

May 4, 1943

WINTER

Warrenton, Oregon, Dec. 1942
BYRON TEXAS MAY 4, 1943

He Gave Everything



Death Ends Gen. Olds' Great Work

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COMMANDING GENERAL COMPLIMENTS BASE

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Sgt. Ranta's Story: New Guinea Escape

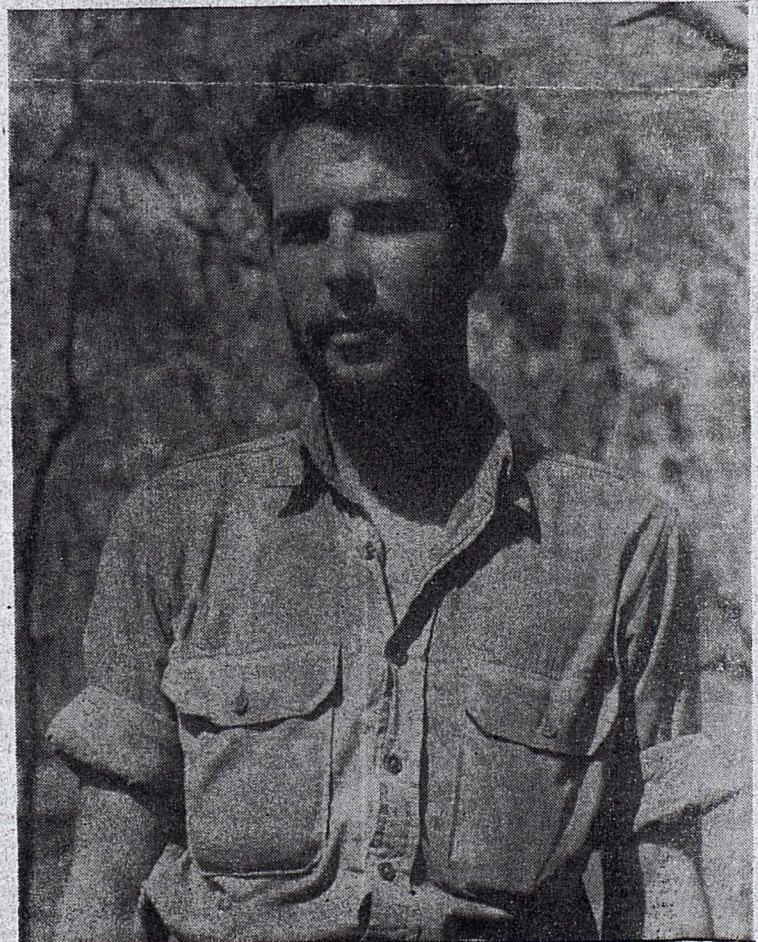
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Death came last Wednesday to Maj. Gen. Robert Olds (top), former commander of the 2nd Air Force and organizer of the Ferry Command. Heavy bombardment was his specialty—if crews were properly trained there would be better results, fewer casualties. (Story on Page 3)



His Flying Fortress set afire by Jap Zeroes off Buna, T-Sgt. Leo T. Ranta bailed out for a 13-hour swim and a month of hellish struggle through the New Guinea jungle, to return safely to Port Moresby, as shown right. To such veterans of the 19th Bombardment Group, Gen. Olds spoke for the 2nd Air Force: "We need your experience." (Story on Page 2)

. For Sgt. & Comrades



Hunger, Sore Feet Tortured Flyer Lost In Jungle

'Flamer' Jump, 13-Hour Swim, Start Month Trek

BY SGT. C. E. DOUGHERTY
28th Bomb Squadron

Bailing out of a Flying Fortress, swimming for thirteen hours, wandering barefooted in the jungle for days: these are just a few of the adventures that befell T-Sgt. Leo T. Ranta last August. Ranta, a member of the 28th Squadron, 19th Bombardment Group, is now stationed at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base.

It all started one morning last August when a six-plane formation of B-17s took off from Port Moresby on a mission. North of Buna the formation was attacked by twelve Jap Zero fighter planes. Sergeant Ranta's plane was the last one in the formation, consequently receiving the brunt of the attack. Enemy fire destroyed the interphone-system, put out of commission the two right engines, and set the plane afire. Ranta "hit the silk."

This was at 9:30 a.m. Aided by his life-jacket Ranta swam toward land. At 10:30 that night he struggled up onto the beach to fall exhausted into a deep sleep. Taking stock the next morning, he found that his only possessions were a pocket-knife, a few matches, and a compass badly rusted by the salt water. Worst of all, he had lost his shoes. Undaunted he set out to find the rest of his crew. They were not to be found, search as he might.

