

Third Gains



Stars and Stripes Map
 In the central sector of the Western Front, Third Army units make several advances and enter Saarburg.

Senators Lay May Bill Aside For Another

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (ANS).—The work-jail bill was tossed on the shelf yesterday by the Senate Military Affairs Committee, which, ignoring a new endorsement of the bill by President Roosevelt, began polishing up a much milder substitute.

After voting 12 to 6 to shelve the House-approved bill, the committee began work on another, which would authorize the War Manpower Commission to fix employment ceilings in designated plants or areas, and to regulate or prohibit the hiring of new workers above the ceilings. The President's endorsement, handed to Sen. Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky.) and dated Feb. 11, said: "I hope that legislation embracing the principle of the May bill can be speedily enacted. It will assure the armed services that they can rely on a flow of the necessary supplies and greatly contribute to the success of our armies."

Bill Appears Dead

Sen. Albert B. Chandler (D-Ky.), co-author of the substitute measure, declared the committee action means the work-jail bill is "as dead as Lazarus." He said the action was "a clear indication that the committee favors the voluntary system under the War Manpower Commission."

The substitute would also direct the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion to co-ordinate the activities of all agencies responsible for manpower production and procurement, and would instruct the WMC to check on use of manpower.

Unlike the May bill, which would affect only civilian men from 18 to 45, the substitute would cover all working people.

Baseball Asked to Cut Travel 25 Percent

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—Baseball teams have been requested to curtail their travel in 1945 by 25 percent, ODT Director J. Monroe Johnson revealed in a statement today.

The curtailment in travel, it was said, would affect exhibition game schedules, regular season intersectional games, team sizes and possibly the World Series. All clubs were asked to re-examine their schedules and make every possible saving.

Yanks Storm Second Iwo Airport; Third Army Men Enter Saarburg

Canadians in North Resume Advance Toward Calcar

U.S. Third Army forces yesterday drove into Saarburg, key strongpoint in the Saar and entered Dasburg, east of the Luxembourg border, closing up along the Saar after gains of seven to eight miles in the Saar-Moselle triangle.

Meanwhile, the Canadian First Army in the north cleared virtually all of Goch. British and Canadian units to the northeast resumed their advance toward Calcar against resistance softened by rocket-firing Typhoons of the Second TAF.

Working in conjunction with an armored unit which bit into Saarburg, the 94th Div. moved up along the Saar on an eight-mile front between Saarburg and Merzig. Gains by these two divisions were made after Yanks broke the resistance of a German division sent into the triangle to relieve the 11th Panzer Div.

The swift advance of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's armor in the triangle netted 1,200 prisoners.

Report Forbach Afire

Far to the southeast, U.S. Seventh Army units were fighting house to house in Forbach, near Sarreguemines, along the southern border of the Saar industrial region. Forbach was reported in flames as the Yanks moved in.

Little change was reported on the British Second and U.S. Ninth and First Armies' fronts.

S and S Correspondent James Cannon reported from 3rd Army that 16 towns were captured, four entered and one cleaned of snipers. The 94th Div. advanced three miles on an eight-mile front to reach the Saar River just below Saarburg.

Most of Triangle Taken

The Saar-Moselle triangle, he added, was two-thirds in Third Army hands.

The 80th Inf. Div. captured the town of Roth and took 349 prisoners from a pocket in that vicinity.

Northward, in the Echternach bridgehead, men of the Fifth Inf. Div. cleared and closed up to the Prum River on a six-mile front. While 80th Inf. Div. men, beating off heavy counter-blows, took Enzen, Seimerich and Lorperich.

Southwest of Prum, doughs of the

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Into the Jaws of Siegfried's Dragon Teeth



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo

Doughs of the 90th Inf. Div. pass through a roadblock flanked by concrete dragon's teeth as they approach Habscheid, Germany, on the way to the front.

Nurnberg Hammered Anew; 12th AF Hits Berchtesgaden

More than 1,200 Eighth AF heavy bombers, escorted by 650 fighters, yesterday attacked the freight yards and tank factory at Nurnberg for the second straight day while U.S. 12th AF fighter-bombers made the war's first attack on targets in and near Hitler's fortress at Berchtesgaden.

Approximately 3,000 tons of explosives were dropped on the traffic-choked rail and industrial center of Nurnberg, where aerial photographs revealed great damage was caused by Tuesday's raid.

Some of the Forts' and Liberators' bombs hit the Luitpold arena, site of the Nazi party rallies in Nurnberg.

Meanwhile, Ninth AF bombers made their deepest penetration of Germany to hit four rail bridges between Hanover and Osnabruck while more than 400 mediums

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Circus Officials Are Sentenced To Prison for Deaths in Fire

HARTFORD, Conn., Feb. 21 (ANS).—Superior Court Judge William J. Shea today imposed prison sentences on three officials of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus and sent three other circus men to jail, all for involuntary manslaughter in connection with the circus fire which claimed 168 lives here last July.

Those sentenced were: George W. Smith, 51, Sarasota, Fla., general manager, and Leonard S. Aylesworth, 52, Sarasota, chief tentman, two to seven years in the state prison; James A. Haley, 46, Sarasota, vice-president and director, one to five years in the state prison; Edward R. Versteeg, 44, Sarasota, chief electrician, and William Caley,

35, Sarasota, chief seatman, one year in the county jail; David W. Blanchfield, 57, Hartford, chief truckman, six months in jail.

At the same time, Shea fined the circus \$10,000. All defendants and the corporation itself entered "no contest" pleas to involuntary manslaughter.

Before passing sentence Shea remarked, "This is equivalent to a plea of guilty." The sentences came more than seven months after the tragic fire, worst in the history of the big top. Fire levelled the main tent while it was jammed with spectators, most of them children. In addition to the dead, 682 persons were injured. Some were hospitalized for months.

Koniev Forces Close to Guben

Driving west along the Berlin side of the Oder River, despite powerful German counter-attacks, Marshal Ivan S. Koniev's Soviet troops last night were closing in on Guben, important communications center 65 miles southeast of Hitler's capital.

According to front-line reports via Moscow, Koniev's Army had slashed forward after capturing Crossen and Bobersberg and was fighting through the forest east of Guben, with the city already under artillery fire. German reports placed Red Army spearheads about eight miles from Guben.

To the south, Koniev's left wing edged closer to Goerlitz. The Germans admitted they were falling

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Fifth Army Captures Two Strategic Heights

ROME, Feb. 21 (Reuter).—U.S. troops of the Fifth Army today seized two dominating heights—3,000-foot Monte Belvedere and Monte Gorgolesco—both about 17 miles southwest of Bologna. Although this was a local attack, its success deprives the Germans of two valuable observation posts dominating the approach to the great Po Valley communications center.

Marines List 3,650 As Casualties in Toughest Battle

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HQ., Guam, Feb. 21.—American Marines on Iwo Jima, having captured one Japanese airfield at a cost of 3,650 casualties, were storming another today in the toughest battle fought in the Pacific thus far.

Adm. Nimitz announced that 3,500 enlisted men and 150 officers of the Fourth and Fifth Divs. had been killed, wounded or listed as missing up to 8 o'clock this morning. Nimitz said that 3,063 of the casualties had been evacuated.

[Casualties at Iwo already exceed, by a slight margin, the casualties suffered by the Marines in the bloody conquest of Tarawa Island, in the Gilberts, in November, 1943. At Tarawa, 1,026 Marines were killed and 2,557 wounded. One Marine division fought in the 76-hour Tarawa battle. The Iwo figures cover 48 hours of action.]

Enemy Garrison Split

The main Japanese airfield—the one at the southern end of the tiny island—was firmly in American hands, and the fiercely resisting Japanese garrison was split by a Marine drive to the western coast.

Fifth Div. troops pushed slowly up the western coast, by-passing the southern tip of the airfield now under attack. Fourth Div. Marines launched a frontal assault from the south and by noon today were pushing toward the center of the field. The Americans gained as much as half a mile.

An Associated Press correspondent on Iwo sent back this report: "There is no front line on bloody Iwo. The whole of the small, gourd-shaped island is a battle zone. There is no place where one can say, 'They can't reach me here. They can and do.'

It's the Toughest Yet

"Enemy fire streams down in an angry spasm from commanding Japanese positions," he wrote. "On the third day of the campaign, there is no doubt that this is by far the toughest battle of the Pacific war. How long it will be before Iwo is crushed nobody is inclined to say."

Marines were striking in two directions from the airfield which they captured. A northward attack was directed at the second airfield. A southward attack was made against Japanese positions on Mt. Suribachi, a volcano.

On the steep slopes of the volcano, Japanese pillboxes are placed at ten-foot intervals. But the Marines inched forward under mur-

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Stilwell Tells Why GI Fights: To Get Home

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (ANS).—Army commanders may explain to soldiers what they are fighting for, but the American GI is really fighting because he wants to get the job done and go home, Gen. Joseph W. (Vinegar Joe) Stilwell, commander of the U.S. Army ground forces, said yesterday at a Red Cross luncheon.

THE B BAG BLOW IT OUT HERE

Pot Shots at Poop Sheets

Here is my definition of "poop." If anyone has a better one, I would like to see it.

Poop is endless, putrid, pusillanimous, pointless piffle, prepared and published by staff sections without regard to need, value, content, or effect. Though disseminated to lower echelons, it is designed to impress higher authority with the erudition, diligence, importance and eligibility for promotion of the perpetrator, particularly the latter. Distribution is unimportant except that copies must be sent to the person sought to be impressed and it must be sufficiently distributed to insure an adequate use of paper.

Form is all important and substance of no consequence, no one will ever read it anyway except some poor devil down below who will try to remember it but can't because his mind is already befuddled with the mass of conflicting poop he has already read. The opening paragraph must contain a reference paragraph by paragraph, to all Army Regulations, War Department circulars and bulletins, both pertinent and immaterial, and to all previous poop; the second paragraph must rescind, paragraph by paragraph, all previous poop. There must be many paragraphs, subparagraphs, and subparagraphs of subparagraphs, all indented to the exact one-sixteenth of an inch. It is usually classified as Top Secret and never less than Secret, as otherwise it might not be considered of grave importance and, therefore, not in keeping with the prestige, position and dignity of the disseminator.—Col.

(Better days are here, Colonel. Letter AG 312A EdGA Hq. ETOUSA 30 Jan. 45 on the subject of drafting directives, says: "It is desired that in the drafting of directives every effort be made to avoid the needless citation of other directives. Directives should be clear and concise, and, wherever possible, should permit compliance by subordinate units without research by them into their files of other directives. . . . Every effort will be made to have every directive complete in itself. The less study of other documents which a directive requires the more satisfactory will be its results.—Ed.)

