied for the Leafs and Fred Thurier countered for the Rangers. Metz scored again in the third and Kennedy added two more goals within three minutes of the end. Hill assisted on both Kennedy goals to run his total for the night to four points.

## Hockey Standings

### National League

	W	L	T	Pts
Montreal	14	4	2	30
Detroit	13	5	3	29
Toronto	11	8	2	24
Boston	8	11	1	17
New York	3	12	5	11
Chicago	3	12	3	9

### American League

#### Tuesday Night's Score

Cleveland 5, Hershey 0.

#### EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts
Buffalo	15	10	3	33
Hershey	13	11	3	29
Providence	8	16	2	18

#### WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts
Indianapolis	15	7	7	37
Cleveland	13	8	5	31
Pittsburgh	13	12	3	29
St. Louis	5	17	3	13

## Philly Cops Arrest Basketball Gamblers

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—Ten men, described as "big time" gamblers, were arrested by city detectives at the basketball game in Convention Hall last night. Police identified one as George Fox, of the Bronx, N.Y., allegedly one of the group of gamblers making huge sums of money on Madison Square Garden's cage games.

Police said Fox had \$1,305 on him when pinched. The other nine men, according to the local gendarmes, had been active in gambling at Shibe Park baseball games last summer.

## Frankie Hayes AL 'Iron Man'

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Four major league fielding records were broken in the American League this year, but Frankie Hayes, A's catcher who snapped two of them, got nothing better than a tie with Ray Mueller of the Reds, who duplicated Hayes' feats in the National League.

Hayes caught 155 consecutive games, thereby blasting the record of 151 games in one season held by Ray Schalk of the White Sox, and the consecutive game mark of 133 held by George Gibson of the Pirates.

Other records were: Lou Boudreau, manager of shortstop of the Indians, participated in 134 doubleplays; Rudy York of Detroit took part in 163 twin killings.

## DiMaggio to Seashore

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Ed Barrow, president of the New York Yankees, has announced Sgt. Joe DiMaggio, his former star centerfielder, reported on Army orders to the rehabilitation center at Atlantic City yesterday.

DiMaggio recently was brought to the mainland from Honolulu for treatment of a stomach condition.

## South's Eleven Plans To Stress Air Attack

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 28.—When word was received here that the Northern line would average 200 pounds in the annual Blue-Gray football game Saturday, the Southern team went to work on plans to outflank the Yankee wall aerially.

Charley Trippi, former Georgia ace who played the 1944 season with the Third AAF Gremlins, and Pete Layden, ex-Texas star who performed with Randolph Field, did most of the passing in the Dixie outfit's drill.

## Plane Ride Knocked Billy Conn for Loop

By Paul Horowitz

The Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

Cpl. Billy Conn, the Pittsburgh Kid, is in Paris, reeling from a jarring plane trip that made him flinch more than any ring opponent's punch did. The former lightweight champion, who fought that memorable 13-round battle with Joe Louis for the heavyweight title, only to succumb to the Brown Bomber's dynamite punches after leading on points, arrived here after spending two months on a boxing exhibition tour in Corsica and Italy.

En route from Rome, where he entertained troops at the Allied Tournament 10 days ago, Conn and the troupe, which is sponsored by the Air Service Command, found themselves in a plane that couldn't land above Marseilles.

"I was riding up front with the pilot when he discovered the locks hadn't been taken off the elevators, and he couldn't put the nose down," Conn relates. "In fact, we couldn't go up or down, but somebody suggested that the shifting of weight from one end of the plane to the other would settle the plane, and possibly release the locks. So

## 'Whiz Kids' Are Stumped



Great Lakes, after bowing twice to the "Whiz Kids" of Illinois earlier this season, placed the first blot on the Champaign cagers' record, 52-45. The picture shows Jim Seyler (9) and Don Delaney, both of Illinois, leaping in an effort to stop a southpaw shot by McGuire (6) of Great Lakes.

## Bunker Hill Cagers Bow To Great Lakes, 48-46

BUNKER HILL, Ind., Dec. 28.—Great Lakes Naval Training Station went to work in the second half last night to defeat the Bunker Hill Naval Air Station cagers, 48-46.

The losers set a 25-24 pace at the intermission and never did more than three points separate the teams in the first half.

Great Lakes led by seven points midway in the second half, then Bunker Hill fought back within one point, only to fold up under the pressure.

Dick McGuire, former St. John's player, led the Sailors with 15 points, while Stan Miasek made 14 for the home team.