"What did I think about while I was in the jungle?" Sergeant Ranta grinned. "Just one thing—food. Of course my feet bothered me, but more than anything else I was interested in eating. The only food that I had for the first four days was a little fruit."

The fourth day Ranta came upon a native woman. Frightened by his appearance she fled screaming. Later that day the sergeant met two native men. Approaching them cautiously, Ranta made gestures of friendship.

"Speak English?" he asked them.

"Yes," one grunted. "You Jap?"
"No, American," Ranta was quick to reply.

At these magic words the faces of the natives broke into broad grins. They carried the exhausted flyer toward their village. Halfway to the village they were met by a procession of natives carrying fruit and other food. Ranta road into the village eating fruit and drinking coconut milk. While

resting at the village and having his lacerated feet cared for, the sergeant heard the natives mention the word "missionary." He questioned them and persuaded them to take him to the mission station.

Journeying up the mouth of the Mamba River in an outrigger canoe, keeping constant lookout for Jap patrols, Ranta and his native guides reached the mission station to find it deserted. Questioning natives of the region, he found that the station had been bombed by the Japs a short time before. The missionary had gone into the hills. With a native guide, Ranta went into the hills and soon located the missionary.

"He was a welcome sight," the Sergeant declared. "He had been in this region twenty-seven years. He gave me food and bandaged my feet. I stayed there and rested several days."

The missionary told Ranta that there was an Australian Spotter Station located fifty miles to the north. While preparing to make the trip to the Spotter Station, where he knew a message could be radioed to Port Moresby, Sgt. Ranta was joined by seven other American flyers. They were the crew of a B-26 which had made a crash landing some miles away.

Reaching the Australian station after two and one-half days the flyers had a message sent to Port Moresby asking for supplies. Two days later the supplies were dropped from a B-17. With native bearers carrying the new supplies the party started inland. Trudging through seemingly endless jungle and swamps, the group finally met some Australian officers. With their help they persuaded natives to clear a runway. The Australians radioed Port Moresby and a few days later a plane manned by an Australian crew landed and returned them to Port Moresby. The trip back to Port Moresby took a mere forty-five minutes by air. Had the men gone through the jungle it would have taken two and a half weeks merely to reach the coast.

Sgt. Ranta reached Port Moresby on September 3, more than a month after he bailed-out over the Pacific. He was weak and shaken from lack of food and the days spent in the jungle. Careful medical attention restored him to health.

It was a joyous day for his family when they received the news that he was safe. They had previously been notified by the War Department that Sgt. Ranta was dead. The other members of the crew were never found.

T-Sgt. Ranta has the coveted Silver Star and several citations,

Getting Underway



Lt. Fred W. Thacker, acting CO of the new colored Aviation Squadron at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base, above instructs S-Sgt. Garrett C. Maney, acting first sergeant, in organizational duties.

Colored Cadre Wastes No Time Launching New Aviation Squadron

Lt. Fred W. Thacker last week took acting command of the 15-man colored cadre that arrived April 28 to form a Base Aviation Squadron of Negro personnel transferred from Biggs Field, El Paso, Texas.

Acting first sergeant of the outfit, which will perform "house-keeping" services at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base, is S-Sgt. Garrett C. Maney. The squadron will be quartered in the barracks near the Motor Pool.

Acting C.O. Thacker enthusiastically reported the vigor with which the cadre began organizational work on the first day. With Mess Sergeant John D. Hill and Chief Cook Johnny D. Smith setting the pace, supper was served for the men that night in what a few hours before had been a bare hall. "Very good, too," was Lt. Thacker's comment on the meal.

With the help of Special Services, the men's Day Room was set up the second day. A branch P.X. was quickly arranged for, and the Orderly Room put in order soon after the cadre arrived.

The squadron was activated April 28, and a note of its newness was found in the curious fact that Pfc. Mark Farrar, carried on the TO as a bugler, has never seen one. "I can sure blow a

He enlisted in the Air Corps in December, 1939. His home is in California.

whistle, though," he commented grimly.

There was no mistaking Lt. Thacker's pride in his new outfit, particularly the men's military courtesy and readiness to perform their duties.

Lt. Thacker also extended his thanks to Base Headquarters Squadron personnel that helped him to get his organization underway, particularly to Lt. Russel O. de Castongrene, commanding officer; Lt. Douglas M. Roberts, Mess Officer, Mess Sergeant Jimmy Miller, and Supply Sergeant Leonard Molan.