Is Daddy Cute?

My son, Steve, recently asked his mother, "Mommy, is Daddy cute?" Steve is now 23 1/2 months old and I have never seen him.

Can this be a plea for more action on 30-day leaves to the U.S.A. for those of us, including officers, who have been in the ETO more than 3 years?—Capt. L. M. S., M.C.

Not So Generous, Joe

Say, will some one please tell me why so many civilians, mostly women, have so many GI flashlights? Now look fellows, we need those flashlights here and plenty bad.

We have just about one in the Company, so if you have a light and want to get rid of it send it to us, not the civilians. We need 'em.—Sgt. Johnnie C. Harris, Inf.

To Fill or Not to Fill

Lt. A. J. Baskiel, Engr, replied to the "Rheumatic Deacons" B-bag letter, advising them to stop and think before complaining about being ordered to fill in abandoned shell craters.

I agree that shell craters and mortar installations might provide protective cover for advancing enemy foot troops in counter-attacking, but at the same time our troops could advantageously use these craters and mortar installations as defensive positions to do their best to stop these enemy counter-attacks. They would assist our men, as defenders, more than

they would help the enemy as attackers.

Now if our foot troops have to retreat, I doubt if anyone will advise them to take time to fill the craters if it is a hasty retreat. In a planned withdrawal, it will, without doubt, be part of the plans to fill these craters.

Let's all stop and look at both sides of the situation before we write—let's look at the viewpoint of those men who filled these shell craters—there might be some logic behind the EMs' reasoning.—Pfc C. C. Van Fleet, FA.

Peace Forever!

... Germany must pay for this war before it is allowed to start another.—Capt. Grover D. Rose, Eng. Bn.

Acknowledgment

A few months ago a soldier arrived overseas who, like some of his buddies, professed no definite belief in an Almighty Being. He reached the lines and soon began to realize how trying it was to rely on personal fortitude. More than once he found himself calling upon God for help. Several weeks went by during which time he remained in the combat zone. His doubts about religion were beginning to fade. Finally, having developed frostbite, he was transferred to a hospital. While lying on a cot one night his mind began to wander through his past experiences and it was then that he felt the presence of God.

I sometimes wonder if many of the fellows returning from the front ever think of the numerous times they have relied on God for courage. I never did until that night while lying in the hospital cot.—Pfc, Inf.

Oh, Doctor!

Did an Act of Congress make medical officers gentlemen? It seems in some cases that it did not, or what excuses have they for their rowdy conduct? Please keep in mind some nurses are over here to take care of patients and not just to entertain lonely officers! Let those whom the shoe fits be guided accordingly.—Nurse.

Up Front With Mauldin



"... I'll never splash mud on a dogface again (999) ... I'll never splash mud on a dogface again (1,000) ... NOW will ya help us push?"

Big 3 Clarify France's Position

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AP).—France has been assured that the Big Three made no secret agreements at Yalta about the governments of liberated countries of Europe.

France had felt the Big Three's foreign ministers would determine policy in the periodical meetings outlined at Yalta, and that if France agreed to help administer the affairs of disturbed countries, she would have no voice in deciding policy.

In answer to a second query by the French—on what channels would be used for exchanging information among the Allied powers on the liberated countries—the Big Three replied that regular diplomatic channels would be used.

The White House, meanwhile, issued an announcement regarding the invitation handed by U.S. Ambassador Jefferson Caffery to Gen. Charles de Gaulle, asking the general to meet President Roosevelt in Algiers. The invitation, which was declined, was given to the French leader six days before Mr. Roosevelt's arrival in Algiers.

FDR 'Most Disappointed'

The President stated in the invitation that it was impossible for him to come to Paris, the announcement said, and that he hoped De Gaulle could travel to Algiers. The President was "most disappointed" when advised that De Gaulle could not come.

"Questions of mutual interest and importance to France and the United States are pending," the President said. "I wanted very much to see the general before leaving for home."

(While the White House announcement merely ascribed De Gaulle's refusal to the press of official business, the United Press said that



Gen. Charles de Gaulle

Paris press comment and statements by De Gaulle himself have shown clearly the general was piqued because France was not invited to the Yalta conference.)

(State Department officials were inclined to minimize the incident, the UP said. While it did not help to smooth Franco-American relations, these officials did not believe it foreshadowed a major breach.)

French Explain Rejection of FDR Bid

Pres. Roosevelt's invitation to Gen. Charles de Gaulle could not be accepted because it came on the heels of the Big Three's Yalta de-

isions—"a conference in which France has not taken part and of whose multiple aims she was still ignorant"—the French government said yesterday in an official statement.

The statement, said to have been written or edited personally by De Gaulle, also explained the rejection on the ground that the invitation came "at a moment when many affairs demanded his presence in Paris."

The French statement concluded: "Gen. de Gaulle begged the Ambassador to assure Pres. Roosevelt that he was still hoping to see him come to Paris, where the government and the population at any time would be extremely happy to receive him."

French newspapers differed in their opinion on De Gaulle's action. The semi-official Le Monde supported De Gaulle's position, but other Paris dailies declared that France was in no position to play the "grande coquette" at this time.

Le Monde maintained that De Gaulle's rejection was not motivated by hurt pride. France "had asked to be invited to the Crimean conference because she was directly interested in most of the problems debated," Le Monde continued.

"She could not accept commitments without having discussed them. She could not be placed before the accomplished fact and be obliged to take or reject decisions voted without her."

But the conservative Aurore declared that France should avoid "showing bad temper, which is a sign of weakness." Pointing out that France did well in getting the alliance with Russia, Aurore said bluntly: "But do not let us give the impression that we can high-hat our other allies. They will need us. But we shall need them, too."

Ernie Pyle Writes ... Across Pacific, Back to War

By Ernie Pyle

IN THE MARIANAS ISLANDS, Feb. 20 (Delayed).—Now we are far, far away from everything that was home or seemed like home. Five thousand miles from Africa and 12,000 miles from my friends fighting on the German border.

Twelve thousand miles from Sidi Bou Zid and Venafro and Troina and Sainte-Mère-Eglise—names as unheard of on this side of the world as are Kwajalein and Chichi Jima and Ulithi on the other side.

Pacific names are all new to me, too, except the outstanding ones. For those fighting one war do not pay much attention to the other war. Each one thinks his war is the worst and most important. And unquestionably it is.

By Plane from Honolulu

We came to the Marianas by airplane from Honolulu. The weather was perfect, and yet so long and grinding was the journey that it eventually became a blur and at the end I could not even remember what day we left Honolulu, although actually it was only the day before.

As soon as we were in the air Lt. Comdr. Max Miller and I took off our neckties and put on our house slippers. West of Pearl Harbor military formality immediately drops away. For example, in Honolulu all naval officers must wear neckties. But the moment you leave Pearl Harbor they come off and you never see them again.

Mere Dots in the Ocean

We made but two stops in the 3,500-mile journey to the Marianas and how we ever found those two tiny islands is beyond me, for they were the merest dots in the wide ocean. But they find them all the time, so who am I to worry?

Our first stop was at Johnston Island, four hours out from Honolulu. As it came into view I was shocked at how tiny it is. It is hardly bigger than a few airplane carriers lashed together and it has not got a tree on it.

Yet it has been developed into an airfield that will take the biggest plane. Several hundred Americans live and work there. The climate is magnificent and most of the

soldiers and sailors wear only shorts and are deeply tanned. The way I feel now, a life of quiet escape out there for a while would be wonderful. But the boys there are tired of "escape" and the monotony of the place gets on their nerves.

Chasing Darkness

Gradually the passengers went to sleep in their seats. There was nothing to see out of the windows but darkness; a long night over the Pacific lay ahead of us. The night was extra long for we were chasing darkness.

It was after midnight when we could sense by the motors' tone and the pressure in our ears that we were coming down. We could not feel that we were turning but we were, for now the moon would be high on one side of us and a few moments later it would be low on the other side of us.

And suddenly there were lights, smack underneath us, lights of what seemed a good sized little town, and then at last we were on the ground in an unbelievably bustling airport teeming with men and planes and lights.

The place was Kwajalein. That's not hard to pronounce if you don't try too hard. Just say "Kwa-Juh-Leen." It's in the Marshall Islands. There, during last March and April American soldiers and marines killed 10,000 Japanese and opened our island stepping stone across the mid-Pacific.

Even today our Seabees cannot dig a trench for a sewer pipe without digging up dead Japanese. But even so, the island is transformed as we so rapidly transform all our islands that are destroyed in taking. It is a great air base now.

Naval officers met our plane despite the hour and loaded us into jeeps and drove us a few hundred yards to a mess hall. A cool night breeze was blowing and it seemed wonderful to be on the ground again, even such scant and sorrowed ground as this.

For an hour we sat around a white-lined table and drank coffee and sipped iced fruit juice. You would hardly have known you were not in America. And then we were off again, to fly through the sightless night westward and on westward.

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First Coal Sent To Freed Area From Germany

By Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY, Feb. 21.—The first export from occupied Germany to the looted countries of western Europe rolled toward Luxembourg today.

The export was coal and today's load—approximately 250 tons—was the first of more than 16,700 tons which are to be taken from the giant yards at Aalsdorf, near Aachen, and shipped to the little principality for use in civilian industry there.

According to Maj. Thomas Williamson, of Bluefield, Va., who heads the German solid fuels subsection of SHAEF's G-4 branch, this was the first export since the Allied entry into the Reich and is a "fore-runner of bigger things to come."

Williamson predicted that when, as in the last war, the Ruhr area is occupied vast amounts of Germany's coal would be used to supply the fuel-starved liberated countries. He said that "we hope to exploit all the German mines under our control" for such uses as soon as possible.

Part of Stockpile

The coal—or more technically, industrial coke—comes from a pre-invasion stockpile at Aalsdorf, and not from mining since Allied occupation. Though the mines in Aalsdorf and in other occupied areas are presently in operation, their output cannot contribute considerably to an increased coal stockpile.

Chief factor in restricting current mine output is the manpower shortage. Most of the Germans who might be used to work the mines are either in the German army, or have fled east to not-yet occupied territory.

The reserve at Aalsdorf is the biggest in the area thus far occupied, Williamson said, but is only the first of the stocks expected to be tapped in the near future.