## 3 Records at Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—Western Kentucky's basketball team set three new Convention Hall records in defeating St. Joseph's, 81-48, here last night.

Thirty-four field goals, 81 points and a combined total of 129 points for both teams were all new marks for the court. The previous field goal mark of 31 was set by St. Joseph's court against Ursinus last year, the same team held the high

score mark of 77 points, and Penn and Navy figured last year in the previous total points record with 124.

Sinkhorn and Huter tallied 17 points apiece for the winners and O'Neill hit the net for 16 for St. Joseph's.

## Temple Upsets Vols, 33-31

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—Temple scored its fourth straight victory here last night, defeating the hitherto unbeaten Tennessee Volunteers, 33-31.

Jim Joyce scored the winning field goal with two seconds left to preserve the Owls' unblemished record.

## Star in Any Setting

Rogers Hornsby, selected on the All-Star major league teams four years in a row from 1926-29, was with a different team each year, St. Louis, New York, Boston and Chicago.

## Beau Jack Gets Boxer of Year Recognition

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Beau Jack, Negro lightweight boxer now serving at Ft. Benning, Ga., has been dubbed "Boxer of the Year" by Nat Fleischer, editor of Ring Magazine, bible of the beak-busting profession. The Beau, former lightweight champion (New York State version), was picked over 4,381 professional boxers active in 1944.

In five main events as a civilian at Madison Square Garden, Beau attracted \$460,000 in gate receipts, which includes the year's largest gate, \$132,823 against Al "Bummy" Davis, Brooklyn welter. In addition, Beau donated his services for a bout against Champion Bob Montgomery in August, which drew over \$35,000,000 in war bond purchases.

Fleischer emphasized his magazine was not designating Jack as its candidate for the lightweight championship, but merely naming him the outstanding fist-cuffer of the year. The lightweight throne, in Fleischer's opinion, is vacant and will not be filled until Montgomery, the New York champ, meets NBA titleholder Juan Zurita of Mexico City.



Beau Jack

The outstanding ring performances of the year, as listed by Fleischer's publication, were the European tours of Sgt. Joe Louis and Cpl. Billy Conn; 23 bouts declared "no contest" for stalling, Tami Mauriello's eight-round knockout over Lee Oma (listed as the most thrilling fight of the year); defeat of Freddie Mills by Jack London (biggest upset), and Willie Pep fattening his record to 89 victories in 90 fights.

Bobby Giles of Buffalo, N.Y., participated in the year's most unusual coincidence. Giles was floored 15 times in ten rounds while losing to Benny McCombs of Flint, Mich., and shortly afterwards Giles dropped Bobby Howard of Worcester, Mass., 15 times before the referee awarded Giles a TKO verdict.

## Vines Smashes Par on Coast

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—Ellsworth Vines, lanky Denver-Colorado Country Club professional, yesterday shot a record smashing 62, eight under par, to lead the Pro-Amateur tuneup for next week's \$13,333 Los Angeles Open golf tournament. The former tennis king racked up eight birdies on the Lakeside course.

Vines knocked one stroke off the course record, held jointly by George Von Elm and Bruce McCormick.

Craig Wood made five straight birdies for a 30 on the outgoing nine, but wound up with a 66.

## Lesnevich-Muscato Bout Canceled by Navy Order

BUFFALO, N.Y., Dec. 28.—A surprise order from the Navy Department caused the cancellation of the eight-round non-title fight between Gus Lesnevich of the Coast Guard, the world's lightweight champion, and Phil Muscato of Buffalo. The fight was scheduled last night.

Billy Mitchie, matchmaker, said a Naval officer from New York City had advised him of the order, but would give no reason for refusing Lesnevich permission to go through with the fight. Rather than sign a last-minute substitute, Mitchie canceled the whole card.

## CAGE RESULTS

Arkansas 50, Denver 36  
Nebraska 54, Pentathlon (Mexico) 40  
Oklahoma Aggies 63, Baylor 16  
Rice 60, West Texas 44  
Temple 33, Tennessee 31  
Great Lakes 48, Bunker Hill 46  
Western Kentucky 81, St. Joseph's 46



Billy Conn

Maury Schwarz (1/Lt. in charge of the troupe) and I, a bomber pilot from Brooklyn and an RAF pilot, did our roadwork up and down that plane's interior. We ran for two hours and finally the pilot landed, and you can bet I'll never

look at a plane again—if I can help it," Conn concluded.