"SAY BUDDY CALL ME A CAB"
"I'M NO DOORMAN, I'M IN THE AIR CORPS"
"OK. CALL ME A PLANE, I GOTTA GET HOME"

Gen. Olds' Death Ends Pioneer Era Of U. S. Heavy Bombardment Weapon

Former 2nd AF Commander Foresaw Airpower As Means To Enfore Peace

Maj. Gen. Robert Olds, commander of the 2nd Air Force until he was relieved because of illness on Feb. 24, died Wednesday at a Tucson, Ariz., hospital. Almost on the eve of his death he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal—the highest award this side of battle.

Following the services Thursday, the body was cremated and the ashes scattered from a Flying Fortress over the Western Mountain area by Col. Walter R. Peck, Commanding Officer Seventeenth Bombardment Wing, and Col. William G. Schaffler, Jr., Commanding Officer Geiger Field, Washington, at the request of Mrs. Olds. Both officers are long time friends of General Olds. Also on the plane were Lt. Col. Paul L. Barton, Seventeenth Wing Executive; Lt. Col. Harold A. Myers, Seventeenth Wing Flight Surgeon; Capt. George B. Dent, Wing Intelligence Officer.

It was Gen. Olds who came to the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Feb. 12 to attach four Pacific battle streamers to the colors of the 19th Bombardment Group. This was one of his last official visits to a 2nd Air Force base.

Only 47 years old, dynamic in nature, and an accomplished flyer, Gen. Olds had proved an inspiration to the men of his command. He had flown four-motored bombers since they were accepted by the Army in 1937 and was foremost among a group of men who regard the heavy bomber as an outstanding offensive weapon in the present war.

"It was his efforts that played a principal part in the development of this type of aviation into the powerful weapon that it has now become," said Maj. Gen. Davenport Johnson, who succeeded Gen. Olds. "Gen. Olds' death was directly caused by overwork in developing the 2nd Air Force. He should be considered a war casualty who gave his life in striving to build up this air force to enable it to supply combat theaters with the large quantities of well trained bombardment units and crews necessary for the successful prosecution of the war."

Gen. Olds died of pneumonia which developed as the result of an illness similar to arthritis. The affliction, first noticeable nearly three years ago, affected joints and muscles. Last September, General Olds went to Mayo Brothers, but his condition failed to improve. He refused to permit this to interfere with his work.

And he had a ready solution for any problem.

"American forces in combat theaters overseas are depending

upon us to supply them with trained bomber crews, and we're not going to let them down," Gen. Olds declared one day last December when weather hampered flying in the Northwest. "We can't change the weather, but we can go around it." He sent whole bombardment groups to Pyote within ten days after this declaration, and took steps to open bases throughout the sun states.

He believed in an enforced peace, and once declared the best means through maintenance of a huge air force, one to be utilized for peace-time pursuits but one which could be easily converted into an overwhelming military force.

"Air communications are bringing nations closer together, air lanes are extending to every remote corner of the earth," he said. "The modern, long-range plane is smashing the time element of earlier eras and making possible those personal contacts which so often are vital in preventing misunderstandings."

Gen. Olds had excellent information on which to base this statement. It was he who organized the Ferry Command across the north and south Atlantic as well as the Pacific. It was he who in 1938 commanded an Army good-will flight of B-17s to Buenos Aires. Later that year he led a flight of Fortresses to Rio de Janeiro.

An Army flyer for 26 years, General Olds assumed command of the 2nd Air Force in May, 1942, following a brief period as commander of the 3rd Air Force Bomber Command at Tampa, Fla.

Gen. Olds, a native of Woodside, Md., was a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff School and the Army Air Force Tactical School. In addition to the D.S.C. he was holder of the D.F.C., Mackay Trophy, Harmon Trophy and Trophy of the International League of Aviators.

At 19th Group decorations ceremonies here Feb. 12, he told the Southwest Pacific veterans: "We need your experience."

He had given the 2nd Air Force his experience; to the Army Air Forces he gave everything.

The General Approves



Maj. Gen. Davenport Johnson, commander of the 2nd Air Force, made an unscheduled visit to the Rattlesnake Bomber Base last week. He didn't linger long, but he stayed long enough to speak five musical words: "Keep up the good work."

Commanding General Visits Pyote Base: 'You're Doing A Good Job'

With a quick, heavy smile and five musical words, Maj. Gen. Davenport Johnson, commander of the 2nd Air Force, commended officers and men at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base last Tuesday.

The five words: "You're doing a good job."