SHAEF Allocates Coal

The shipment of the coal from Germany is done entirely under U.S. military supervision. The military government officials have made arrangements to provide German laborers, and the allocation of the coal is done by SHAEF.

Decision to send the first shipment to Luxembourg, Williamson said, was made on the basis of industrial need and potentiality. He predicted that all the liberated countries would share in the available German industrial output as more territory is taken over.

Early to Tour Press Camps

Stephen A. Early, executive secretary to President Roosevelt, will tour U.S. Army press facilities for war correspondents in the ETO, it was announced yesterday, following his arrival in Paris. He had accompanied President Roosevelt at the Yalta Conference.

A staff member of The Stars and Stripes in the last war, Mr. Early addressed war correspondents at Supreme Headquarters briefly yesterday afternoon.

"It seems as though I were turning back the pages of 27 years of my life, because I spent almost a year on the old Stars and Stripes," he said. "A lot of water has gone over the dam and I find that the wheels have turned me back to you."

Mr. Early said he came to Paris purely in an advisory capacity and will return to Washington as soon as he can. During his stay, Mr. Early will be on loan to Supreme Headquarters.

He was presented to correspondents by Brig. Gen. Frank A. Allen Jr., SHAEF Public Relations Division Director. Gen. Allen said he had requested Mr. Early to come to Supreme Headquarters and look over public relations division installations from the point of a view of a war correspondent to determine what more could be provided.

Engineers Win Battle of Reconstruction

Negro Regiment's Job On Railroad Yards Wins Highest Praise

By Allan Morrison

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE 354th ENGR. G.S. REGT., Feb. 21.—Using nuts and bolts as ammunition and roaring bulldozers as assault artillery, GI engineers of Com Z have worked many miles in the wake of U.S. fighting forces in a special little war of their own—the battle of rehabilitation and maintenance.

Landing in Normandy in July, this Negro unit laid rail lines as it advanced through France and left a trail of completed military facilities, ranging from water points to marshalling yards, behind them.

Though they've usually worked far to the rear, most of their projects have a direct bearing on supply and communication lines to the front.

Rail Work Big Job

Restoration of French rail lines for use by American forces has been a major task of the regiment. Long stretches of track damaged by bombing and demolitions have been repaired.

Many ex-railroad men like Sgt. Virges Williams, St. Louis, Mo., who used to work for the Union Pacific and is now a construction foreman, directed the laying and servicing of over 100 miles of additional track. These former rail men rate high in this kind of outfit, as most of its missions have been railroad jobs.

But the small jobs they do are endless, like guarding dumps (after building them), establishing water points, clearing areas of mines and booby traps, restoring and operating quarries, building PW enclosures and making items from furniture to barracks.

Their biggest job, the building of a rail marshalling yard, involved the cutting and removal of 226,000 cubic yards of earth. One battalion handled it.

The project had high operational importance as it was aimed at



Men from the 392nd Engr. Regt. salvage old rails, ties and other track material used in extending the rear transportation network to forward echelon railheads.

eliminating a serious rail bottleneck existing in Cherbourg, then the only major port in Allied hands, and enlarging and speeding the volume of supplies moving up.

Termed by authorities "one of the outstanding engineering projects in Normandy," the yard was built under incredibly difficult conditions that included seas of mud in which heavy equipment had to operate. Over 34 miles of rail were put down in an area less than half a mile square.

The regiment boasts the only GI foundry possessed by a GS unit in Europe—the product of the ingenuity of several men during a crisis last November.

Rube Goldberg Idea

It happened when the 728th Railway Operating Battalion, then servicing Normandy rail lines,

exhausted its supply of safety switch lugs, a vital device regulating the opening and shutting of track points. None could be obtained on the Continent or in the UK.

The mechanical brains of the unit were tapped for ideas for producing the lugs in a hurry. Up came a contraption that some said was strictly from Rube Goldberg. It consisted of a home-made die stamping the lug pattern within a field foundry improvised from old drums hooked together to make a furnace and lined with clay. Part credit for the device went to T/5 Fred Gasaway, a former railroad worker from Cleveland, Miss.

"It worked like a charm," said Col. James A. Dorst, of Berkeley, Cal., the regiment's CO, explaining how manufacture of the little gadget permitted expansion of vital U.S. rail facilities out of Cherbourg.

Truckers Play Big Role Here

Trucks of the Motor Transport Express Lines have moved more than one and a half million tons of supplies—gasoline, ammunition and rations—from the beaches and ports of Europe, the Office of the Chief of Transportation announced yesterday.

The two best-known lines, the Red Ball Express, which hauled maintenance and reserve supplies until last November, and the POL (Petroleum, Oil, Lubricants) delivery line, have handled nearly a million tons of vital cargo.

The rest of the tonnage was carried by the White Ball Express and the new ABC (American, British, Canadian) line which are currently operating, and three smaller systems which have been discontinued—the Green Diamond, Little Red Ball and the Red Lion.

The express lines are activated as the need for quick supply to different points arises and when the need for one line disappears, its equipment is shifted to another.

Ex-Doughs Find Air Force Paradise After Front Lines

By Richard Wilbur

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

434TH TROOP CARRIER GP, Feb. 21.—Four ground force soldiers, wounded after they helped drive the Germans back from the Normandy beachheads to the Reich frontier, found a home in the Air Force here a week ago. They're still trying to get used to it.

Two of them have exchanged their guns for tools to repair C47s and gliders. Another took his first plane ride yesterday. Today the fourth wondered how come Air Force officers aren't as strict as a sergeant on the front line.

The four were assigned to the Air Force as part of a "reverse reinforcement" system and are on limited service. They were inclined to figure today, though, that it was more like unlimited service in three ways—a bed every night, warm food three times a day, regular working hours.

Beds Too Soft

"The only trouble is getting to sleep," one former doughfoot said.

"We lie awake till 11 or maybe 12. The beds are soft."

They were thinking back today about beds during their combat days on the Continent. The only kind of bed that Pvt. Grover Barber, of Sims, Ark., could remember having, as a machine-gunner with the 28th Div., was some straw he found once to put in his foxhole.

Learn in a Hurry

These two wounded combat men—together with Pfc William L. Taylor, of Memphis, Tex., former squad driver in a 90th Div. heavy weapons company, and Pfc Eugene Woodworth, of Pekin, Ill., formerly a gunner with a First Army AA battalion—seemed quieter than most soldiers, and more patient.

Prospective infantry reinforcements here keep asking about the six-week training time. These former ground force men repeated today: "You can learn in six weeks what you can in two years. And after three days at the front, you'll know what's going on."

Find Home in Air Force

The four Air Force recruits haven't any remedy for the situation which infantry recruits from here may meet "when it seems like those Jerry shells are going to get in bed with you," nor for the situation wherein the four of them, though incapacitated, have not been sent home. But Barber put it this way: "We've all got the job of ending this war—there are jobs here I can do."

Meanwhile, Gapinski said, "The boys have found a home in the Air Force." "Paradise, in other words," Woodworth explained.

Ninth in a Rut: Dodging Death And Boredom

By Ernie Leiser

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH NINTH ARMY, Feb. 21.—Official reports have been saying, "There was no action on the Ninth Army front during the last 24 hours." The experts are beginning to call it the quiet front or the second "phony war."

The soldiers in the holes and cellars along the Roer won't admit it's been as tranquil as that. Pay us a visit some night—any night—they say, and listen to the nebelwebers and the mortars coming in, or duck the small-arms fire as the Jerries creep up to the river's edge at dark, cut loose on U.S. positions all night and sneak back at dawn.

Time Hangs Heavy

They acknowledge, however, that it's been a long time between battles and that they find time hanging heavy on their hands between the rare 48-hour passes to rest areas.

There are always men holding the positions along the river banks, and they keep busy enough—shooting at anything that moves on the other side or blocking Nazi patrols.

But when they come back a few yards to their cellar "homes" on relief from the holes they get restless, and though some of them are perfectly willing to stay where they are until the Russians polish the Germans off, a lot would rather get moving eastward again.

Cellar Inspections

"They're starting to get GI again," said S/Sgt. Edward Bonfiglioli, of Bridgewater, Mass., in the first platoon of a unit by the river near Linnich. "They're beginning to have inspections of our cellars. It's time to move on."

Most of the doughs don't worry too much, though, about tactics or strategy or what the next day will bring. They just worry about keeping from getting killed—and about how to pass the time.

Back at the first platoon CP, Pvt. Joseph Lasker, of Port Chester, N.Y., told how he kept busy. "Half of the day I spend washing the dishes from one meal, the other half I spend heating the water for the next."

Hard on the Baker

Pfc Bob Nevins, of Terre Haute, Ind., bakes cakes to pass the time in his busted-up mansion, 75 yards from the forward German positions across the rushing, muddy water. He had just finished a perfect one a couple of days ago when a mortar shell hit the house next door. The cake fell.

Bob found a top hat—courtesy of the former occupant of the house—and generally goes formal to dinner. There are some not-too-badly damaged German pianos in a few of the houses, and Pvt. Harold A. Thompson, of Monroe, Ga., entertains himself and some of the boys by beating out solid Southern boogie woogie in his idle time.

His buddies say that S/Sgt. Joseph Soare, of Milford, Mass., spends his spare hours devising secret weapons. His latest was a rifle grenade wrapped in flaming rags. "It was supposed to be a combination Molotov cocktail and V-1," they say. "Only it didn't work."

Another Joe equipped his rifle grenades with a gadget that made them squeal "like a screaming meemie."

Enough for 100

Red Cross medical kits for prisoners of war contain standard preparations in quantities sufficient for 100 men for one month.

It Was a Full Day For the Colonel

A NINTH AF RECON BASE. —It never rains, it pours. Col. Russell A. Berg, of Chicago, CO of the 10th Recon Gp., learned of the following within 24 hours:

He had been promoted to full colonel.

His group had received the Presidential Distinguished Unit citation.

He was going home on a 30-day leave.

Nazi Terror Weapon

Baby Rockets Pack Wallop

WITH THE NINTH ARMY, Feb. 19 (AP, Delayed).—Baby rockets the Germans have been hurling toward the front lines are only four feet long but have explosive power to blow down an average-size house. Of the terror weapon class, this *Warkoerper* packs the wallop of a 30-pound bomb and is apparently launched from a truck trailer or from a carrying crate leaned at an angle over the edge of a German trench.