Conn has appeared before Army, Navy and Air Corps units in Italy, boxing with his sparring partner, Leo Matriccianni, of Baltimore, ETO heavyweight champion. The ex-champion's present weight is 189 pounds, as compared to 174 when he fought Louis in New York, June 18, 1941. Another fighter in the group is 21-year old "Tut" Tabor, Eighth AAF middleweight from Oakland, Calif., whom Conn touts as a great prospect. Tabor had 26 professional fights before entering the service.

## Two Brothers in Service

Overseas seven months, Conn learned today that Nat Fleischer, editor of Ring Magazine, had named him, along with Sgt. Joe Louis, as giving the "outstanding performances of the year" on their European tours.

Billy has two brothers in uniform. He's 27 years old and a corporal, which he doesn't mind; Frank, 24, is with the 28th Inf. Div. and he once was a S/Sgt. and now is a Pfc, which he does mind; the other is S/Sgt. Jack, 20-years old, a paratrooper who outranks both.

# Hash Marks

Who said that? The map of Europe is like a woman's mind—always ready for a battle and subject to change without notice.

Our spy on the home front heard this remark in a PX. "It's nice we're still living in a free country and a man can do what the first sergeant wants him to."

And then there was the Lieutenant who phoned his wife and said, "Sorry, dear, I won't be home until late. I have a form here I have to look over."

"My girl's sure carrying the torch for me." Sighed a GI—"She's a welder at Lockheed."

Afterthought. The most popular GI corsage is still four roses.



Catty remark. "To that girl, dating is just like a drug—she takes one dope after another."

And then there was the discharged GI who landed a soft job. He's in a pantie factory now, pulling down about two thousand a year.

Another unsigned verse left in our typewriter:

Little paycheck, by tonight  
We'll be where the lights are bright.  
In some gaily festive spot  
I'll return but you will not.

PFC Lou Seguin reported in the Weather Column of his "Daily Dope Sheet" that England had a long dry spell—one morning.

Someone asked a WAG how her boyfriend in the engineers made love. She replied, "You can define it a unskilled labor."

Signs of the Times. Mistletoe sales dropped to a new low in the Midwest this season. One puzzled mistletoe magnate explained, "I guess they're just no one around worth kissing any more. We think he overlooked the fact that servicemen don't need the stuff."

Remark heard on the home front. "Go ahead and telephone, and if a man answers, ask him why the hell he isn't in the army."

J. C. W.

## Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

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

### APOs WANTED

Sgt. Willard Johnson; Cpl. Arthur Jackson; Pvt. A. Jacobson, New Hope, Pa.; Pvt. Harry Kaplan, Atlantic City; Sgt. Jim Landers, Tex.; Harold Lacey, Newark Valley, N.Y.; George Daniel Lane; Pvt. John J. Moran; Howard C. Maloney, Wilmington, Del.; Pvt. Amos Martin, Ohio; Neal J. Martinson, Passaic, N.Y.

Pvt. Albert Morgan, N.Y.C.; John V. Murphy, Brooklyn; James and Edward Murdock, Pomfret, Conn.; William M. Moody; James H. McCarty, Philadelphia; Pvt. Ralph Morse, Lancaster, N.H.; Bob McCarthy East Dubuque, Ill.

Cpl. William Olson, Neb.; Duke Perry, Windsor, N.C.; George Pearson, Fargo; S/Sgt. Charles Rooney, Columbus, O.; Robert Ryan, Chicago; Pfc Irving Rubin; Fred Schaefer, Milwaukee; Robert Smoots, Detroit; Leo Spiegler, Chicago; Lt. Chas. S. Stevens; Lt. David Thom and Lt. George Thom, Beechurst, N.Y.; Jack Tucker, Lebanon, Ore.; Bob Tippins, Rochelle, Ga.; Sgt. Robert Terry; Cpl. Robert S. Wood, Fowler, Mich.; Sgt. Roger R. Waggoner, Nebraska.

## AEF-RADIO-AFN Program -AFN

Time TODAY  
0925—AEF Ranch House.  
1901—Command Performance.  
1930—Kate Smith.  
2030—Moonlight Serenade.

### TOMORROW

1430—College of Musical Knowledge.  
1545—Record (Cpl. Geo. Monaghan).  
2030—Frank Morgan.  
2207—Jubilee

## Terry And The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate.

By Milton Caniff



## Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett



## Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.

