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# PARIS EDITION THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Man Spricht Deutsch  
Eure Lage ist hoffnungslos.  
Oyre Lahge ist hoffnungslos.  
Your position is hopeless.

Vol. 1—No. 205

1 Fr.

1 Fr.

Saturday, Feb. 17, 1945

# Tokyo Attack Still Rages

## Three Key Reich Cities Threatened by Koniev In Advance on Berlin

Marshal Koniev's spearheads last night were reported menacing three key German cities in the line guarding Berlin's southeastern approaches, while Koniev's flanks linked with Marshal Zhukov's units west of the Oder River, about 70 miles from the capital.

Cottbus, Guben and Forst, industrial centers which lie within 65 miles of Berlin, were in the path of Koniev's advancing forces. Two of the cities, Guben and Forst, were within range of Soviet guns.

## 1,000 Heavies Blast Nazi Rail, Fuel Targets

Shifting the weight of the three-day aerial barrage against the Reich from the Eastern to the Western Front, more than 1,000 American heavy bombers yesterday pounded fuel and transportation targets in the Ruhr and northwestern Germany.

In an afternoon attack, RAF Lancasters struck at Wessel, on the eastern bank of the Rhine, in what was described as a highly-concentrated attack.

The Forts and Liberators of the Eighth AF, escorted by 200 Mustangs, rocked two benzol plants near Dortmund and Gelsenkirchen in the Ruhr, two oil refineries at Dortmund and Salzbergen, and the much-bombed railroad yards at Hamm, Osnabruck and Rheine, in northwest Germany, with approximately 3,000 tons of explosives.

**Ninth AF Also Active**  
Hitting at targets in the same general area as the heavies, the medium and light bombers of the Ninth AF attacked a jet-plane engine factory at Solingen, an ordnance depot at Unna, the five-span Mayen railroad bridge over the Nette River and a communication center at F... on the Rhine. With the flying weather improving (Continued on Page 8)

## Soviet-Allied Liaison Set Up to Direct Raids

LONDON, Feb. 16 (Reuter).—It was confirmed in London tonight that the narrowing of the bomb line ahead of the Russian armies has led to the organization of a liaison command to direct Allied raids on German cities.

The officer in charge of this liaison is believed to be in Moscow. The choice for this important post has fallen, it is believed, on a high RAF officer.

## V-Bomb Blows Hit New Peak Against Ninth

Nazi flying bomb activity hit the highest point of the war in the past 24 hours along the U.S. Ninth Army front, AP frontline dispatches said last night, as the Germans appeared to be trying to use the V-weapon as artillery for short-range warfare.

Heavy artillery fire was reported by S. and S. Correspondent Ralph Martin in the Bourheim sector of the Ninth's front. He said that the town, less than two miles from the Roer River, caught the largest part of an estimated 650 rounds lobbed in by the Nazis.

**Patrols Driven Back**  
The Roer dropped another four inches in the past 24 hours, he added, but is still four feet nine inches above normal.

The Canadian First Army continued the slow widening of their bulge at the tip of the West Front and U.S. Third Army troops, 150 miles southward, made small gains in their Luxembourg bridgehead.

First Army patrols tried to cross the Roer on reconnaissance missions but were driven back by heavy German automatic weapons fire from the thickly-defended eastern bank, where Nazis were stringing wire and planting mines in some places.

In the Canadian Army salient, (Continued on Page 8)

## Navy Hurls 1,500 Planes at Capital; Hits Island Bases

**U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HQ., Guam, Feb. 16.**—The most powerful war fleet ever assembled rode the waters off Japan today and sent wave after wave of American carrier planes—more than 1,500 in all—to attack Tokyo and other prime targets in the heart of the enemy's empire.

The attack began soon after dawn today, and it is still in progress. To the south, in the Volcano and Bonin Islands, American warships and Army planes still are shelling and bombing Japanese positions

## Corregidor Shelled

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (ANS).—A Navy spokesman today confirmed Japanese radio reports that U.S. warships were bombarding Corregidor, fortress island at the entrance to Manila Bay.

on the Superfortress route from the Marianas to Japan.

The main attack on the Japanese home island of Honshu left smoke rising to great heights all the way from Tokyo to Yokohama, about 18 miles to the southwest. This was reported by Navy Lt. David McMillan, who flew over the targets in an Army B-29 on a reconnaissance mission.

## Second Attack Reported

Adm. Nimitz, after writing out in longhand the communique reporting the start of the attack on Tokyo, maintained silence regarding its progress. But from the Japanese came reports that American planes, after carrying out a nine-hour assault, had struck a second time.

Radio Tokyo said that "an enemy task force still is operating in our adjacent waters." The Japanese also reported that at least ten aircraft carriers formed the backbone of the American task forces.

One enemy account said that the targets of the American planes lay in the Kanto (Tokyo metropolitan) area and in the Shizuoka Prefecture.

(Continued on Page 8)

## At Foe's Doorstep



A huge fleet of U.S. carrier planes was attacking Tokyo and other Honshu Island targets. To the south, Iwo Jima and positions in the Bonins were being shelled and bombed.

## Vigorous War On Japs Urged

LONDON, Feb. 16 (Reuter).—Russian delegates to the World Trades Union Conference yesterday endorsed a conference declaration calling for "vigorous pursuit of the war against Japan."

The change of policy was clearly shown, despite the fact that the original text of the declaration was changed by last-minute amendment to avoid the impression that the Russian delegates were advocating direct entry of their country into the war against Japan.

The declaration also urged the United Nations to "reconsider their economic and other relations with Franco Spain, Argentina and all other Fascist countries who, under pretext of neutrality, aid and assist our enemies."

## History's Mightiest Armada Sailed on Mission to Tokyo

The following dispatch, describing the huge U.S. naval task force now attacking Japan, was written before the force sailed from a Pacific naval base.

By Vern Haugland

Associated Press Correspondent

**A PACIFIC NAVAL BASE.**—The largest war fleet in history rides at anchor here, restlessly awaiting the date when, for the first time, American seaborne forces will strike at Tokyo in force.

The task force is so large that it is difficult for the mind to grasp this fantastic mixture of large and small fighting ships and all the auxiliary vessels needed to keep them armed, fuelled and supplied. Of the hundreds of vessels in

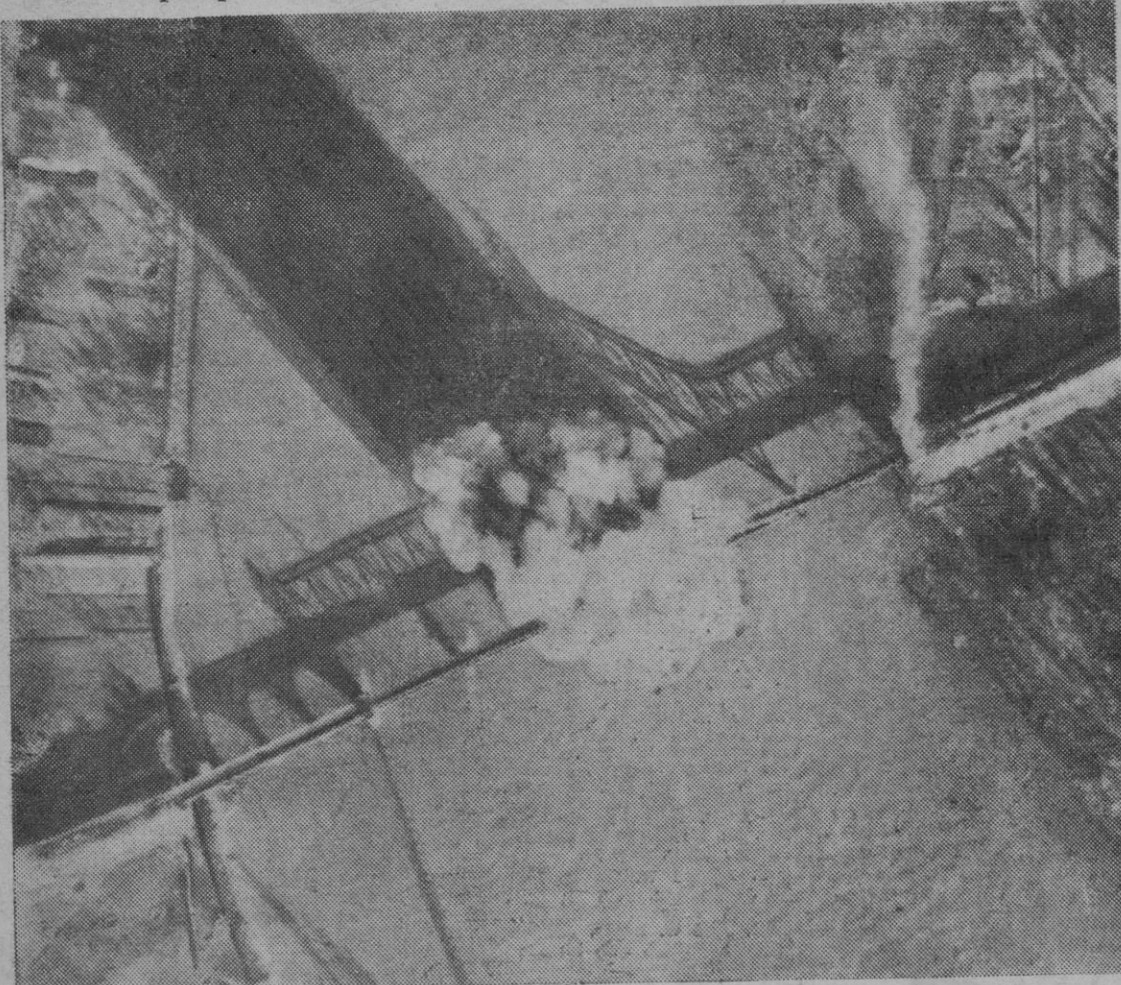
this great base, scores of them will steam toward Tokyo within ten days in quest of a fight.

That task force will be the greatest ever known to man and it will include the largest and newest American carriers, battleships, light carriers, jeep carriers, cruisers and destroyers.

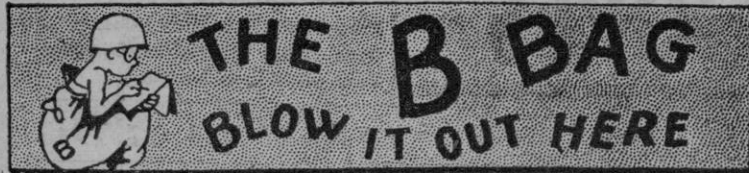
It will launch considerably more than 1,500 planes against Japan's main island of Honshu in the first low-level air attack against Tokyo and any other enemy cities selected as worthwhile targets.

The ships will stand off Honshu, forming a line 200 miles or more up and down the coast, while fighters, dive-bombers and torpedo planes carry the war into the heart of Japan.

## B26s Rip Apart German Rail Link for Supplies to Siegfried Line



Marauders of the Ninth Air Force lay loads of bombs on the middle of the 1,237-foot "Kronprinz-Wilhelm" railway bridge over the Rhine River at Engers to damage the important enemy communications link over which supplies and troops for the Siegfried Line must flow. The effect of the blast is reflected by the shadow on the river.



Let's All Help

Why, when there is a shortage of GI clothing and supplies and we hear of saboteurs dressed in our uniforms, can not all these clothes and supplies be taken away from unauthorized persons and returned to our supply depots?