Major Harry Suffield, of Woodward, Okla., showed a preserved rocket of this type which had been picked up in Germany. Developed from a Russian weapon invented in 1942, the *Warkoerper* comes in three sizes. According to available information there are the 280-mm. type which uses TNT, the 300mm. employing amatol and the 320mm., whose warhead carries petrol and oil.

The weapon looks like a piece of stove pipe a foot in diameter, but of much heavier material on one end. The tail has jet openings about the size of a little finger and barrels drilled on angles to make the rocket spin as gas fumes propel it through the air.

U.S. in Wintertime—the North, the South



New Hampshire - With the temperature at zero when this picture was taken last week, two Salisbury citizens use an oxen team to help clear the snow. This year northwestern U.S. has had heaviest snowfalls in a decade.



Florida - A heat wave in Miami forces Rosalie Hill and Pat Jonesy to get relief under a cold shower. The beach thermometer all winter has been hovering around 75-80 degrees.

U.S. Aide Asks Tax to Protect Returning Vets

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (ANS).—Chairman Marriner S. Eccles, of the Federal Reserve Board, warned today that returning war veterans face financial ruin buying houses and farms unless speculators are taxed out of operation.

He proposed a "special tax on speculative profits" in testifying before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee in favor of legislation to reduce gold backing requirements for Federal Reserve notes from 40 and 35 percent to a flat 25 percent.

The desire of possibly eight or nine million servicemen to buy farms or homes, Eccles said, will increase real estate prices by promoting speculators to buy property and hold to sell to veterans when they get GI loans.

"That means," he added, "that the soldier comes home, buys a home or farm at inflated prices, and then finds the same thing happening to him that happened after the last war. The bottom drops out."

Eccles emphasized that to stop speculation and halt postwar inflation it will be necessary to "build enough homes, make enough clothes and manufacture enough automobiles and other things to meet the demand."

His Spirit Wouldn't Get in the Spirit

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 21 (ANS).—A balky fugitive from a conscientious objector camp jammed traffic today outside the Federal Building.

"You'll carry me or I'll stay here," Corbett Bishop told police after he had been in court. Police lugged him to an elevator then to a waiting van. Several girls started a rumor the prisoner had been shot, and a crowd gathered.

Bishop is charged with failure to return to a Michigan camp after a furlough at his Hoboken, N.J. home. He refused to answer "present" at the hearing.

"I am not here in spirit. I am here only in body," he said.

Blonde Is Quizzed In Foxhole Slaying

COLUMBIA, S.C., Feb. 21 (ANS).—The state prepared today to bring Lt. Sam C. Epes to trial on a charge of murdering his wife as police disclosed they had been probing his friendship with a Lake Charles, La., blonde.

The 29-year-old Army officer from Richmond, Va., was charged with murder after he led police to a foxhole near Fort Jackson, where the body of his wife was found buried.

Jury Uncertain If Obstetrician Brought 2 Pals

BROOKVILLE, Pa., Feb. 21 (ANS).—The jury of seven women and five men in the "showcase birth" damage suit for \$75,000, brought against a Punxsutawney physician, has been discharged after failing to reach a verdict in eight hours of balloting.

Mrs. Velma Thomas, 27, had sued Dr. W. L. Brohm for allegedly bringing two men friends from the Elks Club to witness the birth of her daughter, Georgia, at which he was the delivering physician. She asserted the men made ribald remarks during the delivery.

Mrs. Thomas contended the men's alleged presence was an invasion of her privacy. Dr. Brohm denied the charge, and said the only ones in the delivery room were Mrs. Thomas, two regular hospital nurses and himself.

Polish Group Hits 'Partition'

CHICAGO, Feb. 21 (AP).—The Polish-American Congress announced that representatives of 41 Polish language newspapers had urged annulment of the Yalta Conference decisions regarding Poland, asserting they amounted to a new "partition" of that country.

The representatives said in a resolution:

"We assert that the decisions at the Yalta Conference regarding Poland are not compatible with the spirit of Christian civilization because they aim at moral foundations; they are not in accord with the principles of free nations because they aim at their laws; they are incongruous with international laws because they were made without participation of Poland and will be thrust upon her by force; they are incompatible with the traditions of the United States which have always been for the defense of mistreated nations; they are incompatible with the principles of the Atlantic Charter; they are not in accord with the stand of the United Nations which officially recognize the Polish Government in London."

Equity Replies To Criticism on Actors of USO

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (ANS).—The council of the Actors Equity Association announced today it "condemns in the strongest terms" a statement by Rep. Marion T. Bennett (R-Mo.) which it described as "belittling the service" of USO performers.

The council said not one of the performers had received an official decoration, although "several have given their lives, others have suffered serious injury, and all have contributed immeasurably to the happiness and morale of the armed forces."

Bennett had criticized what he referred to as a Purple Heart award to singer Jane Froman, critically injured in a Clipper crash at Lisbon, Portugal, last year. It later developed that the award had not been made.



Clare Luce

Mrs. Luce

Meanwhile, in Congressional debate in Washington, Clare Boothe Luce (R-Conn.), declared Miss Froman was so severely injured she has had 18 operations and added that others "who have made great sacrifices might well be rewarded with some civilian decoration."

Mrs. Luce also nominated the Missouri mule for a War Department citation if and when the military begins giving medals to animals. She said Bennett had the "Chips" case all wrong, too. The Army dog was awarded the Silver Star, she said, and not the Purple Heart, as Bennett charged.

"But he never got the medal because the commanding officer reversed himself," she asserted.

Mrs. Luce said she agrees with Bennett that military decorations should not be awarded animals. "But if they are," she said, "I should certainly put the sturdy mule from his native state high on the list, for never was there a more popular animal with GIs."

Army Yields Rule Of Two Ward Units

CHICAGO, Feb. 21 (ANS).—The Army has dropped control of the warehouse and the fashion department of the main Chicago plant of the Montgomery Ward Company—a move which a company official immediately asserted was due to financial troubles, the Associated Press said today.

Col. R. Parker Kuhn, executive director in charge of Army operations at the plant, refused to give the reason for the action and said the "status of operations by the War Department remains unchanged in other plants." The company official would not permit publication of his name.

The Army took over the Chicago plant here and the plants in six other cities by Presidential order Dec. 28 as a result of the company's refusal to heed a War Labor Board order. The seizure of the Ward plants was declared illegal in a recent Federal Court ruling.

Vet Loses Battle To Regain Old Job

NEWARK, N.J., Feb. 21 (ANS).—Joseph Grasso, 26, discharged Newark veteran, lost his fight to get his old job back at the Crowhurst and Sons Tannery, Belleville, because he didn't ask for it within 40 days after leaving the Army.

He was discharged from the Army because of flat feet, which he said he had all his life, but which the company said incapacitated him for his old tannery job.

Judge Guy L. Fake ruled that he had not asked re-employment within a 40-day period after his discharge, and this defeated him even though he had requested an indefinite leave from the company when he went to the Army.

Why Not Advertise?

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (ANS).—The new Congressional Directory leaves blank one-third of the page normally devoted to a biography of the Secretary of Commerce, explaining in the notes "that office is vacant."

Hollywood Week: Babies, Chimps, Oscars

Ramsay Shrouds Her Pinup Gamjams

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 21 (ANS).—Babies, chimpanzees, Oscars—they all figure in this week's Hollywood stuff.

And brother, it's tough stuff, with little Miss Ramsay Ames, pinup starlet, announcing (through fatherly public relations counsel, of course) that she won't pose for any more morale-boosting leg art. From now on the cheesecake will

be strictly intellectual—but the GIs had their chance. She's already posed for 1,958 gamjam views, and if you didn't get one there's always the native talent.

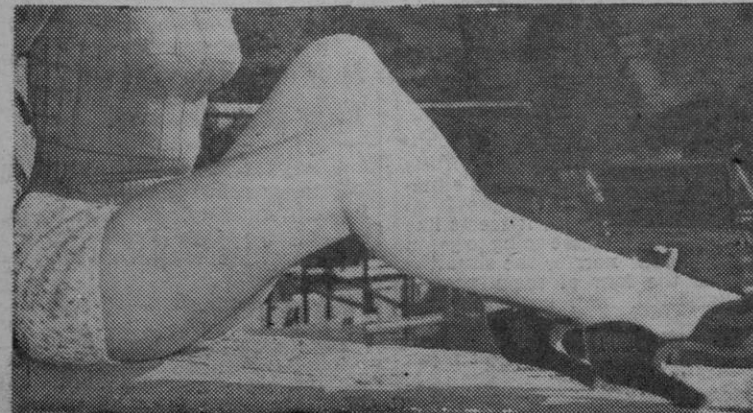
The babies come into the Hollywood picture via Susan Hayward, who just had two bundles from Heaven. So far nobody has complained, so everybody's happy. Everybody, that is, but one

Charlotte Thompson, stand-in for Evelyn Keyes. A stand-in is a girl who takes the risks for you; that is, some risks.

Biggest risk Charlotte took was a bad ole chimpanzee named Mickey, who got into the show some way and bit the lass. Maybe he thought she was sweet enough to eat, but in addition to that he made her nervous and is haunting her dreams, so the stand-in gets \$1,552.50 damages. Which is considered pretty good haunting for these times.

As for the Oscar race, it's reached the nomination stage, and the election will be next month. Apparent leaders are "Going My Way" and "Wilson" for best picture; Bing Crosby, Barry Fitzgerald and Alexander Knox for male honors; and Ingrid Bergman, by herself, for actress' honors.

Short shots: Louis Hayward, Ida Lupino, about to liberate one another; Lt. Tyrone Power, Marine Corps, about to vanish overseas flying transport; Bette Davis re-elected president of Hollywood Canteen... and Fred Allen back in pictures. His new one: "In the Bag."



No more views like this... from now on only "intellectual" ones.

Back Pay Due Yanks, Filipinos Poses Huge Problem for Army

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (ANS).—The War Department is now wrestling with a huge bookkeeping tangle in an effort to settle back pay which is due thousands of liberated American troops, Philippine Scouts, members of the Philippine Army and civilian employees of the Army. Cause of the tangle is the destruction of American military records by the Japanese in the invasion of the islands.

Army finance officials say an exact accounting is impossible, according to the United Press, but they intend to pay off as quickly as possible.

Some records were removed by submarine from Corregidor. Names of soldiers recorded in these documents make it possible to straighten out their Army pay record. If other soldiers are not listed, the Army paymasters at Luzon accept their affidavit stating when they were last paid, and give them a part payment pending further investigation.

Legislation May Be Needed

Even more complicated is payment to the next of kin of American troops, who died in prison camps. Army officials say the problem probably will have to be solved by legislation giving "more accounting liberty" to the War Department.