By Chester Gould



## Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features

By Raeburn Van Buren



## Male Call

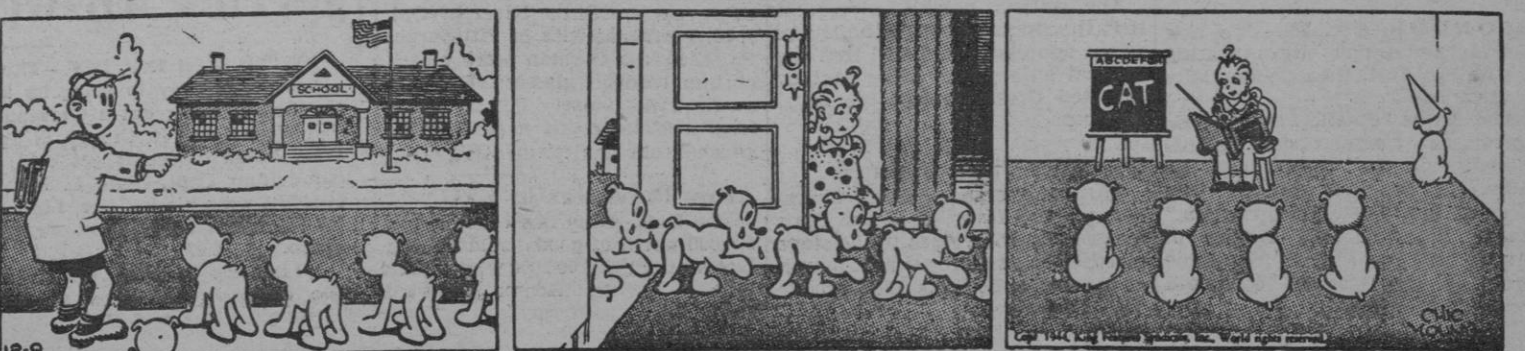
By Milton Caniff



## Blondie

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate

By Chic Young



# Japs Repulsed In Philippines Air-Sea Attack

The Japanese launched a co-ordinated naval and air attack Tuesday against American positions on Mindoro Island in the Philippines, Gen. MacArthur's headquarters announced yesterday.

U.S. planes and PT boats sank three destroyers and hit a battleship and heavy cruiser, MacArthur's communique said, and the naval force withdrew after "inaccurate and fruitless" shelling of the coastal area. Damage from the simultaneous air attack was described as small.

Tokyo claimed that the warships sank four U.S. transports, a PT boat and two smaller vessels in an attack on an American convoy off Mindoro and that the planes sank four more PT boats and blasted the Mindoro airfield.

### Jap Plane Factory Hit

Reconnaissance photographs showed, meanwhile, that the Saipan Superfortresses in their fifth raid on Tokyo had scored 12 direct hits on the important Musashino aircraft factory. It was their third strike against the plant. The B29s strung bombs across an industrial area in a pattern a mile long and three blocks wide, and in the Tokyo dock area, despite the stiffest fighter opposition so far encountered over the Japanese capital.

Enemy sources reported a sixth raid on Tokyo yesterday by strong formations of Superforts but there was no immediate U.S. confirmation.

# 'Jerry Laid It On,' Tell Survivors

(Continued from Page 1)

Japs, cooks, clerks and radio operators fighting as riflemen, ammunition carriers and machine-gunners.

They told of units evading one trap after another in the face of Tiger tanks half-tracks and infantry.

For nine days, with little sleep and less food, it was dig-in—hold—fall back; dig-in—hold—fall back. Always tanks bearing down, once in a while supporting armor to help, but never enough.

Williams is one of eight of his platoon of 43 to survive those nine days. Rich is one of 35 left from an under-strength company of 130. Williams remembered a "couple of hours" sleep during the nine days.

If the counter-offensive was a surprise to some, it wasn't to Williams.

"I figured something like that was coming sooner or later," the Pennsylvanian said. "Of course, we didn't expect it to come at that particular minute."

"Their tanks carried 12 to 14 infantry," he related. "And I don't know whether or not they were drunk or doped up but they sure did yell. They kept calling us 'Yankee sons-a-bitches' and makin' some god-awful noise."

With spearheads coming from three directions, Williams organized his platoon and got some through the trap before he reached Rich's rifle company.

Small groups were organized and consolidated. Stragglers were absorbed by units that needed men. But the enemy tanks, and half tracks kept coming, shooting-off in several directions with the apparent objectives of encircling however small or large a force of Americans in sight, then closing in on it.

To Williams and Rich those were nine tough days.

# British Have Two Fleets Operating in Far East

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Two new British fleets now are operating in the Far East, the London Daily Mail disclosed.