By forcing civilians to return Allied clothing, our troops will be able to distinguish at a glance who they are.—T/5 J. Velisek, 1055 Eng. (Editor's note: The Chief Quartermaster, ETOUSA, states:

"Excluding enemy agents, U.S. clothing gets into the hands of civilians in two ways:

"a. A limited number of items have been authorized for issue to French laborers working for the U.S. because of lack of supply from French civilian sources. In every case, however, Class X is issued to the extent of availability. Only when Class X is not available, is either Class A or B issued.

"b. Soldiers not imbued with good supply discipline throw their clothing away and French civilians pick it up before the area can be covered by salvage collecting personnel.

"Prevention of this abuse rests in good supply discipline and in the cooperation of the soldiers themselves. A number of orders have been issued from various headquarters attempting to prevent this 'throwing away' habit. Perhaps The Stars and Stripes can help in this program."

Boy Meets Girl

Thought perhaps you'd explain the action of the American Legion in Paris toward GIs. I'm referring to the opening of the new club where one must be escorted by a WAC to gain admittance. Last night we were turned away because we didn't have a WAC escort.—T/5 E. Diehl and T/3 H. Dietrich, Cas. Div.

I overheard a GI say, "Soldier, don't sell your soul for a hamburger." I found it referred to the arrangement whereby only soldiers accompanied by WACs are admitted to the new club.—T/Sgt. K. L. M., Hq., ETOUSA.

(Editor's Note: Brig. Gen. Allen R. Kimball, headquarters commandant, ETOUSA, explains:

"This is a WAC club, fulfilling the need for a place where couples can dance and have refreshments at a nominal price. It was established due to lack of space in WAC billets for such gatherings. Restrictions are necessary because of limited space and food, and also because its main purpose would otherwise be defeated. It is for U.S. enlisted men and women exclusively, in 'couples,' and has proved popular with both Army and Navy personnel. Plans are contemplated for a large center open to everyone—singly or in couples.")

Old Hickory's Patch

We've heard it all! When Pfc Phillips dreams up such a quip as the one in S and S (Old Hickory and Hitler), it's time he got set straight.

First of all, we haven't changed our shoulder patch. In that patch is woven a glorious history, but better still a gallant present and a greater future. We do take endless pride in our shoulder patch and what it stands for—a fighting team. Many of our fathers fought under the same patch and distinguished it in the last war, and we're wearing it and have distinguished it in this war.

We didn't swallow the hook that Sally baited when she called us F.D.R.'s Elite SS Division. We took it as a joke, but at the same time noted a significance in the fact that the Nazis sure as hell know we're here, and in their comments admit that the "Old Hickory" is a rugged outfit to buck. More significant still is the fact that in the article which the Pfc wrote he did just what the propaganda agents wanted. He started a feud which we won't fight. We need not boast to hide our history—facts are facts. When he starts mentioning the 30th Inf. Div. as a possible QM outfit (with no reflections on the QM boys) he must be wearing his parachute three-cornered style. Brother, we'd hate to leave the war to "an Army that can listen and laugh at

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Sally and her kind." if, as it appears, you're listening and we're laughing.

We're proud of our outfit and the shoulder patch which distinguished it. It won't be ripping old patches, but it will be the Old Hickory ripping the enemy.—Capt. M. H. Sgt. B. J. B., Sgt. C. L. C., Cpl. G. F. K., 30 Inf.

(This letter is representative of the many letters received from Old Hickory men in answer to Pfc Phillips.—Ed.)

Attached Service

I was recuperating from a stomach disorder when I read the letter in S & S entitled "Detached Service," and right now I feel worse than I did when they took me from the company to the aid station.

W/O Montgomery tells us that since he has been in the service he has been divorced and doesn't want anyone pitying him, but he doesn't give us all the facts and what is more we don't give a damn. But then again let the good warrant officer remember that we all aren't "coushaying avec" as he puts it.

No. I don't advocate that all wives stay home and twiddle their thumbs, but when you break a beautiful home, give up a good job and leave your wife and son to join the Army because you think it is the right thing to do, it just doesn't seem right to have your wife write and say to you: "Now that you've been gone for awhile, I've found someone else, so please consent to give me a divorce and everything will be fine."—Pvt. Chas. Lourifman, Inf.

Like a very brilliant lady columnist once said, "If we can't trust those we love, what will come of loving?"—Cpl. Sidney F. Miller, M.P.E.G. Co.

The letter that W/O C. O. Montgomery wrote about his wife divorcing him was very touchy. Just because he had a big time in the ETO doesn't say that everyone did. Some of us came over here to fight. If a woman is any good at all she will stick to you and wait for you through thick and thin.—S/Sgt. D. A. Kerns, Para. Recon. Co.

Good Hunting

After the war, what happens to "Our Babies"—the MIs, carbines, 45's, etc? Will they collect dust, later be scrapped? I'd like to own mine. So would other thousands. Take a stated amount from a soldier's monthly pay toward purchase of his weapon. If discharged before final payment, let the balance come from mustering out pay. If a quarter of the men bought their own weapons, think of the saving for our government.—Sgt. Oakhem, AAA Bn.

Up Front With Mauldin



"But, Joe, this AIN'T no snowball fight, ya know!"

An Editorial

The Squad and the Concert

THE men in the squad who stood guard outside the German village heard it. With their helmets tipped back a little behind the ears to catch the softest tones they scarcely missed a note.

The wintry wind rustled across the fields and whistled through the blasted buildings. Through the countless holes that had once been windows. And the jagged gaps forced through the bricks by the 105s.

Each kind and shape of hole poured forth a different note. Some high. Some low. There was drum fire in the distance. And the sharp tattoo of nearby BARs.

The battered church steeple sobbed in the night as if some ghost sat at the shattered organ. Playing a requiem for this community of the dead.

It was a masterpiece of melancholy. So low at times the squad could hardly hear it. Then, suddenly, the drums and the wail of wind and the shriek of shells rose to a shattering crescendo. The ears ached and the heart stood still.



It was a symphony of destruction and death. A theme of pain and hate and mourning. Composed by a madman. Played by ghosts and devils. On instruments of a Stradivarius gone berserk.

Led by a maestro who hated man.

It was the liebestot—the love death of a German village. A town that loved power and conquest and was not content in its peace.

Japs Shutt Main Plane Plants From Vulnerable Locations

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (ANS).—Aerial reconnaissance shows that some of the largest aircraft plants in the Japanese home islands are being at least partly dismantled. Brig. Gen. Lauris Norstad, chief of staff of the 20th AF, told a news conference.

Some are installations not yet attacked by Superfortresses. It has been known for some time that the Japanese were transferring some heavy industries to Manchuria, but this is the first indication that home island aircraft plants are being moved.

Assessing results of B29 attacks Norstad said: "It has been estimated by impartial Army and Navy military an-

alysis that in three aircraft engine plants of Mitsubishi in Nagoya, Kawasaki and Kobe, and in the Nakajima factory in Tokio, something in the neighborhood of 75 to 80 percent of all Japanese aircraft engines are produced.

"Experts also tell us that as a result of the attacks on the Mitsubishi engine plant in Nagoya, one to three months' production has been lost, which will result in a loss of output equivalent to 1,400 to 3,300 engines. Preliminary estimates indicate further production loss of 800 to 1,000 engines and 350 to 750 combat aircraft as a result of attacks against Kawasaki."

Attacks on the main Mitsubishi airplane plant have reduced production by a minimum of 100 to 200 combat aircraft, Norstad said. He added that "we now feel the B29 has been thoroughly battle-tested."

During January, the 20th Bomber Command based in India flew 20 percent more hours and dropped 50 percent more bombs than in any previous month. January was the lowest month for losses of B29s from all causes since the 20th AF was established, Norstad said.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GI's Swift News of Sir Stock's Arrival: PVT. Walter Arwin Hanson, Champaign, Ill.—girl, Dec. 13; Cpl. Paul Schlegelmich, Oceanside, L.I.—Barbara Ann, Feb. 11; Cpl. John A. Jriehaber, Hollywood, Fla.—Gloria, Feb. 9; Pfc L. Siciliano, New York—boy, Cpl. Louis Schwartz, New York—boy, Feb. 11; Lt. Peter F. Toale, New York—boy, Feb. 11; Pvt. Joseph Bertone, Brooklyn—Patricia Anna, Feb. 12; Lt. E. I. Klungnes, Minneapolis—girl, Feb. 13; Pfc Norman Eckstein, Bronx—girl, Feb. 12; Pfc Leon Kosak, Richmond Hill, L.I.—girl, Feb. 12; Cpl. Murray Goldberg, Brooklyn—boy.

PVT. Arthur Fleischer, Brooklyn—Janice Dale, Feb. 11; Pfc L. B. Baynes, Novelty, O.—Inella Gloria, Jan. 27; Pvt. Walter W. Nelson, Chulavista, Calif.—girl, Feb. 10; Sgt. Henry E. Robbins, San Bernardino, Calif.—Judith Faye, Feb. 11; Pfc William J. Kerins, Dorchester, Mass.—boy, Feb. 14; Sgt. James L. Dryden, Hackensack, N.J.—Ann Elizabeth, Jan. 3; Lt. A. B. Pekar, Denver—Joan Donna, Jan. 24; Pfc Jerome B. Cohen, New York—Roger Lewis, Feb. 14.

T. Edward W. Cotton, Indianapolis—Judith Ann, Feb. 12; Lt. James W. Francis, Phoenix, Ariz.—boy, Feb. 14; Capt. Fred W. Bucky, Jacksonville, Fla.—Lance Barnett, Feb. 12; Pfc Robert E. Goodaire, Kalamazoo, Mich.—Alice Marie, Jan. 21; Cpl. Robert W. Fusco, Waterbury, Conn.—Robert William, Feb. 2; Capt. Thornton H. Cofield, St. Louis—Thornton Hale, Feb. 7; Pvt. Joseph Galya, Bronx—Theresa Mary, Feb. 6; Cpl. Robert Babinchuck, Cleveland—Robert Michael, Jan. 4.



Lament of Twenty-Three

By a WAC

Too young, too old, I'm twenty-three— Those growing pains are not for me. The unrequited love affair With hero of the golden hair, And unencumbered vision of The stuff that glory's compassed of.

The standards that I used to have Are fallen, where I do not know. The answers and the absolutes, The tests. The proofs. . . are no more truths— I've sadly found they're substitutes.

I'm twenty-three, the lore of books Will not suffice for me, but looks Of strangers, male, upon the street, Or knowledge sure, that will not fleet.

Away, these things are sweet. —The Wench.

High Pressure Love

Why do I thrill when I hear your voice? The touch of your hand seems to leave me no choice Your attraction is such—I'm beyond all control You absorb all I am—spirit, body and soul.

It's nothing you do, and nothing you say Just a glance—just a smile in that indolent way That great inner force—and you know it so well— That can lift one to heaven, or drive one to hell! —Sgt. C. E. Hand.

RADIO AFN AEF

Table with radio program listings for TODAY and TOMORROW, including times and program titles like 1200-News, 1315-Spotlight, etc.

*This Was America Yesterday:*

# Reconciliation of Lewis And AFL Falls Through

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

**NEW YORK, Feb. 16.**—So John L. Lewis stays out of the AFL. From Miami, Fla., where American Federation of Labor executives met for ten days and tried to achieve a reconciliation with their one-time associate, who still heads the powerful United Mine Workers, came announcement by AFL President William Green that negotiations had failed at the last moment.