Such new legislation would permit the Army to create a special board to set dates saying when these men were last paid and when they died. The problem is more difficult in the case of back pay for the Philippine Scouts because fewer records exist.

The toughest problem of all con-

cerns payments due members of the Philippine Army which was organized in "service" of the American Army shortly before Pearl Harbor. The Army finance section has no records whatsoever on an estimated 100,000 members.

Textile Workers Drop Their No-Strike Pledge

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (ANS).—The Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, yesterday abandoned its "no strike" pledge on the grounds that cotton textile manufacturers have brought political pressure to block wage increases for workers, Union President Emil Rieve said today.

Rieve asserted political connivance had caused textile workers to lose faith in the War Labor Board. The union charged that manufacturers have sought to maintain "substandard wages and at the same time to sell at profits which already have reached fantastic levels."

Ex-Marine Must Die

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (ANS).—Earl McFarland, 24 years old, former Marine, was sentenced to die in the electric chair June 26 for the rape murder of Dorothy Berrum, 18, a War Department clerk.

Minister to India

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (ANS).—Pres. Roosevelt today nominated George R. Merrell, of Missouri, career diplomat, to be U.S. Minister in India.

This Was America Yesterday:

Gallup Poll Shows Approval Of Allies' Surrender Demand

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—According to the Gallup poll, 75 percent of American people approve the policy of unconditional surrender towards our enemies as reaffirmed by the Yalta Conference. Only 12 percent disapprove, with 13 percent undecided.

Gallup points out that the policy does not call for destruction of the German people, but Nazism and militarism.

Opposition to unconditional surrender demands centers around two points. The first is that the demand may prolong the war as it offers no inducement to the German people to give up, and that every day the war is prolonged so many more of our men die.

The other point is made by those who fear Russian postwar designs. These people say that a crushed Germany stripped of resources will leave Europe open to a rising tide of Communism. Both these points have been made frequently by Karl Von Wiegand, Hearst newspaperman writing from Madrid.

It would be interesting to know how Mrs. Russell McFarland, of Lehigh, Pa., feels about it. She has eight sons in service, and the ninth, Marcus K. Smith, will register Feb. 10 on his 18th birthday.

ON the New York City front, policy operators are still giving Mayor LaGuardia trouble. He got the banks to agree to publish daily stock and bond totals in round figures so they could not be used for lottery purposes. Now the numbers racketeers are working on the fifth digit from the right, thus baffling the Little Flower.

Newspapermen are studying with interest the threat made by Westbrook Pegler in his Hearst-syndicated column to break the voluntary censorship code by reporting President Roosevelt's next visit to Hyde Park. Some correspondents and editors were inclined to agree with Pegler's objection to making the President's presence in Hyde Park a military secret when he traveled openly during the election campaign. However, few newspapermen desire to break the voluntary code, and fear has been expressed that allowing one man to interpret or break it might, in the end, bring something worse.

THE eyes of Texas are now upon Hollywood, and they're glaring. Patriotic Lone Star Staters have heard that David Selznick plans to produce a picture based on life in the Texas Panhandle. They've also heard, however, that he plans to film the movie in Arizona. Gene Howe, outspoken publisher of the Amarillo Globe News, fired the first shot. Said Howe, "If I had my way I'd put Dave Selznick in jail if he ever came to, through or over the Panhandle, in either train or plane." "Arizona," he declared, "has less character and personality than any other state."

Living as he does in the Panhandle, Editor Howe didn't mention the weather.

In New York the shoe trade, which has been hard hit by war regulations, enjoyed a brief taste of old-time business when thousands of pairs of odd-lot shoes were released from rationing by the government. There was such a rush to buy them that store officials estimated the supply would last only two days.

AND MA is all right. A pistol packing youth entered her husband's filling station in Sioux Falls, S. Dak. The husband involuntarily called out, "Ma!" So she came scurrying forward, struggled with the youth for his weapon, and he beat a profitless retreat.

You can't beat our Home Front. No, you can't even stick it up. There's a better career, anyway, in Minnesota. The state supreme court has just ruled that a loser may recover money lost in slot machines there. The decision was handed down in a suit by Horace P. Foley, of Albert Lea, who claimed he had lost \$20,000 to the one-armed bandits in five and a half years.

OPA has been selling the idea that if cigarette vendors in New York were to put their supplies on their shelves, the shortage problem would be solved—that this would discourage black markets. But the plan hasn't met with much success, or support. Typical reaction of dealers: "I should put cigarettes on the shelf and get my nose broke in the rush."

N.J. Assembly Votes Rutgers a University

TRENTON, N.J., Feb. 21 (ANS).—A bill designating Rutgers University and its subdivisions as the state university of New Jersey was passed in the state assembly today, 43 to 17, over heated objections of the Democratic minority. The measure now goes to the Senate.

Enactment of the bill will give New Jersey its first state university. The legislation had been attacked as unfair to the state's other educational institutions.

Intended Ford Site Sold for Farm Land

MUNSTER, Ind., Feb. 21 (ANS).—Land on which Henry Ford once planned to erect a large airplane plant on both sides of the Illinois-Indiana line has been sold to an undisclosed syndicate.

Purchasers plan to divide 974 acres in Munster into small farms. The 445-acre Lansing, Ill., airport will be operated for aircraft training, storage and sales. Ford reportedly spent a million dollars for improvements after buying the land in 1926. Construction of a hangar was as far as the plan went.

Curfew Is Praised by Drys

Swing Toward Temperance Seen by Antis

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—In the midst of the grief of nightclub men and cafe society over the midnight curfew order which will go into effect next Monday, the Anti-Saloon League today beamed with pleasure.

The league and other dry groups praised War Mobilization Chief James F. Byrnes for his time-curb on hotspots, and declared the temperance situation was improving every day.

Miss Laura Lindley, research director for the league, said the curfew made her personally "very happy," although her group had hoped Byrnes would go further. When Byrnes closed racetracks, she said, the league had asked him to shut all nightclubs, saloons and roadhouses.

See Drys Gaining

Miss Lindley was in a cheerful mood, and pointed out that the drys were "getting more territory" every day. At the present, 35 states have some dry spots within their borders, and three—Kansas, Mississippi and Oklahoma—prohibit the sale of spirits, she added.

Meanwhile, a high government official who preferred to be unidentified, predicted the curfew would "probably remain in effect at least as long as we are fighting a two-front war," the Associated Press, said.

This official, asked about possible exemptions for entertainment places providing recreation for swing shift workers, said these will be "few and far between." He added: "I don't know why there should be any exemptions. Soldiers don't have swing shift enjoyment."

Not All in Agreement

But other government officials disagreed, saying there would probably be exemptions for the benefit of swing shift workers, and that many movie houses probably would be exempted.

A new time law in Michigan, meanwhile, may provide a loophole for tavern owners. The measure would put the state on Central War Time, and thus permit Detroit bars to remain open past the midnight limit.

Most of the state, after March 17, will revert to Central War Time, but Detroit and several other cities will retain Eastern War Time.

To eliminate confusion, the liquor commission has directed all taverns and night clubs in cities having "fast time" to close at midnight according to Central War Time. This would mean that while it would be 1 AM on the street, it would be only midnight inside.

Gelatin Tests Yield A Plasma Substitute

PASADENA, Calif., Feb. 21 (AP).—Scientists at California Institute of Technology have developed a successful substitute for blood plasma from gelatin. Dr. Dan H. Campbell, professor of immunological chemistry, announced.

Dr. Campbell described preliminary transfusions given to a group of patients as "entirely satisfactory." The solution is called "oxypoly," and is said to be cheap and simple to produce.

Dr. Campbell said that there was no intention of replacing blood plasma with the new solution, but that it may be made available for civilian use.

Williams Denies Tie-Up With Communist Group

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AP).—Aubrey Williams hit back yesterday at Senators trying to pin a "Communist" tag on him as hearings concluded on his nomination as rural electrification administrator.

Throughout the lengthy Agriculture Committee hearings, Williams repeatedly disavowed connection with Communist groups. Opponents made much of his speeches while deputy director of WPA and as National Youth Administrator to groups whose politics the committeemen criticized. One such group was the National Youth Congress.

Vote on whether to recommend confirmation of the nomination was deferred.

Grilling of Suspects Hit By Georgia High Court

ATLANTA, Feb. 21 (ANS).—The Georgia Supreme Court has ruled that protracted questioning of criminal case suspects is "mental torture" and barred from evidence confessions obtained through such methods.

The far-reaching opinion that "questioning should be done in a reasonable and humane manner" won a new trial for Bernie Coker, 26-year-old farmhand under death sentence for slaying his employer.

Plus Mustering Out Pay

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 21 (ANS).—MGM Studios announced today that when Mickey Rooney is discharged from the Army, the diminutive screen star will begin a seven-year contract at \$5,000 a week. Rooney's former contract was for \$2,000 a week.

Chaplin Lashes Bill for Inquiry As Persecution

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 21 (ANS).—Charles Chaplin today branded as "political persecution" legislation introduced by Sen. William Langer (R-N.D.) directing the Attorney General to investigate the film actor-producer to determine whether he should be deported as an undesirable alien.

"It is going on four years, ever since I made an anti-Nazi picture, 'The Great Dictator,' in which I expressed liberal ideas," the 5-year-old English-born Chaplin declared in a statement to the press.

"On account of this picture I was called to Washington for questioning as a warmonger by Senators Clark and Nye. The investigation fell through after Pearl Harbor."

Chaplin

Says Persecution Increased

"The persecution, however, increased," he said, "after I dared to speak on behalf of Russia, urging a second front. For this I was bitterly attacked by reactionary communists."

"Trumped-up charges were the result, all this inspired by vicious lies written by certain sob sisters, using as a tool Joan Barry, who was played up as an innocent girl lured into immoral relations."

"Later, she accused me of being the father of her child, but the fact remains, I was acquitted of the Mann Act charge, and medical science proved I am not the father of Joan Barry's child."

"However, the persecution continues. The Barry case is being used to attack my character, discredit me with the public and banish me from the country for which my two sons are fighting overseas."

Chaplin was acquitted of Mann Act charges last April. Last month, trial of Miss Barry's allegations that Chaplin is the father of her 16-month-old daughter, Carol Ann, resulted in a jury deadlock. The case is set for retrial April 4.