He said other things, almost uniformly complimentary, but those words were the gist of what he had to say.

He arrived here by B17, made a speedy tour of the base, and took off into a hot afternoon sun. It was his second visit to Pyote.

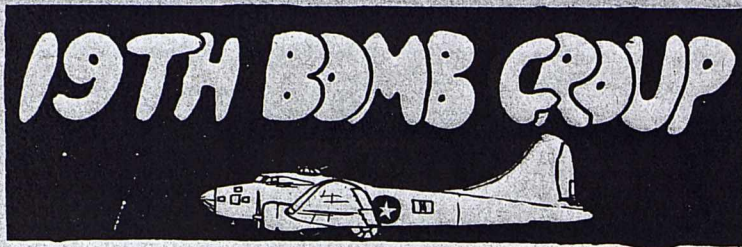
Among those in the official greeting party were Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., base commander, and Lt. Col. Elbert Helton, commander of the 19th Bombardment Group.

A native of Tyler, Texas, Gen. Johnson began his military career as a second lieutenant upon graduation from West Point June 12, 1912. His first experience was in the infantry. He joined the Punitive Expedition into Mexico with the 1st Aero Squadron, and in January, 1917, took a special flying course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

He was ordered to France in February, 1917. For his participation in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, he was cited in the French Ordre de L'Escadre. He was awarded the Silver Star by the U. S. for gallantry in action Nov. 5, 1918, near Forest de Woevre, France, while on an inspection flight, and the French Croix de Guerre with bronze star. He was also cited by Gen. Pershing for meritorious services.

Early in October, 1940, General Johnson was appointed Assistant to the Chief of Air Corps. He was assigned to the Caribbean Defense Command, with headquarters at Quarry Heights, Panama Canal Zone, on August 9, 1941.

In February, he succeeded Maj. Gen. Robert Olds as commander of the 2nd Air Force.



435th Bomb Squadron

BY LT. GEORGE E. STAMM

Sgt. Byron, of Operations, is not too happy about the coke machine in the briefing room. The boys have preferred the warm cokes in the cases next to the machine and somebody says Byron is accountable for the bottles that haven't been paid for. He's also lost about thirty pounds from the work of refueling the machine every ten minutes.

Pvt. Beebe is hard to locate outside of a B-17 though he's supposed to be clerking in Operations.

The Supply boys are a sad bunch. After getting a nice cooler and having it set up for demonstration in the Supply Room, it was permanently installed by Cpl. Clark in the Squadron Day Room.

The two boys that sleep in the Supply Room would appreciate it very much if the shack rats would make less noise in the morning

when they come in.

More news about the Supply Room would be forthcoming but every thing done there is a military secret.

April 1st may have been April Fool's Day but April 30th was Pay Day for the 435th thanks to the valiant efforts of Cpl. Smithers and Sgt. Nickerson.

Major Thacker is proud of our new Day Room. He calls it his trap for Goldbricks, though everyone knows that there is not a single Goldbrick in the entire 435th.

First Sgt. De Lateur and Sgt. Mandel finally got the Morning Report straightened out with the assistance of Lt. Felts, Mr. Zundel, Sgt. Hillman, Pvt. Copeland, among others. All are being recommended for the appropriate citation.

Cpl. Sheedy is going to celebrate his 63rd birthday shortly and if he is not too feeble will give quite a party.

WOJG Zimmerman Arrives To Form 28-Piece Military Band On Base

The Rattlesnake Bomber Base is going to have a band—a full-fledged precise-marching military band to send martial airs wafting over the mesquite bushes. That news came with the arrival last week of Mr. Irvin E. Zimmerman, WO (jg), band master. Capt. Charles R. Herpich, Jr., Base Adjutant, is the Commanding Officer of the Band.

Mr. Zimmerman comes to Pyote from Army Music School, Washington, D. C. He received his bachelor of music degree from the Cincinnati College of Music, studying also at the University of Cincinnati, Dayton University, Xavier University, and Wittenberg College.

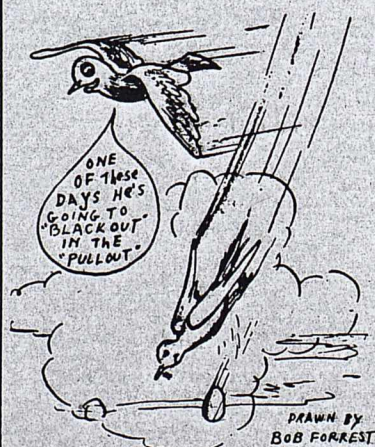
He was teaching music at the University of North Carolina and also doing graduate work there at the time of his entrance into the Army, March 14, 1941. He served as company clerk, line sergeant, and chief clerk before assignment to Army Music School.