The trouble was over a place for Lewis and his miners on the 15-man executive council of the labor federation. Lewis insisted on immediate election; the best that could be offered him was a possible seat between conventions, should a vacancy occur. Such a directorship eventually would have to be confirmed by regular election.

However, it was significant that this was the only apparent source of difference between the AFL and Lewis, who once stormily walked out to found the CIO. Leaders indicated that negotiations for membership of the miners' union and their veteran leader may be reopened at any time he chooses.

**IN THE U.S.A.**, where civilians have no PX, cigarettes continue to be front page news. Edward F. Ragland, secretary of the Smaller Tobacco Manufacturers of America, today said the shortage could be ended if government manpower and crop restrictions were relaxed. And in New York, OPA Administrator Daniel P. Woolley urged cigarette jobbers and retailers to "have cigarettes back on retail counters by Monday," under pain of some kind of punitive action.

It was called to his attention that OPA's power is limited to price ceilings, and the administrator came back with the statement that most cigarette problems come from black market and extra-price deals, which are in his jurisdiction and which he expects to prosecute. Woolley's activities extend to the New York metropolitan area only—and the rest of the country is still short of smokes.

## Admiral Moves Into the Senate

**ADM. THOMAS C. HART**, just retired from the Navy, donned civilian clothes yesterday and took the oath as Senator from Connecticut. After signing the Senate register, 67-year-old, gray-haired Hart took a desk on the Republican side of the aisle. The new senator's appointment is for the unexpired term of the late Francis T. Maloney, which ended in 1946. Maloney was a Democrat.

And here's the latest Sinatra stuff, from Jersey City, where they bypassed him again last week: Results of Frank's re-examination have been sent to Washington for review by top military officers, according to Ira W. Caldwell, chairman of The Voice's draft board. This was done under a recent ruling requiring special re-examination of outstanding athletes and entertainment stars. Sinatra was classified 4-F last year because of a punctured eardrum.

**IN** Washington, one man declared he lost money dealing with the Government. He was Jacob Goldberg, who testified before the War Investigating Committee that he lost \$4,000 under his contract with the Defense Plant Corporation. Goldberg conducted surplus property auctions.



**JACOB GOLDBERG**

*... You'd be unhappy, too, if working for Uncle Sam set you back \$4,000.*

Apparently somebody has been talking too much, again. And on the old favorite of law experts—lend-lease. One representative appeared before the House Foreign Affairs Committee and demanded an investigation of American Army officers overseas for spreading false stories about British reverse lend-lease. The stories, officially refuted, were that U.S. Air Forces are charged a landing fee for use of lend-lease-constructed bases in Scotland. Two members of the House committee said they'd heard stories of such fees from American officers in Europe.

**IN** St. Joseph, Mo., when radio comedian Jack Benny learned that only persons who have given blood to the Red Cross blood bank will be given tickets to his broadcast there, he went immediately to the Red Cross and donated a pint himself.

"If they can, I can," he said.

It's an ill wind, or a short gasoline shortage—for Ernest Porter, New York, who swiped three quarters of a hog in Knoxville, Tenn., nine months ago. Police had a warrant for his arrest, but in Knoxville they refused to make application for gasoline coupons to return the prisoner. So Porter is free. Detroiters, however, seem to have plenty of spare points. The Department of Street Railways has turned over to OPA 15,243 red ration tokens, and no meat and butter was involved. The tokens had been dropped into fare boxes in the course of a year.

**THE** saddest drinking story ever told: Thomas Farrell, of Buffalo, gave up the awful stuff five years ago, but he couldn't stop smoking. And now he's up on a drunk charge.

"You see, Judge," he said, "it was this way. You want a cigarette, so you go into a tavern. Whether you're on the wagon or not you've got to buy a couple of drinks before even approaching a bartender on the subject of smokes."

Farrell was turned down in several taverns, and still no cigarettes, but too many drinks. Sentence was suspended—but now he's got to quit smoking, too.

Told by Dick Powell, Hollywood: "If Mr. Roosevelt still is kissing babies he kissed during his first campaign, his work should be getting interesting..."

## But If a Possum Bites a Dog . . .

**IN** Chicago a police dog, Mickie, owned by Theodore Centner, of Neenah Ave., heard a noise outside his kennel. He investigated and retired, bitten on the nose by a trespassing possum. Centner called the cops, who arrived with guns and lassoes, captured the dog biter and restored peace to Neenah Ave.

**M**UST be something in the ozone of Walla Walla, Wash. Dr. Franz Polgar, mindreader, gave a brilliant display of memory work before the Chamber of Commerce there.

The party over, he couldn't remember where he left his hat.

## Vet Loan Has (Red) Points

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (ANS).**—The first veteran to get a business loan under the GI Bill of Rights is an optimist. He's going into the meat business.

The Veterans Administration announced today that what it believes to be the first loan for the purpose of starting a business has been made to Jack Charles Breeden, of Calls Church, Va. The loan of \$3,000 was made by the Hamilton National Bank of Washington, D.C., with 50 percent guaranteed by the Government.

Breeden is going to use his loan to buy a refrigerator truck. He plans to sell and deliver meat to retail butchers.

## Shades of Pompeii—Pompey, N.Y., Digs Self Out



Pompey, a village in Onondaga County, N.Y., almost found itself in the position of ancient Pompeii—except that the up-state village had to contend with snow instead of lava. Here's U.S. Highway 20, looking east into little Pompey, which has almost finished its job of cutting through big snowdrifts.

## Officer Admits Burying Wife In Foxhole; Murder Charged

**COLUMBIA, S.C., Feb. 16 (ANS).**—A woman whose identity was kept secret by police was questioned today in the foxhole murder of Mrs. Mary Lee Epes, 26. The husband of the dead woman, Lt. S. C. Epes, 29, son of a Richmond, Va., industrialist, is charged with the murder.

## U.S. OKs Probe Of Pair Here

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP).**—Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau told a press conference here that the U.S. has approved a French government investigation of a "very famous American couple in France" suspected of Nazi collaboration. He declined to name the couple.

The French asked, he said, whether the American government would object to the investigation. He said he replied that the U.S. would not protest. "In fact, we would give our assistance."

## Midwest Shivering In New Cold Spell

**NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (ANS).**—A blizzard in Minnesota and South Dakota, accompanied by a new cold wave, is moving southeastward through the mid-west. Four inches of snow in northern South Dakota and nearly one foot in the Fergus Falls, Minn., area blocked roads and forced some schools to close.

The snowfall extended across northern Wisconsin into upper Michigan. The cold wave, spreading from Montana and eastern Wyoming, plunged the mercury to around five below in North Dakota and Montana. Below-zero readings were expected in northern Illinois and Wisconsin.

## Wife to Continue Fight For GI in Drill Case

**VANCOUVER, B. C., Feb. 16 (ANS).**—The wife of Pvt. Henry Weber, sentenced to five years' imprisonment for refusing to drill, said today she would continue her fight to have her husband classified as a conscientious objector.

Weber, a soldier at Camp Roberts, Calif., was originally sentenced to death by an Army court martial, which later reduced the penalty to life imprisonment. The War Department then further reduced the sentence to five years.

## Vets to Get Extra Gasoline

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP).**—The OPA will issue special gasoline rations to returning war veterans and displaced civilian workers seeking re-employment. These rations will be authorized in cases where automobile travel is necessary for job interviews.

## The Hollywood Touch

**HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 16 (ANS).**—A new series of motion picture films showing how servicemen relax in intervals between battles is to be released monthly by the Warner Bros. studio.

## 'Red' Skelton to Wed

**RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 16 (ANS).**—Pvt. Richard "Red" Skelton, radio-movie comedian, said he and Miss Georgia Davis, of Kalispell, Mont., will be married soon—"if I don't get shipped abroad first."

## Majority of Army's Manpower Overseas, Senate Group Told

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (ANS).**—Five-eighths of the Army's manpower is overseas, Maj. Gen. Thomas T. Handy, assistant chief of staff, told the Senate Military Affairs Committee yesterday at a closed hearing on work-or-jail legislation.

Meanwhile, Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey informed Congress that 354,202 Federal workers hold draft deferments. Of these, 265,909 are qualified for military service but are deferred because of essential jobs.

Handy gave a break-down of Army personnel allocation when asked by the committee whether the Army was making the best use of servicemen and women. Five percent of the soldiers in the U.S. are in hospitals or in the process of being hospitalized, Handy said.

Ten percent of the Army, including WACs, is on special limited duty. Handy pointed out that the Army's "liberal furlough policy" before a man ships overseas and after he returns might give a false impression of soldiers without apparent duties. Half of the troops in the U.S. are taking care of supplies and reserves.

## Truman Leads Move to Bare Crimea Details

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (ANS).**—Vice-President Harry S. Truman took the lead today in a move to invite President Roosevelt to tell Congress all he can—without revealing military secrets—about the Big Three's agreements at Yalta in Crimea.

The Vice-President has told presidential advisers he believes that Mr. Roosevelt could make a "ten strike" by personally appearing before the legislators for a frank discussion of foreign affairs such as Prime Minister Churchill often gives the House of Commons.

The idea, given some support earlier in the week by War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes, won immediate bipartisan approval in the Senate.

## Still Some Complaints

Truman's chief interest lies in quieting complaints still heard in some Senate quarters, despite the voluminous report on the Crimean Conference, that Congressmen do not know enough about what is going on behind the diplomatic scenes.

The Administration had moved earlier to give members of both parties a look behind the curtain, with Chairman Tom Connally (D-Texas) leading the bipartisan delegation of foreign relations committee members to the White House before the Big Three meeting.

Sen. Arthur Vandenberg (R-Mich.), named by the President as a delegate to the United Nations Conference in San Francisco on April 25, was one of these, but he has the Administration worried now by his refusal to say whether he intends to accept the delegate seat. Democratic betting is at odds of ten to one that he will.

## N.Y. Superfort Crash Kills 5

**NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (ANS).**—Five crew members were killed when a Superfortress crashed into Flushing Bay yesterday after overshooting LaGuardia Field. Five crew members were rescued.

The giant bomber was en route to Florida from Mitchell Field, Long Island, about 15 air miles from LaGuardia Field. It broke in two after hitting the water and burst into flames.

Witnesses said the bomber's left outboard motor had stopped when the landing was attempted. The pilot nosed the bomber up to circle the field but the left wing dipped and struck the water.

Maj. Billy Southworth, son of William H. Southworth, Cardinal manager, was identified as one of the five men killed. The ATC said the former ETO airman was pilot of the bomber.

## 8 Marine Fliers Killed In Maneuver Crashes

**SAN DIEGO, Calif., Feb. 16 (Reuter).**—Eight Marine Corps fliers were killed when six planes crashed in maneuvers off Southern California. Three of the aircraft crashed into the sea, two on an island and one on the mainland. Radio guided 11 others through bad weather to safety.

## An Eye for Detail—'Gigs' Store Dummy

**ATLANTA, Feb. 16 (ANS).**—A department store window display caught the eye of Marine Capt. Jack Crown, of Decatur. Entering the store he sought out Anna Patterson, public relations officer for the firm.

"Ma'am," said the captain, "the Marine in your show window is wearing black shoes and a black tie."

A window dresser was called to fix the dummy so it would pass inspection.