Judge Makes It Official: A Wac Is a Soldier

BUFFALO, N.Y., Feb. 21.—Federal Judge Harold P. Burke ruled yesterday that a member of the WAC is a soldier, denying a defense motion to set aside conviction of Jake Williams, 43, Buffalo, of harboring and concealing Pvt. Irene Alice Way, 30, formerly of Zanesville, Ohio. The defense contended the law in the case specified "soldiers."

Holding that a soldier need not necessarily be a combatant, the judge upheld the government's contention that the statute transforming the WAAC into the WAC made the organization a component part of the Army, and members thus become subject to all laws and regulations applicable to enlisted men.

Bogart, Heading West, Sticks to Guns on 'Baby'

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (ANS).—Humphrey Bogart left behind Lauren Bacall, whom he calls "Baby," and headed back for Hollywood, still vowing he would marry Miss Bacall when his wife, Mayo Methot, divorced him.

The film tough guy first announced his intentions three weeks ago when he arrived here for a rest. Miss Bacall, who came east a few days later and stayed at the same hotel, said Bogart had never proposed to her. Miss Bacall was expected to leave shortly for Hollywood.

Vice-President Gets Hep With Lauren Bacall



Vice-President Harry Truman plays the piano as the new movie star Lauren Bacall—perched on the instrument—hums a tune at the Press Club canteen in Washington. (More on Lauren at the right.)

Once Over Lightly

By GI Joe

I'D LIKE to add my list to the all-time, All-America team of baseball. These men are all power hitters and have ten or more years of service in the game: c, Mickey Cochrane, Athletics; p, Lefty Grove, Athletics; p, Walter Johnson, Senators; lb, George Sisler, Browns; 2b, Rogers Hornsby, Cardinals; ss, Honus Wagner, Pirates; 3b, Pie Traynor, Pirates; 1f, Ty Cobb, Tigers; cf, Tris Speaker, Indians; rf, Babe Ruth, Yankees; Manager Miller Huggins.—Pvt. Milton H. Elzufon.

WE HAVE been reading what a furore gambling is creating in basketball circles, especially since the boys with the books have been ousted from the race tracks. We're only a doughface on the front and probably don't know what really is going on in sports back in the States. If the bookies are operating, what differences does it make whether you put your dough on the nags, on the boys, on the courts, on the diamond, or the gridiron? If the big gamblers are out to fix any event, they are going to do it whether you have "no gambling" signs or not. And guys like you and me, who put two bucks on the nose, certainly are not going to be a threat to the honesty of sports. But then you say, "Why give it to the bookies?" Okay, the question is, why put out the dough when a state or government-operated mutual machine can do away with the so-called evils of betting in the grandstand at Ebbets Field or in the upper tier at the Garden? The men who run sports back home can't, if they really wanted to, do away with gambling, and they know it. Racing made it pay for the bettors (some bettors, anyway) and the government as well. So let the boys back home take their tongues from out of their cheeks. At least give the guy who bets the two bucks a break—let's legalize gambling for the betting clientele. And I'm not the guy who cleans up on pay day night either!—Pvt. Robert A. Levine.

Behind The Sports Headlines

SHORTSHOTS.—By scoring 71 points in their remaining conference games, the Arkansas Razorbacks can boast an all-time point-scoring record over the 10,000 mark. To date the Razorbacks have hooped 9,930 points to their over-all opponents' total of 7,824.



Jack Dempsey

Cmdr. Jack Dempsey isn't letting grass grow under his feet in the States after his ETO physical training tour for the Coast Guard. He's slated to depart soon on a Coast Guard "good will" mission to the South Pacific, operating out of Pearl Harbor. He intends to visit outlying bases, including the Philippines, New Guinea, Australia, India, China and possibly Russia. At the rate Nimitz and company are racing toward Tokyo, Dempsey might even make a stop on the Japanese mainland before long.

MIAMI, Fla.—Miami's team in the All-America Pro Football Conference, is signing talent right and left. The club announced the signing of a former Chicago Bear and Stanford star, Hampton Poole, as assistant coach to Jack Meagher, along with four players from Poole's undefeated 1944 Fort Pierce Naval Amphibs eleven. The four are Bull Reese, former Missouri fullback; Frank Albert, Notre Dame tackle; Bill Goodwin, Georgia center and Don Cohenour, Texas tackle.

Wounded Veterans Turn to Sports for Recreation in States



Armless and legless veterans put on a sports show at Bushnell General Hospital, Utah. At the left they play volley ball from a sitting position. At the right, Sgt. James Wakefield, Centralia, Wash., high jumps. He lost a leg when shot down over Germany.

Richard, Lach In Hockey Tie

MONTREAL, Feb. 21.—Maurice Richard and Elmer Lach, of the Canadiens, are tied for the scoring lead in the National Hockey League with 65 points apiece and both have a chance to top the record of 73 points, set by Cooney Weiland, of the Boston Bruins, in 1929-30, and tied 13 seasons later by Doug Bentley, of the Chicago Black Hawks.

Richard's next goal, his 45th, will break all existing records in the National League. Joe Malone, of the Canadiens, hit 44 goals in 22 games under the old rules during the 1917-18 season, and the next best record was 43 goals in 44 games by Weiland.

	G	A	Pts
Richard, Montreal	44	21	65
Lach, Montreal	20	45	65
Cowley, Boston	22	34	56
Blake, Montreal	23	31	54
Howe, Detroit	14	32	46
Kennedy, Toronto	23	19	42
DeMarco, New York	18	24	42
M. Brunelleau, Detroit	21	20	41
Carveth, Detroit	16	24	40
Carr, Toronto	17	21	38
C. Smith, Chicago	13	25	38

American Hockey League

Tuesday Night's Result
St. Louis 4, Pittsburgh 3.

Mario Called to Arms

BOSTON, Feb. 21.—Frank Mario, rookie center of the Boston Bruins, has been called for service in the Canadian Army, the Bruins' front office announced today.

Mario will report for a physical exam in Montreal Friday.

Gumbert Accepted by Army

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 21.—Harry Gumbert, Cincinnati Reds' right-handed pitcher, said today he had been accepted for service and was awaiting his call.

Five Knockouts Spark Oise Section Boxing Show

OISE SECTION HQ, Feb. 21.—Five bouts of an 11-card boxing show ended in technical knockouts here in the weekly punch show staged by the Oise Section athletic department. Pvt. George Smith, welterweight from Philadelphia, scored a second round TKO over Cpl. Richard Mac, 147, of Harrisburg, Pa., in the feature bout.

Results of other bouts:
Pfc Joe Lomangine, New York, drew with Pvt. Samuel Logan, Rocky Mount, N.C.; Pvt. Alfonso Gates, St. Louis, Mo., drew with Pvt. Jesse Watts, Kansas City, Mo.; Pvt. Billy Procter, Harrisburg, Pa., decisioned Pfc Lennon Mings, Newport News, Va.; Pfc William Cook, St. Louis, Mo.; TKO'd Pfc Joseph Shannon, Baltimore, Md.; Sgt. Myron Oglesby, Charlotte, N.C.; TKO'd Cpl. Dave Pebles, Fond du Lac, Wis.; Pfc Earl Moore, Detroit, TKO'd Pvt. Edward Sakatch, Detroit; Pvt. Harold Harshaw, Columbus, Ohio, drew with T/5 Mark Courts, San Diego, Calif.; Pfc Oscar Broussard, San Francisco, Calif., decisioned Pvt. George Burris, Baltimore, Md.; Pvt. Wilman Warren, Hopewell, Va., TKO'd Sgt. James Hendon, Shadburn, N. C.; T/5 Harold Lester, Pasadena, Calif., decisioned Pvt. Jack Sharkey, Fond du Lac, Wis.

CAGE RESULTS

Augustana 67, Burlington Jr. Col. 37.
Atlantic City Naval 65, Seranton 36.
Ashland 73, Camp Perry 53.
Bowling Green 64, Great Lakes 59.
Central 75, Wartburg 53.
Cincinnati 57, Wayne 40.
Hamline 76, Eau Claire Tchrs. 43.
Iowa Pre-Flight 55, Nebraska 41.
Lakehurst Naval 47, Fort Dix 40.
Lincoln A.B. 60, Second A.B. 37.
Marshall 83, W.Va. Tech. 49.
Montclair Tchrs. 45, Wagner 40.
St. Thomas (Minn.) 72, St. John's (Minn.) 41.
St. Olaf 50, MacAlester 41.
Sam Houston 47, E. Tex. State 30.
Valparaiso 70, W. Mich. 58.
W. Ky. Tchrs. 36, Morehead Tchrs. 34.

Loop Prexies Visited Byrnes

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—Ford Frick, National League president, and William Harridge, American League boss, conferred today with War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes. Frick, spokesman for the pair, would declare only that "nothing occurred today to change my opinion that baseball can operate in 1945."

Frick and Harridge were in Byrnes' office only half an hour. Reporters who questioned the baseball leaders discovered that thousands of applicants seeking the \$50,000-a-year commissioner's job had held up the selection of a successor to the late Judge K. M. Landis. Frick said his four-man committee was sifting the more logical choices.

Widdoes Named Ohio State Coach

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 21.—Carroll Widdoes, Ohio State assistant football coach, who took over the direction of Buckeye gridiron destinies during Coach Paul Brown's military leave of absence, was signed as head coach today to succeed Brown, who became coach of the Cleveland entry in the new All-America Professional Football Conference two weeks ago.



Carroll Widdoes

Widdoes' contract, terms of which were not divulged, is for one year. The new Buckeye coach was formerly assistant to Brown at Massillon (Ohio) High School, and was voted "Coach of the Year" last fall.

Braves Plan Night Ball

BOSTON, Feb. 21.—John Quinn, general manager of the Boston Braves, announced today that lights would be installed at Braves Field after the war. Quinn said the club had decided night ball had become a necessary part of the game and predicted that lights would be installed in all major league parks shortly after the war.

CCNY Players Scored Deals

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Edgar Bromberger, New York City Commissioner of Investigation, revealed yesterday that two instances of attempted corruption had occurred prior to the Brooklyn College basketball scandal, which broke Jan. 29.

Bill Levine, captain of the CCNY team, according to Bromberger, said he had been approached before the CCNY-Syracuse game at the Garden, Jan. 10, and asked whether he would like to make some extra money. Bromberger said Levine recognized the man as the "gambler type" and refused to talk to him. Levine also disclosed that William "Red" Holzam, former CCNY player now in the Navy, had told him of a similar approach several years ago and that he, too, had rejected the proposal.