The British "Pacific Fleet," whose operational limits remain undisclosed, will be commanded by Adm. Sir Bruce A. Fraser. The fleet of the "East Indies Station," under Vice-Adm. Sir Arthur J. Power, will cover much the same area as the original command under that name.

# Mindoro Springboard



## Large Philippine Island Is on Flank of Jap Lifeline to South Pacific; 150 Miles from Manila

WHEN American forces stand firmly on Mindoro, seventh largest of the Philippines Islands, they will be able to spring in a number of directions.

Manila and Corregidor will be only 150 miles away, and the Island of Luzon, on which Manila is situated, a short jump of ten miles. About 750 miles will separate the Yanks from French Indo-China.

Mindoro lies on the flank of the Japanese Empire's lifeline to the oil, rubber and tin of the Netherlands East Indies and Malaya. Air power based on any of the island's eight prewar airfields, two of which have been used by the Japanese, can be used against Japanese shipping in the China sea.

Mindoro, with a population of 3,759, has a variable climate, subject to monsoons, but the Americans have landed during a season which normally produces only three inches of rainfall a month. The island's chief industries are lumber, mining and cattle raising.

Mountain ranges of 8,000 feet block communication between the northern and southern parts of the island, except on the eastern seaboard.

# Reds Enter Buda; Belgian Factories Pest Battle Rages To Make Jerricans

(Continued from page 1)

shipping on a large scale, however, and the Germans had mined every block and virtually all buildings.

Although Russian big guns have taken up positions on the hills overlooking Buda, they would have to blast down virtually every building to wipe out the resistance. It appeared that the Russians were withholding an all-out artillery barrage and proceeding with the tedious and often costly task of rooting out anti-tank nests and going after snipers individually.

Upward of 3,000 Germans and Hungarians were reported killed in yesterday's operations at Budapest. Most of them died where the Second and Third Ukrainian Army forged their link-up.

# Nazis Send PW Mail Inside the V-Bomb Now

LONDON, Dec. 28 (Reuter).—The Germans are sending letters from British prisoners to England in V-bombs, officials disclosed tonight.

After a recent attack on northern England leaflets were found in one town marked "V Prisoners of War Post" on which were printed letters from three captured British soldiers to their relatives.

The leaflets carried a request that the finders forward the letters to the addressees and said that the original letters were being sent by the Red Cross through the usual channels.

### Chevalier Show Planned

Mistinguette and Maurice Chevalier, pre-war favorites of the Paris music halls, will return to the stage together in a new revue next month at the Casino de Paris, Mistinguette said yesterday.

# Marseilles Port Used To Speed Mail Service

Delivery of mail to GIs on the Western Front has been speeded by re-routing most of it through the port of Marseilles, Com.Z says.

At the northern ports—Antwerp, Le Havre, Rouen and Cherbourg—priority in unloading had to be given to ammunition and other essentials. So the present scheme was substituted. Letters are sorted on the docks at the Riviera port and sent to the troops by train through Paris.

Put Out on an Assist Binoculars trained on a Jerry OP across the Rhine River by Cpl. J. M. Furmankiewicz, of Pittsburgh, Pa., showed a German peering back at him through glasses. Furmankiewicz's AA battery got an assist from a 90mm outfit nearby which knocked out the enemy OP.

# Army Purchases in ETO

The U. S. Army has ordered \$36,000,000 worth of goods from French factories and \$28,000,000 worth from Belgian plants, Reuter reported from Paris yesterday.

# Captures 34 Nazis With Empty Carbine

WITH U.S. SEVENTH ARMY, Dec. 28 (AP).—Lt. James Tower, of Grand Island, N.Y., hurled several grenades into a machine-gun nest in a culvert and 34 Germans filed out and surrendered.

Covering the Germans with his carbine, Tower was marching them down the road when a fellow officer stopped him and whispered in his ear:

"Don't look now, Jim, but you haven't any clip in your carbine."

# 1,200 Heavies Pummel Nazi Rail System

An armada of 1,200 heavy bombers of the Eighth AF braved renewed fog and bitter cold yesterday to hammer again at rail yards, bridges and other critical links in the Wehrmacht's transportation nets leading into the Belgian salient.

Roaring out for the sixth straight day, despite weather that smothered non-stop attacks of tactical air forces in the bulge, the Fortresses and Liberators were escorted by more than 700 fighters. They hit at ten rail targets in the area between Saarbrücken and Cologne.

### No Enemy Aircraft Met

No enemy aircraft were sighted during the raids, but four bombers were missing as enemy flak was reported "moderate."