## Ordnance Corps

## Vast Salvage Program Saves Army Billions

Soldier-technicians of the Ordnance Corps are helping to solve a gigantic supply problem in the ETO by reclaiming billions of dollars worth of items damaged in battle.

Maj. Gen. H. B. Saylor, ETO Chief Ordnance Officer, estimates that although more than half a billion dollars' worth of ordnance equipment has been lost since D-Day, materials worth 12 times that amount have been reclaimed and returned to service.

This work has been done by 25,000 ordnance troops who operate Com. Z. depots and by other Army Ordnance troops who roam the combat areas in their mobile repair trucks.

## A Flood of Equipment

Meanwhile, supply troops have moved more ordnance equipment to Europe since D-Day than the vast amount which had been accumulated in England over a two-year period preceding the invasion.

Ordnance losses in the ETO since last June are estimated at 6,205 combat vehicles, 24,250 general purpose vehicles, 166,885 rifles and other small arms, 23,871 mortars and machine-guns, and 75,245 binoculars, watches and compasses.

Dollar value of these battle losses ranges from \$600,000 for watches to approximately \$200,000,000 for combat vehicles.

## 328th Harborcraft Co.

## Seagoing Soldier Saves GI from Channel Waters

WITH 328TH HARBORCRAFT CO.—An unidentified soldier who was swept off a sea-going tug into rough Channel waters owes his life to Cpl. Matthew J. Jones, of Minneapolis.

Jones, one of the seafaring soldiers who man the tugs and patrol boats of the 328th Harborcraft Co. at a supply port on the French coast, was sailing outside the harbor recently when he saw a huge wave sweep a man overboard from a following tug.

The soldier began to flounder. Jones dived, reached the soldier and held him above water with the aid of a lifebuoy until they were pulled to the tug's side.

## 30th Inf. Div.

## Fishing for Minnow, Sergeant Catches Whale

WITH 30TH INF. DIV.—In his search for a new CP, S/Sgt. William Stevenson, of Biggsville, Ill., found one equipped with maps, radio, a battalion log, an adjutant and nine staff members, all German.

Stevenson, of the First Bn., 117th Inf., with others of a reconnoitering party in the Siegfried Line, entered a bunker and found the Nazis ready to surrender. Cut off for three days without food, they had planned to try to make a break for their own lines that night.

## Chilled Three Jerries



S/Sgt. Frank V. Ball, of Eureka, Kan., who killed three Germans while he was with an infantry unit cut off by the enemy in the Belmont sector. One of his victims was setting up a gun 20 yards away.

## An Approved Manner of Putting It on the Cuff



Photo shows a collection of 67 chevrons, overseas stripes, hash marks and service ribbons among three Ninth AF GI's. M/Sgt. Lawrence W. Chlosta, left, is entitled to another hash mark and three service bars but doesn't have room for them. Chlosta is 55-years-old and was recently returned to the States. In center is T/Sgt. Freeman C. Scatlin, 27, and M/Sgt. Johnnie S. Simpson, 44. They're with a mobile repair and reclamation unit.

## First TAF GP.

## Front Line Leaves Air Vets A Bewildered, Kidded Crew

WITH FIRST TAF GP., France.—Six Air Force men from a B26 Marauder Group—three pilots and three bombardiers, all veterans of more than 60 combat missions—were front-line guests of a Seventh Army infantry outfit recently.

All night men of the outfit lay in icy foxholes waiting for a German attack. Patrols went out and returned with no word. Artillery was alerted, but held its fire.

By 10 AM, with no German blow yet launched, the Yank outfit in-

itiated its own attack. Mortar and heavy artillery lay down their barrage. The Nazis were caught in the open and cut to pieces by artillery, machine-gun fire and tank blasts.

## It's New to Them

To the men of the infantry and the artillery it was but another morning on the Seventh Army front. To the six guests it was as new as today's news.

"I never got the sense of what was going on, as I do during a bombing mission," said stocky, dark-haired T/Sgt. Peter Chelucci, a bombardier from Oakland, Calif. "My pilot, Lt. Lazo, and I spent our time with the artillery, and all I ever knew was that a barrage was to be laid down at a certain time. When we're flying, the whole pattern is spread out in front of us."

1/Lt. Thaddeus Bednarz, twenty-four-year-old tow-headed pilot from Mechanicsville, Conn., and T/Sgt. Donald Stone, of Portland, Ore., were standing behind a building when they heard a whining sound and a sudden thud.

## Reaction: They Ran

"One of the infantrymen yelled that a Jerry sniper was working on us," Stone remarked. "Even then we didn't hit the dirt. We just ran like hell for shelter."

"It's not a case of 'you praise us and we'll praise you,'" asserted 1/Lt. John J. Klug, of Wheeling, W.Va. "If one of them asked us how we liked sleeping in foxholes or on floors after cots and winterized tents, another would chip in with: 'Who cares what they do on the ground; they look awfully good when they fly over.'"

T/Sgt. Elmer Vicha, of Berwyn, Ill., reported: "A lot of them kidded us about living a softer life than they did, and we made no attempt to deny it. As a matter of fact, one of my tentmates hung out two service stars when we left for the front. But we got in our share of kidding when we invited them to join us and fly some missions."

## 3110th Sig. Serv. Bn.

## Unit Awarded Plaque For Meritorious Service

The 3110th Signal Serv. Bn. has been awarded the Meritorious Service Plaque for its performance in installing and maintaining communications in the Plymouth and Southern Base sections before and during the invasion.

## 35th Inf. Div.

## Tips on Outwitting Nazis

Sgt. Norm La Roche, 35th Div. infantryman from West Warwick, R.I., passes this trick on to other GIs in similar circumstances: On a patrol one night he was challenged by a German sentry. The quick-thinking Yank repeated the enemy sign, confusing the Nazi long enough to get in the first shot.

Another trick La Roche recommends: "When halting somebody in the dark, let him walk a few paces past your position. When he turns to look for you, he gets off balance, and you have the advantage."

## 102nd Inf. Div.

## Draft in His Pants—Reason: Bullet Holes

WITH 102ND INF. DIV.—It was bitter cold the night 1/Lt. Robert L. Lamb and five other members of the 102nd Cav. Recon. Troop were searching for an enemy patrol in Germany. The Nazis helped him to raise a sweat.

The enemy opened fire. The recon troop hit the dirt, fought off the Germans and started back.

Investigating the source of a draft on his legs by the light of a lamp at the CP, Lamb discovered a pair of bullet holes in each leg of his trousers—and in his underdrawers as well.

## 5th Inf. Div.

## Squad Returns To Ignite TNT

WITH FIFTH INF. DIV., France.—It took two trips through mortar, artillery and small-arms fire, but 1/Lt. William L. Rivers, of Baton Rouge, La., and a five-man demolition squad blew up the bridge.

River's squad crawled to their Seille River objective with 300 pounds of dynamite. It was dark. Jerry infantry was about 100 yards away and enemy mortar and artillery pieces were active.

The squad set the charge and withdrew.

The detonator didn't work—so the men went back, this time under more intense fire from infantry at closer range. They ignited the fuse with hand igniters.

The bridge went up.

Members of the squad were: Sgt. Robert K. Ward, of Scottsburg, Ind.; T/5 Richard C. Conradson, of Detroit; Pfc Paul Callihan, of Johnstown, Pa.; Pvt. Richard C. Loon, of Noymouth, Me.; and Pvt. Frank Kvintus, of Newark, O.

## 99th Inf. Div.

## Pfc Busted—But by an 88

WITH 99TH INF. DIV.—It's tough enough when you have to take a "bust" in rank, but when it's done by Hitler, that's just heaping insult on injury.

Pfc John Poludniak, of Martins Ferry, Ohio, had this happen to him in startling fashion. While driving on a mission in his jeep, he was suddenly warned to hit the dust by a familiar whistle.

This he did—fast—and a Heine 88 tore in uncomfortably close to his position. Although uninjured, Poludniak was amazed and disconcerted to find that the shell concussion had reached inside the sleeves of his jacket and ripped off his chevrons.

## 9th AF Bomber Command

## Crew Chiefs Honored For Keeping 'Em Flying

A NINTH AF BOMBER BASE.—A former grocery clerk, an employee of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a fellow who used to tinker with jalopies recently were awarded Bronze Stars for their work in maintaining B26s. Working as crew chiefs, their Marauders each participated in more than 150 missions without mechanical failure.

The three men are T/Sgts. Alfred W. Ludwig, of Trenton, N.J., with 157 missions; John L. Lyons, of Syracuse, N.Y., with 157, and Walter Henderson, of Owings, S.C., with 150.

## 9th AFSC QM

## Two Truck Companies Awarded Merit Plaque

A NINTH AF SERVICE COMMAND GP.—The Meritorious Service Plaque has been awarded the 1923rd and 2062nd Cos. of a Ninth AF Service Command QM Truck Co. commanded by Col. Marvin Charlton, of Del Rio, Texas.

The companies operated under enemy fire and maintained operational efficiency, despite adverse weather and traffic conditions, in hauling supplies to advanced Ninth AF bases.

## Transportation Corps

## 10 Transport Non-Coms Get Commissions

Commissions as second lieutenants recently were given ten EMS of the Office of the Chief of Transportation.

Maj. Gen. Frank S. Ross, their commander, in congratulating the men, said they were being rewarded "for meritorious service in connection with the military operations with the TC before and after the invasion."

The men are: T/Sgt. Larry J. Aubrecht, Cleveland; M/Sgt. Edward S. Bankert, Haverhill, Mass.; T/Sgt. Peter V. Decker, Philadelphia; M/Sgt. F. DeFilippi, Pittsburgh; 1/Sgt. Arthur E. Johnson, South Minneapolis, Minn.; T/Sgt. James H. Morgan, Baltimore; M/Sgt. Henry H. Ott, New York, N.J.; M/Sgt. Joseph W. Ratigan, Bordentown, N.J.; M/Sgt. Horace W. Smith, New York; and M/Sgt. R. H. Tust, Ironwood, Mich.

## Silver Star

SCHULZ, LT. COL. ROBERT H., of Bettendorf, Iowa, for strategy in stopping Nazi tank attack (90th Inf. Div.).

UPHAM, LT. COL. JOHN S., Jr., of Van Nuys, Calif., and 30th Inf. Div., Guided tanks across fire-swept beach on D-Day.

WHITLEY, CAPT. ARTHUR N., of Springfield, Pa., and First U.S. Army.

## OAK LEAF CLUSTER

KEENAN, LT. JOHN V., of Mars Hill, Me., (25th Cav. Rec. Tr.), the oak leaf cluster to the Silver Star for securing the first bridgehead across the Saar River on Nov. 23.

KIBLER, T/5 CLARENCE E., of Topeka, Kan., (10th Arm. Inf. Bn., Fourth Arm. Div.), for obtaining valuable information for his unit under heavy gun fire.

STEELE, T/SGT. HOYETT R., of Emmett, Ark., (90th Inf. Div.), for destroying two tanks, an armored half-track and two motorcycles with a bazooka.

WHEATLEY, PFC WILLIAM A., of Hardinsburg, Ky., (57th Ammo Co.), for driving a truck into zone of fire to rescue wounded soldiers.

ROGERS, CPL. LEO M., of San Francisco, jumped out of tank and destroyed machine-gun nest with grenades. (94th Inf. Div.)