Three 114th Cagers On All-Star Team

Three players from the championship 114th basketball team, winners of the Ninth ADC cage tournament, were named to the all-tournament team. One each from the second-place 602nd outfit and the 112th consolation finalists, completed the all-star five.

T/Sgt. Robert Stafford, captain of the 114th and voted the tourney's most valuable player and the meet's top scorer, was placed at one forward post. T/4 Walter Bobcean was nominated for the center slot, and Pfc George Neumann was at guard. Cpl. Chester Bulwa, of the 112th, was chosen for the other forward position, and T/4 Otto Nasticky, of the 602nd, was Neumann's running mate.

Highest individual score in a single game was racked up by Cpl. Chester Bulwa, with 19 points in an opening round game against the 118th cagers. Stafford, in three games, totaled 42 points to take high individual scoring honors.

New Tri-State League Opens Season, May 1

ASHEVILLE, N.C., Feb. 21.—The Tri-State Baseball League was organized here yesterday with Asheville, Greenville, Spartanburg, S.C., and Knoxville, Tenn., receiving franchises. Two other cities are expected to join.

Paddy Ryan, of Hillsboro, Ohio, was named president and it was announced the league would open a 120-game schedule May 1 with games every weekday night.

Tommy Gomez Wounded

TAMPA, Fla., Feb. 21.—S/Sgt. Tommy Gomez, one of Dixie's leading heavyweights before going overseas, has been seriously wounded on the First Army front in Germany, relatives here revealed today. The 25-year-old GI, a native of Tampa, was a bellhop in a local hotel before joining the Army.

Bowling Green Cagers Upset Great Lakes

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio, Feb. 21.—Overlooked by sports statisticians who weekly release the nation's top-ranking college fives, Bowling Green's varsity catapulted into the select class last night by defeating Great Lakes, 64-59, for its 21st victory in 22 games. Wyndol Gray, who scored 22 points for the victors, turned the tide in favor of the home team by rattling the boards for 14 points in the second half. Great Lakes led at the intermission, 31-29, mainly through the deadeye tossing of Dick McGuire. The lead changed hands 26 times during the game.

Seahawks Trip Nebraska

IOWA CITY, Ia., Feb. 21.—The Iowa Pre-Flight team defeated Nebraska, 55-41, here last night for its 16th victory of the campaign. Competition was close until midway in the second half when Forward Don Samuel, of the Seahawks, threw in eight straight points. Samuel led the scorers with 24 points.

Lumbago Forces Conn To Cancel London Bout

LONDON, Feb. 21.—Cpl. Billy Conn, No. 1 contender for Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis' crown, has been taken to a hospital in Hertfordshire to be treated for lumbago, forcing him to cancel his scheduled exhibition in the London District Army championship matches tonight, it was learned today from Army sources.

Army officials said Conn was taken to the hospital after developing lumbago in London and that he probably would have to stay in the hospital about ten days.

Covering
GI Sports

Outstanding pre-war collegiate stars will appear in the Ninth AF Service Command basketball tournament, which starts tonight and winds up with the championship final Saturday at 8:30 PM. The title is being defended by "Sullivan's Raiders," victor in the UK tourney last year.

Fourteen tournament games will be played in Japy Gym (near Voltaire Metro station), which has a



Curtis Giddings Lennie Weksler

seating capacity of 3,000. The 764th AAF band of 28 pieces will furnish music at the finals. Four games are listed tonight, six tomorrow and four Saturday.

Among the crack players competing are T/5 Curtis Giddings, former NYU track ace, who forsook basketball for the cinder path in college; he's a member of the 461st Sig. Bn.; Sgt. Bernie Weksler, of Chicago, former DePaul University cager now with the Ninth AFSC Hqs., and Cpl. Jim Champion, ex-Michigan U. player, representing "Sullivan's Raiders."

Games Tonight

2009th Ord. vs. First Tr. Gp., 5:15 PM; 16th ADG vs. 1585 QM, 6:30 PM; 461st Sig Bn. vs. 925th Sig. Bn., 7:45 PM; Hqs. Ninth AFSC vs. 304th Sv. Gp., 9 PM.

Games Tomorrow

9th Sv. Gp. vs. 1586th QM, 1:30 PM; First IDG vs. 45th ADG, 2:45 PM; Winners Thursday's first game vs. "Raiders," 4 PM; Winners Thursday's second and third games, 6:30 PM; Winner Thursday's final game vs. 42nd Sv. Gp., 7:45 PM; Winners Friday's first two games, 9 PM.



How true, how true! A soldier who has a hot time in town sometimes ends up in a GI cooler.

A corporal somewhere in Belgium stepped into the orderly room one morning with a banged-up nose. "What happened to you?" barked the first sergeant. Snapped the corporal, "I just had breakfast with Tommy Dorsey."

Observation. The trouble with dream girls is that they keep you awake all night.

Two Joes stepped into a cinema which was highly scented. "What's that smell?" asked one of the guys. "Don't know," quipped his buddy, "it must be coming from the stalls."

Silly Story (by Sgt. John Muligan: An Arkansas guy in an Army postal unit somewhere in France was told that if he knew



Spanish he could catch on to French easily and quickly. So now every night he studies a textbook on Spanish diligently.

Afterthought. Give a politician some facts and he will draw his own confusions

Note from the home front. Wonder what Californians found to talk about when the Army had strict censorship on weather?

Recalling those pleasant childhood days when teacher called roll at grade school, T/4 Milton Cohen writes:

My one desire, though but small, Would satisfy my utmost gall. "Here" and "ho" sound so unpleasant. Just once I'd like to call out—"present."

And then there was the guy who had a few beers while en route to the blood bank. Out of 117 blood donations, his was the only one that had a head on it.

J. C. W.

AMERICAN FORCES NETWORK

Table with columns for Time, TODAY, and TOMORROW, listing various radio programs and their times.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival: PVT. Frank Iandola, Baldwin, N.Y.—Anthony Frank, Feb. 12; S/Sgt. Bernard Charkow, New York—William, Feb. 14; Pvt. Marione Chelli, Pittsburgh—girl, Feb. 8; Lt. Richard Stanley Sparrow, Belmont, Mass.—Richard Stanley, Feb. 14; T/5 Abe Wyloge, Hurleyville, N.Y.—Ida Lee, Feb. 3; S/Sgt. Peter A. Fargo, Shaker Heights, O.—Patricia Ann, Feb. 7; S/Sgt. John J. Mullen, Corona, N.Y.—girl, Feb. 14; Capt. Linden Stuart, Plainfield, N.J.—Carol Anne, Feb. 14; S/Sgt. Clyde Firestein, Joliet, Ill.—girl, Feb. 15; Lt. William A. Miller, Nacogdoches, Tex.—Andrew, Feb. 7; Pfc Harry Walner, Brooklyn—boy, Feb. 10; Pvt. Robert P. Henson, Detroit—girl, Jan. 3; 1/Lt. Donald R. Clark, Kodiak, Alaska—William Leslie, Feb. 14.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features

By Al Capp



Terry and The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate

By Milton Caniff



Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features

By Raeburn Van Buren



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate, Inc.

By Chester Gould



Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett



U.S. Artillery Pounds Japs Left in Manila

MANILA, Feb. 21 (ANS).—American artillery poured shells into the ancient Intramuros section of Manila today in an effort to crush the remnants of the Japanese garrison, whose desperate stand has wrecked approximately one-fifth of the city's 14 square miles.

The artillery was attempting to cut an entrance through the thick outer wall of the Intramuros for American tanks and infantry striving to eliminate the enemy and liberate thousands of civilians within the Japanese lines.

The American forces could pulverize the Intramuros with air power, but not without killing the civilians.

Sealing Off Corregidor Japs

Gen. MacArthur announced that the enemy garrison, now compressed into an area 1,200 yards long and 800 wide, "is acting with the greatest savagery in the treatment of non-combatants and private property."

On Corregidor, both entrances of the main tunnel were blocked by explosions, and Yanks swarming over Topside poked into rubble in a search for a ventilation vent. When they find it, the Japanese will be completely sealed off.

MacArthur announced that the Japanese had suffered 92,000 casualties in the six weeks of the Luzon campaign—24,000 of them in the last week. American casualties for the six-week period stand at 12,929, including 2,676 killed. American casualties in the last week totaled 3,246.

Trial Witness Hits Railroads

Railway companies in the U.S. were blamed for the poor quality of some railway battalion officers overseas by a witness yesterday in the Paris trial of Maj. Walter H. Marlin, former commander of the 716th Railway Operating Bn., the AP reported. The hearing is to go into its third day today.

Marlin, more than 100 of whose men have been sentenced to prison for black marketing, is charged with neglect of duty.

Col. E. H. Qualls, executive officer of the Second Military Railway Service, told the court that Marlin's experience as a locomotive engineer did not qualify him to handle a railway operating battalion such as the 716th. He suggested that railroads at home could have given the Army more railroaders with executive experience to command railway troops, but instead followed a policy of "letting us have the men they could best spare."

When the prosecution rested, the defense counsel moved for a finding of not guilty, arguing that the court might think Marlin was inefficient but "inefficiency is not a criminal act." The motion was overruled.

Air War . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

struck at the communication centers of Xanthen and Geldern, 13 miles east and southeast of Goch. The mediums encountered opposition from German ME109s, several of which were shot down. Four mediums were listed as missing.

Italy-based, rocket-carrying Thunderbolts pounded railways around Berchtesgaden.

More than 1,100 fighter-bombers of the Ninth AF made concentrated attacks on German communication lines west of the Rhine with a loss of four planes.

The 19th TAC, in its longest operation of the winter, kept its fighter planes hammering at German targets for ten hours and 55 minutes.

U.S. Subs Boost Toll

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (ANS).—American submarines sank a Japanese escort carrier, a converted cruiser, a destroyer and 22 merchant vessels in recent operations in Far Eastern waters, the Navy announced today.

Panties Unessential? Yes, by WPB Ruling

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (ANS).—New York's garment center was shocked today when it was discovered that by inference the War Production Board has ruled women's panties are "non-essential."

They pointed to WPB orders announced Monday from Washington, aimed at placing priorities on rayon, wool and cotton, so that "vital" civilian articles can be produced at low cost.

"Vital" items listed included men's shorts, diapers, pajamas, but notably absent was women's panties.

Marines Storm 2nd Iwo Field

(Continued from Page 1)

derous Japanese fire, gaining more than 100 yards.