Photo intelligence from Wednesday's bombing revealed that at Fulda, northeast of Frankfurt, heavy damage was done to yards containing 2,000 freight cars, and that at Euskirchen, 40 hits were scored on rail lines.

# Chicago Sarge Cuts Royal Rug With Princess

WITH SIXTH ARMY GROUP, France (UP).—She was a slick blonde, chick, so it was only natural that Sgt. James J. Kaporis, 26, of Chicago, should make a date to cut up a few rugs—royal ones, at that.

It happened down on the Riviera when the blonde happened along while Kaporis was adjusting the windshield wiper of his jeep. They struck up an acquaintance and the blonde gave him her address. When Kaporis showed up that night he was standing in front of the Royal Palace of Monaco in Monte Carlo.

The Royal Guards were expecting him, and ushered the sergeant in to his date—23-year-old Princess Antoinette, daughter of the Princess Charlotte.

"She turned out to be a swell date," Kaporis said. "We danced to Artie Shaw and Glenn Miller records which had been sneaked to her from Switzerland. The princess picked up American dance steps in no time at all."

"It was almost as good as breaking that Bank at Monte Carlo to have my date turn out to be a real live princess," Kaporis said.

### Rubber Experts Ready

LONDON, Dec. 28 (Reuter).—The U.S., Great Britain and The Netherlands have reached an agreement to put natural rubber plantations into immediate production as soon as they are recaptured from the Japanese. Technicians and equipment are now en route to the South Pacific.

# Jerries Answer GI Mess Call

WITH 80TH INF. DIV.—The mess sergeant was ordered to have a hot meal ready to bring up as soon as Co. M of the 318th Inf. finished cleaning out a German-held town.

After fixing it, though, S/Sgt. Rudolph A. Lindberg, of Cadott, Wis., hated to see it get cold so he took it in before the word came from Capt. Billie L. Kessler, of Louisville. Seeing what he thought were his buddies, Lindberg yelled to them to come and get it—but when they got closer their uniforms turned out to be grey-green.

Lindberg rectified his error with his M1, however, and when the company did show up they found that Lindberg had two Germans. The rest fled.

# Yanks Advance On Wide Front; Save Bastogne

(Continued from Page 1)

Germany. Americans sent artillery shells after them.

On Wednesday Third Army men pushing up from the south contacted the Bastogne garrison troops three miles south of the town. The garrison had been maintaining a fairly wide perimeter defense of the city.

Sentries of the garrison had been told to expect relief in the middle of the night and the sudden exchange of passwords out of the darkness was the first cue the city's defenders had that they had been relieved, according to Reuter at the front.

The garrison had smashed every German attack thrown against it for seven days. They were surrounded by powerful forces.

The trapped men were supplied by the largest continuous air supply mission ever flown, the First Allied Airborne Command said.

A total of 842 C47 sorties were made to drop medical supplies, signal equipment and ammunition in the defense zone. At times, the C47s carried 50 or more gliders.

The first air supply train arrived Dec. 23. Relief planes continued coming Dec. 24, 26 and 27. They didn't come Christmas Day. On that day, the garrison smashed one of the enemy's most furious attacks. Germans lost 32 tanks and 250 prisoners.

American columns which relieved the city started moving northward from the area of Arlon on Dec. 22. They advanced against light resistance to the east of Mortelange, making an average of two miles a day, until they reached the garrison.

Associated Press from the front said the several thousand Americans who held the town kept the better part of five German divisions tied up.

# U.S. Again Orders Ward Chain Seized

(Continued from page 1)

involved simultaneously with order of seizure.

The WLB sent the Ward case last week to Economic Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson, who was understood to have advised the White House to go ahead with seizures.

Trouble between the government and Wards grew out of differences of opinion on whether the WLB had authority to enforce directives which required "maintenance of union membership" in the company. Avery balked at the provision used extensively by the board to give union security to labor groups, which requires that the management dismiss a union member who fails to remain in good standing after a certain date.

Avery contended in a statement to the press that Ward's has always paid well, that it was ready to adopt wage scales ordered by the WLB, but that the WLB had no authority to "enforce" any directive because it was merely an "advisory" group.

### Girard to West Point

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Earl "Jug" Girard, University of Wisconsin's 18-year-old halfback who will play here New Year's Day in the East-West charity football game, revealed today he is headed for West Point next year. Girard, one of the nation's ranking backs, plans to finish the current semester at Wisconsin, then enroll at Cornell to finish some courses before entering the Academy.