## Service Cross

HUSTED, 1/LT. ROBERT P., of Plainville, Kan., and WARE, 1/LT. FRANCIS L., of New Orleans, (Fourth Inf. Div.).

OGINSKI, T/SGT. MICHAEL J., of Apollo, Pa., and SCHEPPS, LT. COL. ALVIN L., of Houston, Texas. (90th Inf. Div.)

TAPLINGER, 1/LT. ANGEL G., of Washington, D.C. (XII Corps).

TUTTLE, LT. COL. PAUL V., of San Antonio, for leadership of battalion through mined area and against artillery. (Second Inf. Div.)

WARD, PVT. FRANK M., of Lexington, Mass. Stopped counter-attack by throwing grenades at two gun emplacements. (Second Inf. Div.)

WILSON, PFC SIMON, of Carthage, Miss. (8th Inf. Div.)

## 26th Inf. Div.

## Survives Blast, Kayoes Pillbox

WITH 26TH INF. DIV., Luxembourg.—The only uninjured man left in his mortar crew after a German mortar landed on their position, S/Sgt. Alden B. Bull, of Worcester, Mass., scored a bull's eye on a pillbox which had been holding up the Yanks for several hours.

Bull, the squad leader, acted as both gunner and observer and continued to fire until all his ammunition was gone. Enemy action had disrupted telephone communications. Unable to call in for more rounds, he went to the ammo dump himself, as mortar and artillery fire burst around him, and returned with a heavy load.

He continued to lob shells on the pillbox, finally silencing the enemy position by a direct hit.

Sgt. Bull received a Silver Star for the action.

## Com Z

## S &amp; S Loses Topkick To Infantry Depot

Not every unit has the privilege of kissing its first sergeant off to the firing lines, nor is it every first sergeant who will allow this to happen. But one such unit is The Stars and Stripes, and T/3 George P. Petrakis is one such first sergeant. Petrakis, acting first sergeant, is one of the Com Z men to switch to the infantry.

Petrakis was overseas 37 months, a member of The Stars and Stripes from its early days in England.

# Marshmen Gain in Burma Objective After 'Most Strenuous' Jungle Trek

## Yanks Capture Two Villages After Many Days of Driving Over Treacherous Terrain

CALCUTTA, Feb. 16 (ANS).—The American Mars Task Force, which inherited the mantle of Merrill's Marauders, has hit the Japanese again after slipping through mountainous jungles in the most strenuous trek of the war in Burma.

The Marshmen stormed and captured two villages west of the Burma road about 30 miles south of the Stilwell Road and 70 miles north of the enemy base at Lashio.

There was only about a mile between the Americans and a Chinese force. Japanese in the village of Han Sak were caught between the two Allied columns.

The Mars force is made up of the 475th Inf. Reg., parts of which saw action in the siege of Myitkyina, and the 124th Cav., fighting now as dismounted infantry. The 475th includes many of the original Merrill's Marauders.

### Followed Mountains Trails

To start its jungle push, the 475th moved from Tonkwa to Mongwi, some 45 miles away, through heavy rains and over mountains 4,000 feet high. The troops followed mountain trails so tortuous that on one stretch their columns crossed the same creek 62 times.

At Mongwi, the 475th effected a juncture with the 124th and final plans were laid for the Burma road assault.

In the final phase of the approach to the Burma road the Marshmen made a 24-hour forced march. At one point following phosphorescent cloth markers and linking hands along treacherous bogs, creeks and precipices.

The task force travelled over 16 miles of the most rugged terrain in 35 hours, with only two hours' rest, and reached positions Jan. 17.

### Began Battle Without Food

The fight for the Burma road positions got under way on Jan. 19. The Marshmen went into battle without eating, the terrain making it impossible for planes to drop food.

Fighting until Feb. 7, the task force killed more than 600 Japanese and seriously impeded the enemy withdrawal to Lashio.

"The Mars Task Force has covered the most hazardous terrain in Burma ever traversed by an American unit," said Brig. Gen. John P. Wiley, who commanded the force.

The Road Is a River



The Mars Task Force heads south toward Bhamo, in Burma, and sometimes the road is a jungle, sometimes a mountain or sometimes a river, like this. With pack horses and mules, the famed force slogs along.

## Allied Planes Force Hike to Battle

Continuous Allied bombing of railheads and detrainment points for enemy forces on the Western Front has forced the Nazis to take their troops off trains 35 to 45 miles behind their most forward railheads. This means that Germans being shifted to the central sector, or incoming reinforcements, have to hike the distance, unless they ride bicycles or find transportation in horse-drawn carts.

The withdrawal of enemy detrainment points to the Rhine was disclosed in a study of captured data, which showed that since Dec. 20, it has not been possible for the Germans to unload troop trains south or west of Zulpich, Euskirchen, Mayen and Coblenz.

### 17 Days from Central Reich

German rail communications have been hammered to the point that a two-day rail journey from central Germany recently took 17 days.

Trains move at night and are camouflaged by day as troops take to the woods. One prisoner reported that the train he was on was camouflaged by tree branches, an idea he ridiculed on the basis that Allied pilots might be expected to wonder what trees were doing on a railroad line.

Another report described how one train backed into a tunnel to escape air attack and was hit by another train rushing in behind it.

### Traffic Suspended

Three days after Allied planes blasted Prum, wagons could still barely get through the town. The bombardment of Bitburg, on Dec. 26, forced the Germans to suspend traffic through the town until Jan. 4.

The pasting St. Vith took on Dec. 25 and 26 tore up the town to such an extent that the Germans declared it a dead city and routed traffic around it. They didn't have enough manpower to remove debris. They had no mechanical equipment for the job. And even if they had had the equipment, they couldn't get the necessary gas.

### Milk for Hospital Ships

Army hospital ships are to be supplied with sufficient frozen grade A fresh, pasteurized, homogenized whole milk to give each patient a quart a day.

## Yanks Occupy Holland Caves Once Used by Caesar's Legions

By Bob Eunson

Associated Press Correspondent

WITH U.S. NINTH ARMY, Feb. 16.—A section of caves Caesar's army used to cache supplies near Valkenburg, Holland, has been occupied for the same purpose by American doughboys from the 102nd Div.

The rear echelon of the Ozark Div. had its barracks and store houses in a limestone cave which the Germans had equipped for a rocket bomb factory. It connects with a long passageway that Roman soldiers lived in from 50 B.C. to 400 A.D.

The 406th Regt. first took possession of the cave last November, but 1/Lt. Louis F. Danforth, of New York, said the place is large enough to store supplies for 15 divisions. Its tunnels are 67 miles long.

Danforth and 1/Lt. John P. Brown, of Independence, Mo., are in charge of all personal effects and

equipment the doughboys could not take with them to the front lines in Germany.

Pvt. Harry Schwarz, of New York, said the Germans remodeled the cave with slave labor brought in from Northern Holland and Belgium. Pfc Herbert Greenberg, of New York, pointed out a portion the Germans had equipped for use as a factory.

A lavish air conditioning system had been installed by the Germans as well as plumbing and fluorescent lighting throughout.

Greenberg and two buddies, T/3 Louis F. Gacella, of Buffalo, N.Y., and Pfc Ernie Rambo, of International Falls, Minn., have converted the lighting and plumbing equipment into use for the Americans; although the air conditioning is not needed for warehouse purposes.

A map of the extensive systems of tunnels has been made by Pfc Edward Lafond, of Lowell, Mass.

## 'Virtually Impossible' Is Achieved

### AA Men Snuff Nazi Jet

By Howard Byrne  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 75th INF. DIV., Feb. 16.—A German ME 262, the jet-propelled plane which AA men claim is almost impossible to hit because of its terrific speed, was recently shot down on the Seventh Army front by men of an anti-aircraft battalion attached to the 75th Div.

Sgt. Joseph Mohargen, of Denver, section leader of the gun crew which made the astonishing hit, said the jet plane was one of a group of four sighted at 5,000 feet during the afternoon.

Manning a 40mm. Bofors gun, the crew opened up on the planes and had them in their sights for eight seconds.

Members of the gun crew were Pfc Rudolph Salata, of Valdez, Colo., Pfc Joe Lee, of Refugio, Tex., Cpl. Louis Gurrero, of Beaumont, Tex., and Pfc George Anthony, of Compton, Calif.

## Flaming TDs Sear Memory Of Town in Yanks' Minds

By Allan Morrison  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH U.S. FORCES IN ALSACE, Feb. 16.—There are at least three men of a Negro tank destroyer battalion who will remember the little Alsatian town of Sessenheim as the scene of their most searing war experience. They are 1/Lt. Richard E. Kress, of Pittsburgh; Sgt. Eulis Tyre, of Eldridge, Ala., and Sgt. Edward H. Wallace, of Louisville, Ky.

## New Treasures Found at Front

Two new caches, containing valuable jewelry and works of art, have been discovered on the Ninth Army front, according to Maj. Shatton O. Hammon, Fine Arts, Monuments and Archives officer at SHAEP.

A shell landing in the basement of a house in Geilenkirchen smashed open a walled-in enclosure and revealed a number of paintings and sculptures. Included were a 15th-century terra cotta sculpture of the Madonna and Child and a painting of a family group by Van Thulin, dated 1652. The art treasure was reported by a British combat unit to Lt. George L. Stout, Ninth Army Fine Arts officer.

Enlisted personnel inside Rimburg Castle, an ancient showplace, found the jewelry in a wall compartment hidden by a movable bookcase. Maj. James D. Clemens, Civil Affairs officer at Merksteim, directed removal of the valuables, including a diamond and pearl tiara, many solid silver dishes and utensils, carved ivory, stamp and coin collections and other objects.

## DSC to Ace, Now PW, Who Diverted AA Fire

A Ninth Air Force fighter ace who dove into a hail of flak to attack enemy batteries and divert their fire from the rest of his squadron has been awarded the DSC.

Now a prisoner, after bailing out of his riddled Thunderbolt, Maj. Frank G. O'Connor, of San Francisco, already had 12 planes to his credit when he led his squadron on a mission Nov. 5. The squadron destroyed 28 planes on the ground and damaged 16 others at an airfield west of Mannheim.



## One Bullet, Two Jerries

A Columbia, S.C., GI who gets a bang out of his work is Pfc Ernest M. Walker, machine-gunner from Co. M, 13th Regt., Eighth Inf. Div. Walker was guarding the flank of a hill when he saw two Germans moving up to an unoccupied pillbox about 400 yards away.

Picking up an M1, he aimed at the leading Jerry and fired just as he was about to enter the pillbox. The Nazi blew up in an explosion which killed the other German. Walker's bullet had made a direct hit on explosives the men were carrying.

\* \* \*

## Over the Phone Swished an 88

A telephoned "close-up" of an incoming 88 shell was accorded Capt. John S. Nelson, of Belvedere, Ill., at his 87th Inf. Div. Sig. Co. office the other day.

T/5 Monte P. Perkins, of Dayton, Ohio, called in from the field: "Hello, Captain."

"I'm up on a pole and I tapped into this wire because I thought you might like to hear some artillery."

The next sound was the shriek of an enemy shell. Perkins' voice followed, a little nervously. "Goodbye Captain. That was an 88!"



## No Rest for the Weary

When two MPs were sent to a rest camp they were put in the same room with a 104th Inf. doughboy. The dough watched the two MPs suspiciously for an hour. Finally he couldn't stand it any longer.