From Tokyo, only 750 miles north of Iwo Jima, the Japanese broadcast a report that "a third of a force of 20,000 men landed on Iwo has been wiped out." But the enemy conceded American gains and said that American troops and equipment were pouring ashore in ever-increasing quantity.

American reports from Iwo described the island as "eight square miles of Hell on earth." The battle has not abated for an instant since the Marines went ashore Monday morning. But American officers expressed confidence in ultimate victory.

As the Japanese laid down artillery, mortar and rocket fire from commanding positions at the southern and northern ends of Iwo, American warships encircling the island, continued to throw shells at the enemy.

Rain started to fall yesterday, but despite that handicap American carrier planes dived down to pound the Japanese. The planes were shaken by the concussion of the U.S. naval bombardment.

Adm. Nimitz announced that a large part of the American artillery was now ashore, and he disclosed that the Navy had fired more than 3,000 tons of ammunition.

West Front . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

90th Div. fought into Binscheid while armored elements took Sengerich, a mile to the northwest.

On the northern front, reinforced German units hurled counter-attacks to stop Canadian First Army troops driving toward the Calcar road center.

North of Goch, counter-attacking Nazi forces penetrated Canadian positions astride the Goch-Calcar Road. Canadians threw in hastily brought up reserves of tanks and infantry. The German attacks, which kept coming in time after time, were finally beaten back and lost ground was retaken.

On the U.S. Seventh Army front, Americans cleared border towns three miles southeast of Saarbrücken, largest industrial center of the southern Saarland. These included Singzing, Hesselin, Alstring and Grossbliederstroff.

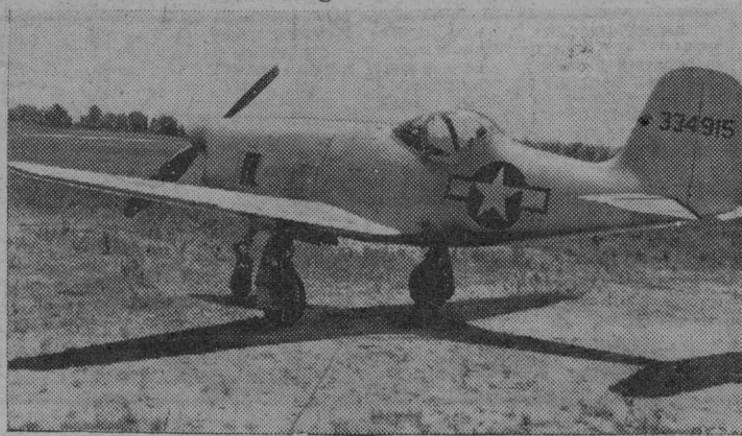
Enemy resistance was reported increasing in that sector where Seventh Army troops have edged back on to German soil on a fairly wide front. Fighting in Forbach continued heavy as Germans appeared determined to contest every house in the town.

On the Ninth Army front, S and S Correspondent Ernest Leiser reported that the Germans continued to send light artillery fire into the U.S. positions along the Roer, but that otherwise the front was inactive.

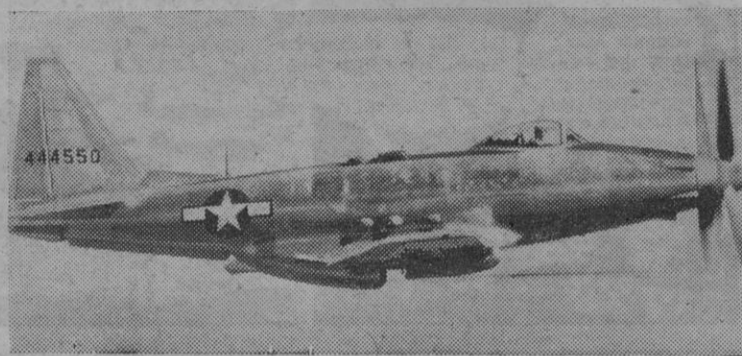
Civilian Convicted

AACHEN, Feb. 21 (Reuter).—Otto Meyer, a German civilian, was found guilty of "making a false statement in a matter of official concern to Allied officials." He was sentenced by the Allied military court to ten years' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 reichsmarks.

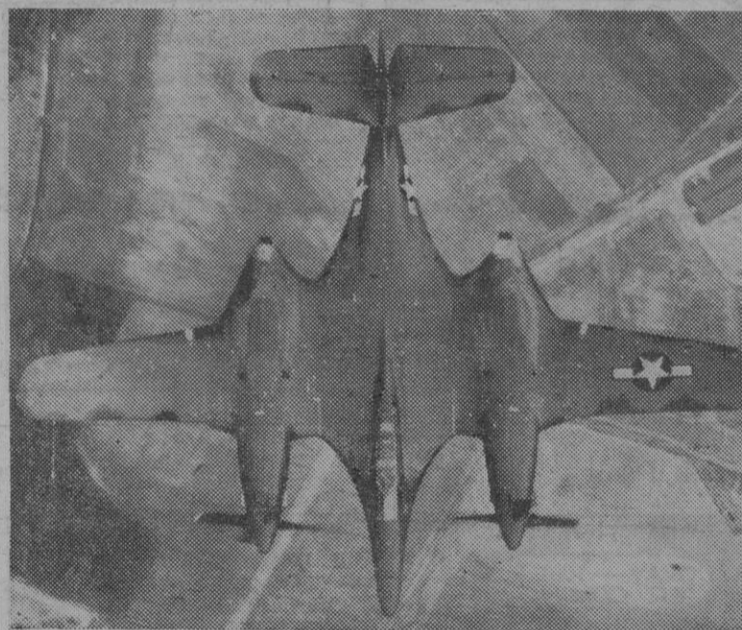
These Weird Looking Planes Won't See Combat



These pictures prove that aircraft designing never stops. Many a model is tried but few are chosen by U.S. plane experts to be used in combat. The one above is the Bell XP-77, an all-wood fighter, designed to be the answer to the highly-maneuverable Jap Zero. It's high-speed tended to crack the wood.



This is the XP-75, the result of an effort to combine the best features of combat planes into one super long-range fighter with counter-rotating propellers and a mighty 3,000HP Allison engine.



The bat-like XP-67 was a try at a flying wing. It had bad trials but its design may be applied to post-war needs. All of these planes were tested by the Air Technical Service Command, Wright Field, Ohio, and were turned down.

Milk and Beer Rate Tops On Returned Vets' Hit Parade

JERSEY CITY, Feb. 21.—More than 1,500 wounded and ill veterans of the European campaigns arrived here yesterday, and put in immediate requests for two beverages—milk and beer.

One group of vets—463 of them—was particularly jubilant after months and years of imprisonment in Germany. They were part of 1,209 repatriates arriving on the Swedish liner Gripsholm.

The other group arrived on a hospital ship. They included veterans who had been blinded, had lost limbs and had received other serious wounds in hard-fought battles with the Germans.

For many, it was the first glimpse of American shores in two and three years. Those who were physically able lined the ships' rails and stood, entranced, as they came into the harbor.

The beer fanciers had to forego that beverage temporarily, but downed plenty of fresh milk served with a chicken dinner. They were promised beer and ice cream in future menus.

The public was not permitted on the pier, but Red Cross represen-

tatives assisted the men in sending telegrams to their families notifying them of their arrival. Portable telephones were plugged in at the bedside of some patients to enable them to make calls.

Army officials arranged for the immediate transfer of the ex-prisoners of war to the Halloran General Hospital for physical examinations. Those who are physically fit will receive immediate furloughs.

Many of the vets on the hospital ship were carried on litters down the gangplank and placed in Army ambulances. They will be processed and sent to hospitals near their homes, if possible.

Among the repatriates were 46 merchant seamen, 78 Canadian soldiers, and 622 civilians who had been held in internment camps.

Washington Ceremony

United States Ambassador Jefferson Caffery will lay a wreath on Washington's Monument, at the Place d'Iena, Paris, at 11 o'clock this morning, in a ceremony commemorating George Washington's birth.

Germans Drive Convicts Into Death Missions

By Associated Press

Hitler's desperate Wehrmacht is giving suicide assignments to battalions of the damned—German soldiers convicted of military offenses and mobilized into units where they face almost certain death instead of serving terms in prison, it was learned authoritatively at SHAEF yesterday.

Such forces are known to have been used against the Russian Army on the Eastern Front, and a strong parallel in employment of troops in American uniforms at the time of the Ardennes breakthrough indicates that convict units have been in action in the west as well.

They get the dirty jobs. They clear minefields under fire. They spearhead hopeless counter-attacks. They are thrown into attacks when other German troops have been stopped and forced to take cover.

And they fight with the guns of their own convict officers and non-coms at their backs. For officers don't go into jaws of death where convict troops are sent. They follow along behind to shoot down any who falter.

It is not clear for exactly what offenses the German military violators are thrown into the battalions of the damned, but presumably it is for serious breaches, since assignment to these units is virtually equal to a death warrant.

Germans are known to have used at least full battalions of the convicts, perhaps even larger units.

On the Eastern Front they worked often in Russian uniforms and sometimes were sent racing into Russian lines, in captured Russian trucks shouting that "the Germans are coming, the Germans are coming."

U.S. to Bolster Pan-Am. Union

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 21 (ANS).—A resolution giving increased political and economic powers to the Pan-American Union, with the aim of making it a subdivision of the world organization outlined at the Dumbarton Oaks parley, will be introduced at the inter-American conference which opened here today.

The resolution is one of two which the U.S. delegation, headed by Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr., plans to introduce. The other, on freedom of the press, will urge equal access to news throughout the hemisphere.

Stettinius, who arrived here yesterday, predicted that the conference would equal in success the Big Three conference at Yalta. The conference here will have the task of trimming the broad outlines of the Crimean Charter to fit the special needs of South and Central America.

East Front . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

back in this area to the Neisse River, with the front assuming the shape of a semi-circle around Goerlitz, which is a little more than 30 miles east of Dresden.

On Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's front east of Berlin, the Nazis reported increased activity. It was acknowledged by the Germans that Zhukov's troops had enlarged their bridgehead across the Oder at Kienitz by pushing forward a few hundred yards. Kienitz is only 33 miles from the Reich capital and is at the northern tip of the arc being built around the city.

Last night's Soviet communique said that Russian troops had repelled attacks by Germans seeking to escape from Koenigsberg. However, the communique reported that Soviet troops had lost several inhabited places.

Elements of Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's army surged ahead through the Polish Corridor toward Danzig, now less than 40 miles away. Marshal Stalin announced last night that these troops had captured the town of Czersk, making a 20-mile advance from their last disclosed position.