He rushed to the camp's office, exclaiming that he'd done nothing wrong, and didn't need a guard.

It took a quarter of an hour to convince the dough that the MPs were back for a rest, too.

\* \* \*

## Maybe 13 Is His Lucky Number

STAFF SGT. William G. Humphrey, of Newbern, N.C., a B26 radio-gunner with the 344th Bombardment Gp., walked out to his plane in a jubilant mood. He had attended 12 briefings, but this was the first time he had been able to go out on a mission.

When the plane was only 100 feet in the air, it suddenly developed the shakes and the pilot brought it down for a belly landing. Several minutes after the crew had escaped the flames, the 4,000-pound bomb-load exploded, knocking windows out of buildings more than a mile away.

Humphrey's score now is 12 briefings, one abortive mission, one crackup and no completed missions.

\* \* \*

## Tit for Tat

Capt. Allan B. Gillis, CO of Co. B, 308th Engrs, was supervising a mine-sweeping detail when his jeep hit a mine and sailed through the air into a ditch.

When he turned in his report that night, the 83rd Inf. Div. officer wrote: "Jeep removed one mine, and vice versa."

## Typical American Girl



Smiling T/4 Delin Rudd, of Fargo, N. Dakota, was featured on the cover of the French magazine, *Nuit et Jour*, as a "typical American girl." She is logger and dispatcher of classified documents in the AG Mail and Message Branch of Hq, ETO.

# Once Over Lightly

By Gene Graff

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 16.—Bernie Bierman, whose Minnesota football teams were loaded with TNT before the war, currently is worrying about only one "T." Long an advocate of power tactics, the old master is incorporating a flashy T-formation in plans for the 1945 campaign, which he hopes will return the Golden Gophers to national prominence.



Col. McCormick

Looking no worse after three years in the Marines, he was a lieutenant colonel when released from active duty last October. Bernie is back at his familiar stand of teaching football. Although he refuses to predict a brilliant season for his manpower-riddled school, there is no apparent lack of talented huskies on this campus.

WHEN BERNIE issued his first call for candidates a couple of weeks ago, 40 hopefuls answered. The desire to play under Bierman's wing apparently spread in rapid fashion, because now there are 60 youngsters working out daily in the Gopher field house. The squad lacks experience and triple-threaters, usually connected with Bierman, but other coaches gladly welcome 60 students to practice even if 45 never have seen cleated shoes.

"Providing the war doesn't last too long, I look for a real upswing in the caliber of college football," the veteran coach said. "Considering the number of 17 and 18 year-olds on the squads, I think colleges have done a remarkable job in the last three years. But after the war we'll have a normal flow of high school players alike."

WHY IS BIERMAN adopting a T-formation after all these years? "The T-formation, alternated with a single wing and some short punt formations, appears to be so well established as the most effective offensive, I've decided to give it a whirl," he explained.

Bernie doesn't believe any team will be able to cope with the Army and Navy this year. What's more, he condones West Point and Annapolis "proselyting" as it affords potential officer material the opportunity to get an education otherwise unobtainable. "There is no reason to discourage the practice of luring athletes to the military academies during the war," he declared. "Boys might as well be trained for commissions as be drafted in due course. The fact they happen to play football, or some other game, shouldn't penalize them in the public eyes."



Bernie Bierman

Bernie expressed keen interest in the activities of Col. Frank McCormick, former Minnesota athletic director, now supervising the Army athletic program on the Continent, from Paris.

"There is no doubt soldiers want sports and I'm glad to know they've got a capable man like Frank there to conduct the activity," he said. "Experienced sportsmen can do a lot to stimulate competitive interest among servicemen."

## The Hat Trick Boy Snafus Hawks' Bid for Victory



Ted Kennedy, Toronto Maple Leaf wingman, though seemingly cut off by Wilfie Field, of the Chicago Black Hawks, stole the puck on this play and went on to score his third goal as the Leafs defeated the Hawks, 4-3, in a recent National Hockey League game at Chicago.

### Czar Isn't Needed For Cage—Bushnell

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Feb. 16.—There's no need for a collegiate basketball czar to check the evils of gambling, according to Asa Bushnell, chairman of the Eastern Athletic Association.

Brooklyn College's bribery scandal has given basketball "a black eye, but not a broken leg," said Bushnell. "And there is no need for a complete change in the setup or supervision of the game."

### Chile's Act of War Disturbs Al Weill

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—It is reliably reported that the Fight Managers' Guild will file a formal protest with the Chilean government on behalf of Al "The West" Weill, member in good standing. After sending 15 of his gladiators off to the wars, Weill reached down to Chile for Arturo Godoy, heavyweight fighter, whom he planned to exhibit throughout the United States.

Godoy is a lieutenant in the Chilean Army.

### CAGE RESULTS

- Alabama 60, Georgia 59.
- Bethany 63, Farragut 53.
- Geneva 38, Coast Guard Academy 37.
- Heidelberg 48, Wittenburg 39.
- Indiana Techs. 49, Murray Techs. 42.
- Muskingum 49, Ashland 42.
- Norfolk (Neb.) 46, Nebr. Wesleyan 27.
- Okl. Aggies 41, Norman Navy 29.
- Otterbein 54, Capital 37.
- Rider 60, Providence 50.
- Texas Tech. 49, Texas Mines 32.
- Toledo 44, Camp Perry 19.
- Warburg 71, Penn (Iowa) 49.

### Dodgers Release Sunkel

BROOKLYN, Feb. 16.—The Brooklyn Dodgers yesterday released Tom Sunkel, southpaw pitcher, outright to the St. Paul club of the American Association. Sunkel played in 12 games with the Dodgers in 1944.

## The Question Box

Pvt. William F. Gilligan, Jr.—List of heavyweight champions from John L. Sullivan to the present title-holder: John L. Sullivan, James J. Corbett, Bob Fitzsimmons, James J. Jeffries, Marvin Hart, Tommy Burns, Jack Johnson, Al Palzer, Gunboat Smith, George Smith, Georges Carpentier, Jess Willard, Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunney, Max Schmeling, Jack Sharkey, Primo Carnera, Max Baer, James J. Braddock, Joe Louis.

Pvt. Edward Kush.—A football center is eligible to receive a forward pass only when he's on either end of the line. The center can't be in the backfield and still hold the ball, unless he passes from the line, runs backward and takes the ball on a tricky spinner or lateral pass play.

Pfc Pete McGrath.—A runner can retrace his steps all the way back to first base provided he touches each bag in proper reverse order. A runner can advance on a fly ball to the outfield as soon as it touches the fielder's glove.

Cpl. John L. Davis.—James J. Corbett fought Joe Choynski four times, one which ended in no decision. In their other three bouts, Corbett met Choynski May 30, 1889, near Fairfax, 2oz. gloves were used and the police interfered after four rounds; June 5, 1889, fought on a barge near Benecia, Calif., 2oz. skin

gloves were used, Corbett scored a knockout in the 27th round. They met again July 15 in San Francisco and Corbett won in four rounds.

Pfc Gene Downing.—Defensively, here is how Marty Marion and Eddie Miller performed during the past five years as major league players (first figures are for Marion): games 699, 756; putouts 1,340, 1,718; assists 2,189, 2,509; errors, 143, 116; total chances 3,671, 4,343; double plays 431, 533; percentage .961, .973.

Pvt. John Klimack.—Al Singer kayoed Leonard Zezzarino in sixth round, Oct. 11, 1929. It was a non-title fight because Singer didn't win the lightweight crown until the following year, when he kayoed Sammy Mandell in the first round.

Pvt. Steven Quittman.—The world's record ski jump is 350 feet, made in 1939 by Joseph Bradi, of Austria, in Planica, Jugoslavia. He bettered his own mark of 331.375 feet, made in 1935. The American record is 289 feet, made by Torger Tokle, March, 1942, at Iron Mountain, Mich.

WO Donald Kass.—Minnesota vs. Nebraska football scores from 1935 to 1944, inclusive (Nebraska score first): 7-12, 0-7, 14-9, 7-16, 6-0, 7-13, 0-9, 2-15, 0-54, 0-39. No national listings issued until 1935. Nebraska ranked ninth in 1935, seventh in 1940.

## Rangers Escape NHL Cellar, Trimming Black Hawks, 6-2

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The Rangers averted a tumble into the National Hockey League cellar last night at Madison Square Garden as they defeated the Chicago Black Hawks, 6-2, in a game that was delayed two hours when the New York club failed to arrive in time from Detroit.

## Call LIU Team In Bribe Case

BROOKLYN, Feb. 16.—The Kings County District Attorney's office yesterday questioned Coach Red Wolfe, Captain Len Rothman, and nine other members of the Long Island University basketball team in connection with the gambling scandal which broke around the Brooklyn College team last month. Assistant District Attorney Charles N. Cohen, hastened to explain the questioning was just routine and no reflection on the LIU players, who were no way involved in the scandal.

Cohen refused to divulge the nature of the questioning, but said at the conclusion of the two-hour session that everyone was "very cooperative."

Players from other colleges in Brooklyn are scheduled for interrogation with St. John's coming up next.



Bob Dill

Bob Dill and Fred Hunt scored two goals apiece for the Patrickmen, Hunt's coming within 30 seconds of each other during the final two minutes of the game. Dill, Grant Warwick and Ott Heller tallied for the Rangers in the first period, and Dill got his second goal in the next session.

Peter Horeck and Joe Cooper netted Black Hawk goals in the first period. Don Grosso, recently bought from the Detroit Red Wings, was a Hawk casualty in the third period when he twisted his right knee. Preliminary examination indicated a torn cartilage, which might keep him idle the rest of the season.

### Hockey Standings

National League									
W	L	T	Pts	W	L	T	Pts		
Montreal	31	5	3	65	Boston	13	23	2	28
Detroit	24	11	4	52	New York	8	22	2	24
Toronto	19	17	2	40	Chicago	8	25	5	21

### American League

EASTERN DIV.					WESTERN DIV.									
W	L	T	Pts	W	L	T	Pts	W	L	T	Pts			
Buffalo	24	8	7	55	Cleveland	25	11	9	59	Ind'polis	20	17	11	51
Hershey	19	20	8	46	Pittsburgh	21	19	6	48	St. Louis	10	27	6	26
Providence	18	22	5	41										

### Ace Left in Deck



Mort Cooper

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 16.—Morton Cooper, veteran righthanded pitcher with the St. Louis Cardinals, has again been rejected for military service and is in 4F, following a physical examination at Jefferson Barracks.

Cooper didn't reveal the reason for his rejection and said he had not been informed whether the War Department would review his case, in accordance with its policy regarding well-known athletes.

Cooper will be 31 years old next month. He was previously rejected for high blood pressure.

## Frick Brands Recent Items On BB 'False'

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Ford Frick's office in Radio City, usually the scene of calm and quiet, echoed today with the National League president's vigorous denials that he planned to talk with War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes and other government officials about baseball's wartime status.

Newspaper carried the story that Frick and Will Harridge, American League boss, were seeking an appointment with government bigwigs before the opening date of the 1945 baseball season, and had their bags all packed for the trip to Washington whenever called. "As I have said many times, baseball never has asked for any favors and has no intention of doing so," Frick told newspapermen today. "There is absolutely no truth in those stories."

He admitted, however, that baseball officials might seek audience with officials of the government but "only when certain developments arise which aren't clear as to how they apply to us."

### Ridicules Split Story

While blasting away at his former colleagues of the press box, Frick took the occasion to ridicule another story which popped up during the last week.

"Never at any time did we discuss a plan of regrouping the major leagues on an eastern and western basis," he said. "And there has never been an indication that the government would ask us to do so." The papers throughout the nation carried stories from Washington early this week, attributing to a "high government source" the plan for eastern teams in the National League to play eastern teams in the American League and western clubs in both leagues to follow suit, to save travel next summer. ODT ridiculed the idea before the ink was dry on the papers.

Frick maintained discreet silence on the matter of a new baseball commissioner.

## Rap Committee's Delay in Picking New Baseball Czar

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Major league clubowners, who feel that definite action on the successor for the late Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis should be taken immediately, are getting a little impatient with the committee selected at the recent baseball meetings to sift through the list of candidates. Horace Stoneham, president of the Giants, and Branch Rickey, head man of the Dodgers, spoke up yesterday and wanted to know what, if anything, was cooking.

"What is the committee doing?", Stoneham asked. "Those four guys have been at it for ten days and it's about time they made up their minds."

Stoneham's reference was to Sam Breadon and Don Barnes, of the two St. Louis clubs; Alva Bradley, of Cleveland, and Phil Wrigley, of the Cubs.

Rickey, who never indulges in language quite that strong, gave out with some doubletalk which added up to "Time's awastin'."

## Covering GI Sports

Three teams are tied for second place, just half a game behind the leading Army team in the Hqs. Ninth AF Service Command Basketball League.

Army is paced by S/Sgt. Joe Risinger, of Hartford City, Ind. He has scored 272 points in 13 games.

Duke, Yale and Long Island are the deadlocked second-place outfits. Cpl. Robert Barroni, of Middletown, Conn., is the Yale captain; T/Sgt. Sam Howarth, of Brooklyn, leads the Duke team, and Col. N. R. Rogers, former pro from Cleveland, is the Long Island captain.

### The League Standings:

W	L	W	L		
Army	10	3	Texas	7	6
Duke	9	3	Pittsburgh	4	8
Yale	9	3	Dartmouth	4	8
Long Island	9	3	Slippery Rock	4	9
Ohio State	8	5	Cornell	2	9
Alabama	8	5	Boston	2	9
Navy	8	5	South. Calif.	1	9

Pfc Guido Tancredi, distance runner who once finished second to Glenn Cunningham, will represent the U.S. Army in the All-Star ten-kilometer cross-country run

through the Bois de Vincennes, Paris, tomorrow, at 3:45 P.M. Tancredi, 23-year-old MP, is from Old Forge, Pa.

SPECIAL SERVICE OF ASCZ has inaugurated an ambitious sports program for members of its command. The list includes badminton, pingpong, medicine ball, punching bag exercises, basketball, boxing and volley ball. The basketball league schedules four games nightly under the direction of Lt. Adrian M. Dodson, of Baton Rouge, La., and Cpl. William Gayo, of Baltimore, Md. A ring has been erected in the Post theater by Sgt. Lou Bodish, of Coplay, Pa.

The Howitzers, representing the 736th Field Artillery Bn., Btry. "A", who won last year's Fort Ord (Calif.) basketball tournament are still intact. The team is composed of Sgts. Herb Calpert, Providence College; Byron Crystal, Utah; Frank Taddeo; Cpls. Ned Lather, North Dakota, Arnold Billig, Brooklyn College, and Pfc. Ted Harrison, Providence. Tom Sorgio, and "Cupeake" Kaufman.



Maj. J. Jacobi observes: "The Germans are leaving the Oder and the Red Army has picked up the scent."

We point with pride to the purity of the white space between our jokes.

Don't be too hard on wolves, sez T/5 James Rieser. A wolf is a guy, after all.

Girl's voice in the blackout. "Just because I said I admired the Russians for their fast advances is no sign that I meant for you to start an offensive."

We know a certain signal corps major who is drifting around Paris these days with a red face and a sheepish grin. After sweating out tickets for weeks, he got them and invited a young woman to one of the hit plays. An usherette asked to see his ticket stubs—there was a brigadier general and guest standing by, claiming the same seats. The major soon discovered that he was in the right seat—but he had come to the play a week too soon.

When the suggestion box at an ARC club in France suddenly appeared, GIs wondered why. Now they know. Last suggestion



in the box was: "Please move the suggestion box. I bumped my head on it."

Who said that? It seems that women dislike each other principally because of men.

The following "personal item" appeared in a recent issue of The Saturday Review of Literature: "Young man, 24, healthy, 3 1/2 years' college, wants interesting position. Anything considered carefully. Willing to travel, work hard and take chances." After reading this ad, Maj. R. W. Andrews and Capt. I. J. Kenig commented—"Any draft board ought to be able to give the guy just what he's looking for."

And then there is the Signal Corps clerk who labels messages to WACs, "Communiquettes."

Today's simile (Thanks to Cpl Alvin Krieg): "As wonderful a guy as a non-smoker on ration day." J. C. W.

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

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

FOUND

PHOTOS—One is of seven children, inscribed "Hannah and Alice Meara, Bonnie, Joanne, Caroline, Mary Eliz and Marsha, Feb., 1944"—Cpl. F. Person.

APOs WANTED

Lt. Col. Earl S. Tromley, Maryland; Lt. Col. Ralph C. Tilly, San Francisco; Lt. Lynn Wienstock; Lt. Melburn Zuintona, Santa Ana, Calif.

PETER Farrell; Pvt. Jean Georgie, New York; Mildred B. George, Harrisburg, Pa.; Pvt. Louis Glassburn, Columbus, Ohio; Sgt. Ellis O. Harris, Owensboro, Ky.; Cpl. Floyd Hearn, Bessmen, Ala.; George Jovan, Baltimore; Sgt. Harold E. Kalb, Ill.; 1/Sgt. Carl Kulp, Burnet, Texas; Pvt. Frank Karsner, Frazee, Minn.; Cpl. Arthur Koretz, Camp Robinson, Ark.; Harold Liskin, Toronto; Ted La Rocca, Rochester, N.Y.; Pvt. Jack Levien, New York; Sgt. Norman Lowenstein, Amsterdam, N.Y.; Pvt. Don Lippencott, Dallas, Texas.

Lt. Harold Burton, New York; Lt. Robert R. Andrews, Waban, Mass.; Capt. Harry Bailey, Huntsville, Ala.; Capt. Carl Brewster, Spokane, Wash.; 1/Lt. G. d'Andelot Belin; Maj. Edward Bushhammer; Maj. George C. Clark; Lt. S. L. Harlan Clare, Sacramento, Calif.; 2/Lt. Betty Cook, Augusta, Ga.; Maj. Warren R. Crump, Richmond, Va.; K. V. Dunning, RCAP, J-25948; Lt. Col. Roll Dullmer; Lt. Jeanne M. Daris, N-73678; Lt. Bernice Kufka; Chaplain O'Mara; Lt. Col. John C. Ramsden, Dedham, Mass.; 1/Lt. Anna Grace Ranhan, Buchanan, Mich.; 1/Lt. Dan Riorden, Detroit, Mich.; 2/Lt. John Stapp, Tennessee; Lt. Hubert Salmonson, Aburndale, Mass.; Lt. Beverly Shaeffer, Ripon, Wis.; Lt. Robert Siegal; Capt. George Simmons, Texas; Capt. Anthony Watkins, O-1796386; 1/Lt. Fred J. Zansmer, Brooklyn, N.Y.

PVT. Robert Addams; S/Sgt. William Q. Adams, Newton, Texas; Stephan Andryezewski; Cpl. James W. Black; S/Sgt. Howard L. Bonowitz, Wooster, Ohio; Pvt. Ben J. Brougham; Pfc Russell J. Brennenstahl; Raymond L. Burrows; Pfc Harry R. Boehm; Robert Carlson; Donald B. Catrell, Chicago; Cpl. Helen Grimshaw Childress, Portland, Ore.; S/Sgt. Tige Champion, Panama City, Fla.; Danny Chachick, Ely, Minn.; Pvt. William Duncan; Helen Durinski, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Pvt. Leonard Ethridge, Franklin, Tenn.

Li'l Abner



By Courtesy of United Features

By Al Capp

Terry and The Pirates



By Courtesy of News Syndicate

By Milton Caniff

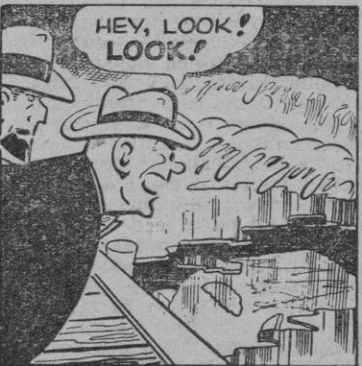
Abbie an' Slat



By Courtesy of United Features

By Raeburn Van Buren

Dick Tracy



By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate, Inc.

By Chester Gould

Malé Call



By Milton Caniff

Jane



By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett

## Reich Feeling Acute Shortage Of Oil Supplies

By Richard S. Lewis  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Allied air attacks on Germany's military and economic power to continue resistance reached the highest pitch since D-Day this week, but Luftwaffe opposition dropped sharply, it was disclosed yesterday.

At the same time, it was officially revealed that Allied air attacks combined with Russian advances have cut German gasoline production 80 per cent since April, when the air offensive to drain the oil out of the Reich was started.

Shortage of oil is more serious in the Reich today than at any time since the Battle of France, when the Germans had to draw on long-stored stocks. German oil supplies are so low that the shortage has become a primary factor in determining Nazi strategy and is apparently an important factor in the grounding of the Luftwaffe.

### Heaviest Aerial Blow

The 9,500 sorties flown from Tuesday to Wednesday night constituted the heaviest air blow struck at the Reich since D-Day. It was one of the greatest of the war.

Better weather and longer daylight are making renewed mass air attacks increasingly possible. Evidence is now accumulating that what remains of German economy is disintegrating with increasing rapidity as one of the principal power sources of the total German war effort—oil—is drained from the Reich.

Distribution of civilian goods has been seriously disrupted. Mail services have been considerably reduced. Movement of coal from the Ruhr has been cut. Silesian coal has been lost to the Russian advance.

## Ruhr Pounded...

(Continued from Page 1)

ing in the afternoon, the Ninth's planes continued their hammering of German lines of communications, making 27 attacks on railroad yards and disabling 97 locomotives, 698 railroad cars and destroying a bridge.

Approximately 1,300 medium and light bombers were out on the Ninth's missions. Heavy flak was encountered and five planes were lost.

On the Seventh Army front 412 fighters and fighter-bombers of the First TAC AF flew 41 missions yesterday to strike at tanks and guns in the German lines and at bridges and railroad installations behind the lines.

Losses for the heavies were not announced, but pilots said the missions were completed with little fighter opposition appearing, the German planes challenging only stragglers. Eighth AF losses for Feb. 14 and 15, the two days in which more 5,000 Allied heavy bombers smashed at eastern Germany, were today announced as 20 bombers and seven fighters.

## West Front...

(Continued from Page 1)

Scottish troops, fighting astride the Cleve-Calcar road, drove to within 4,000 yards of Calcar, a road junction 18 miles southeast of Nijmegen.

Along the Rhinebank, Canadian troops, who were using amphibious equipment to get through flooded lowlands in the sector between Cleve and the Rhine, took the village of Huisberden, three and one-half miles east of Cleve.

The Allied advance into this border area of the lower Rhine was slowed by weather and ground conditions. German resistance was increasing as additional reinforcements came into the area.

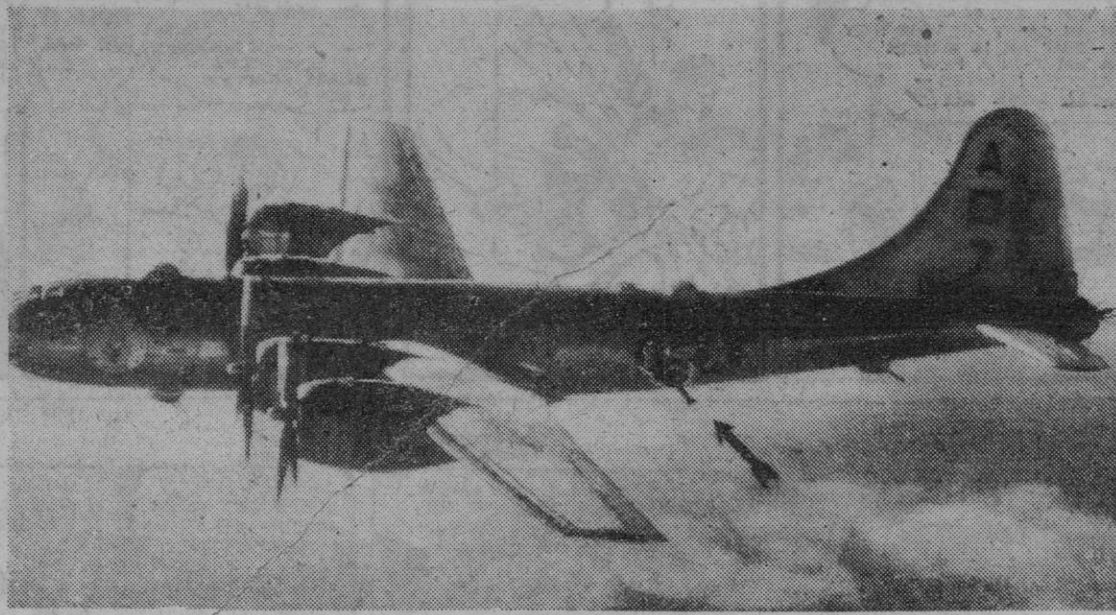
In the Luxembourg bridgehead, Third Army's Fifth Div. gained a quarter of a mile along a five-mile front to gain the high ground overlooking the Prum River at its junction with another stream, the Enz.

On their right, 76th Div. doughs advanced a half-mile along the Sauer River to widen the bridgehead toward Minden and reached high ground east of Echternach.

## Paris Suburbs Flooded As Seine River Rises

French officials fear that serious floods may result in many districts due to the rapidly rising waters of the Seine River, Reuter reported. Several southern suburbs of Paris are flooded and water has seeped into the underground station of Jussieu, near the Jardin des Plantes.

## Life and Death Struggle Over Japanese Capital



Blown out of his waist-gun blister over Tokyo by a Jap plane, Sgt. J. K. Krantz, Hickory Point, Tenn., dangles over the side of this B-29. This picture was taken from another Superfort. He was pulled in by crew members after a 15-minute struggle.

## Assault on Tokyo Is Viewed As Prelude to Bolder Move

NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (ANS).—The smashing carrier-plane attack on Japan is a possible forerunner of a bold, new move by American forces in the Pacific, the United Press said today. What the move will be is a matter of conjecture, the UP said.

The UP regarded as significant the fact that surface forces were blasting Japanese islands such as Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Islands, and islands in the Bonin group—only 700 miles from the Japanese homeland. It saw in this a possible indication of the new move.

Although a carrier attack on Tokyo had been indicated for a long time, it was hurled against Tokyo as part of a more significant over-all plan. While there has been no hint that landings on Iwo or in the Bonins are due at this time, the UP said the smash at Tokyo and its environs could well serve as cover for such a move.

These bases, the last major defense outposts for the enemy homeland, are only 700 to 750 miles from Japan proper. If they were in American hands, it would be possible to use short-range heavy bombers such as Liberators to augment the air blows now being rained on Japan by Superfortresses operating from the Marianas Islands.

The UP also saw in the carrier planes' concentration on air facilities on Honshu a move to prevent any air assistance from being sent to the Japanese garrisons in the Bonins and Volcanoes.

## Board Readies Reich Controls

LONDON, Feb. 16 (AP).—Pressed by the Big Three to speed up plans for suppressing Germany's aggressive powers forever, the European Advisory Commission prepared today to add the finishing touches to a blueprint for controlling future German economy.

France's recommendations are expected to be handed to the commission soon. They are reported to include destruction of all German armament works, a ban on the production of aircraft engines, tight control of importation of machinery, supervision of laboratories and research industries and Allied confiscation of German-owned industries abroad.

The reported French proposals are virtually identical with American recommendations. British proposals also are believed to coincide with the American.

### Backs Belgian Premier

BRUSSELS, Feb. 16 (AP).—The Belgian Senate today gave an 80-to-20 vote of confidence to Achille Van Acker, the new Premier.

## Foxy Germans Outfoxed

### Quick-Thinking GIs Talk Way to Safety

By Wade Jones  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH U.S. SEVENTH ARMY, Feb. 16.—The four 103rd Div. infantrymen talked their way—in English—out of a very tough spot while encircled behind German lines.

The fast-thinking quartet, cut off from their company in a northern Alsace forest fight, consisted of Pfc Robert Moore, Uxbridge, Mass.; Pfc William Vedoe, Wollaston, Mass.; Pfc Edward Mundhenk, Woodhaven, N.Y., and Pvt. Harvey Buckland, Granby, Conn.

Many of the Germans surrounding the Yanks

wore GI uniforms, and as the fight raged between the encircled and encirclers, the Jerries would yell from time to time, in English, "Surrender, Americans. Stop. You'd better surrender."

Finally the Yanks got a chance to make a break for it and lit out toward their own lines. Suddenly they saw their way was barred by GI-clad Germans. The Yanks thought fast and then they began waving and yelling jovially, "Surrender, Americans. Stop. You'd better surrender."

The Germans smiled and waved back. The Americans kept walking, straight into the safety of their own lines.

## Naval Attack Is Still Raging

(Continued from Page 1)

ture, to the southwest. Official American reports said that airfields and other military targets in and around Tokyo had been attacked.

Aerial battles developed over the Japanese capital as rocket and Hell-divers and Avenger torpedo planes flew in from carriers in an American fleet that was said in some reports to have surface units within 300 miles of the Japanese homeland.

### Jap Fleet Refuses Challenge

Although the Japanese Air Force attempted to meet the challenge of Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's task force, the Japanese Imperial Fleet apparently did not. There was no report of surface-ship action off Japan.

Some 700 miles south of Tokyo, in the Volcanoes, the Japanese base at Iwo Jima was being bombarded by American warships under the direction of Vice Adm. Raymond A. Spruance, commander of the Fifth Fleet and tactical commander in the present operations.

Planes of the Strategic Air Force, Pacific Ocean Areas, were bombing Iwo Jima and also were striking at Japanese positions in the Bonin Islands.

Radio Tokyo said that approximately 30 American warships, including battleships and carriers, were making the attack on Iwo Jima. One Japanese commentator speculated that the attack might be the prelude to an American landing.

## Exchange Ship Due In U.S. Next Week

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (ANS).—The exchange liner Gripsholm, carrying hundreds of former military and civilian prisoners and internees who were exchanged for German prisoners and nationals in Switzerland, is scheduled to arrive in Jersey City on or about Feb. 20, the State Department announced today.

## Yanks in France Can Write Their Own Cablegrams Home

Cablegrams of the senders' own composition may be sent by members of the armed forces to the U.S., Canada and Great Britain from any telegraph or cable office in France, according to a memorandum issued by the Adjutant General's office.

Heretofore military personnel was required to send selected text messages, but the new regulation makes the cables subject only to security censorship.

Representatives of the cable companies advise soldiers to send mes-

sages containing up to 16 words as "deferred cables"; messages over 16 words should be sent by night letter. The speed of transmission is the same for both classifications, but the rate is cheaper if the longer messages are sent by night letter.

The approximate cost of a cable to New York is 18 cents per word, or \$2.99 for a 25-word night letter. A similar night letter to Chicago costs \$4.06, and to San Francisco \$4.85.

Soldiers may not say where they are, cable collect, nor request money via return cable.

## House Passes George Bill By 399 to 2 Vote

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The House of Representatives today passed and sent to the White House the George bill, which shears Henry A. Wallace of Federal loan powers if and when the Senate confirms him as Secretary of Commerce.

Passage was voted overwhelmingly, 399 to 2, after a Republican-Democratic coalition of Wallace opponents had failed in an effort to shelve the bill.

Wallace's opponents had hoped that shelving would result in outright rejection of his nomination to the Cabinet by forcing the Senate to vote on confirmation of Wallace not only as secretary, but also as head of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The Democratic majority barely wriggled through yesterday when the bill had its first test on the House floor. The vote was 202 to 192 in favor of the rule sending the bill to the floor.

Republicans, aided by 19 Southern Democrats, headed by Rep. John E. Rankin, of Mississippi, voted solidly against the rule.

## U.S. Speculates On Choices for Pacific Leader

By Joe Fleming

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau  
NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—There is a growing curiosity on the part of military writers and the public here as to who is going to lead the final battles against Japan.

Without the suggestion of inter-service friction, partisans of both are claiming their choices' right to take precedence in the latter phases of the Pacific war. It has been noticed, for instance, that Navy censors have let correspondents point out how the vast sea distances involved in the Japanese war make it necessary for a Naval chief to command operations.

### Retirement Suggested

Inside Army circles there is no agreement—and the War Department obviously isn't saying anything—as to who should be the top ground-force man. There have been a lot of suggestions that Gen. MacArthur, having reached Manila, would retire, and much of the American press has protested the idea.

The Army and Navy Journal this week comes right out with the statement that MacArthur should lead the assault on Japan, and MacArthur's own cry, "On to Tokyo," is held to be his bid for that position.

### Special Experience Needed

Regarding top ranking generals in the European Theater and their part in future Pacific operations, it has been widely stated that they would not be experienced enough in amphibious warfare to take command, and this week's Newsweek Magazine says:

"Friends of General of the Army Eisenhower say that he definitively does not seek leadership there and will be content to return to Washington when Germany is cleaned up. The only big name registered in staff quarters is that of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. But he asked only for command of armored forces operating in China."

The Army has another ace in the hole—Gen. Joseph Stilwell, now chief of Army Ground Forces.

## New Bronze Insigne OK'd for Assault Troops

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (ANS).—Assault troops soon will be wearing tiny quarter-inch arrowheads on service ribbons to show that they participated in initial landings on a hostile shore or made a combat drop into enemy territory by parachute or glider.

Announcing adoption of the bronze Indian arrowhead design, the War Department said the insigne would be awarded to all members of the armed forces who have participated in such operations since the start of the war.

The announcement added that only one arrowhead, to be worn point upward, may be affixed to any one service ribbon.

### De Gaulle to Confer

CAIRO, Feb. 16 (AP).—Well-informed sources said today that General Charles de Gaulle would confer with members of the British and American delegations to the Crimea Conference before they returned home. The subject, it was said, will be French security after the war.