Mr. Zimmerman pointed out that the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Band, with organization calling for 28 pieces, will march and play in military ceremonies and parades and provide entertainment for Base personnel.

On the entertainment side, a dance band section, perhaps also including musicians not in the band organization, will be formed. The Band also will play evening concerts, participate in radio broadcasts and the like.

The Bard Barracks, beside the new Service Club, will house the organization personnel, the Band Master's Office, and rehearsal space.

Until such time as requisitioned band personnel shall arrive, qualified base personnel here will be utilized by the Band to form a nucleus for the organization.



Judge Advocate School Opens

The first officer candidate class in the Judge Advocate General Officers Candidate School, Ann Arbor, Mich., will open on or about June 1. Qualified base personnel interested in applying should report to Lt. Leon G. Bogart, Classification Officer.

General or limited service men, who have attained their 28th birthday and are graduates of a law school, are eligible to apply. At least four years law practice is desirable but not essential.

Applicants who have filed previous applications for direct commissions and assignments to the Judge Advocate General's Department, it was announced, must file new applications in the same manner as other applicants if they desire consideration.

Aviation Cadet Applicants Sought

All officers and enlisted men interested in volunteering for air crew or ground crew training should report to Lt. Leon G. Bogart, Classification Officer, regarding application.

Applicants for appointment as aviation cadet (air crew) must be 18 to 26 years of age, inclusive, and as aviation cadet (ground crew) 18 to 30 years of age, inclusive. They must be able to pass the prescribed mental and physical examinations for cadet training.

Need for additional aviation cadet material has been described as urgent. Ground crew training includes meteorology, photography, engineering, communications and armament.



Schoeff's Outfit

BY PFC. ROBERT NASH

The "freshmen" on the field are gradually gaining strength . . . The tent area on Block 11, between streets 3 and 4 (just back of the main hangar), is filling in with more tents and more men. After the outfit was (actually and not figuratively) "in the dark" for about a week after moving in, the Post Engineers rigged up our lighting system . . . M-Sgt. Sheldon M. Beaton, who has been with the 19th, moved in as Communications Chief . . . With him came T-Sgt. John W. Taylor.

Whoa, There!



Teddi Sherman, movie newcomer, shows her version, ah—among other things, of how a western cowgirl should dress. Pyote and Monahans lasses please copy!

Many of the boys have found spots on the line . . . Among those who brought technical skills into the Army with them is Pfc. Albert Operstny, of Bryan, Texas, who was a tool designer for Globe Aircraft in Fort Worth.

Note to the Chief Nurse: That nice sailor lad, from Odessa, that you met on the train coming here, is having a wonderful time on a 30-day leave . . . The boy deserves it . . . He was at Guadalcanal four months, suffered two wounds and came down with malaria before leaving there.

Baseball equipment has arrived and a diamond has been cleared off . . . The outfit won a practice tussle from the McDowell Airdrome Squadron, and more action is due soon . . . If you can get your hands on a three-day pass and are too far away to go home, a nice trip is one to Carlsbad Caverns, with a stopover at one of the resort places around there . . . The calisthenics and drilling program is rounding the boys into fair condition for the upcoming physical condition test.

BASE HEADQUARTERS

Sq. Ramblings

BY PFC. EDDIE LOCKAMY

So many of our old barracks mates have been moved elsewhere on the field, it seems that every-time I come in to the barracks I have to borrow from total strangers. However, the Headquarters outfit is quite durable and carries on despite such upsets.

Ray Orr sent word from San Antonio where he is in cadet training that he is being put through the mill: "But I am determined to blast the Japs from a grandstand seat!" Good luck, Ray, we are all behind you.

T-Sgt. Robert Huff is really a busy man these days, working at Hq. and rearing a baby boy. Is he proud? Un huh!

Speaking of babies, there are several "expectant fathers" in the outfit, including S-Sgt. Leonard Molan, our able supply non-com, Pfc. Julius Gerstner, Pfc. Quentin Taylor, and your truly. This "expecting" creates a great deal of anxiety and I "ain't kidding." Oh, well, our wives deserve a little of the credit too, bless them.

Our calisthenics program is well on its way now. Yes, it is rise and limber up at 6:20 a.m., Monday through Sunday, 7 days per week. Lets get behind the fellows instructing and enjoy the feeling of self confidence that comes when a guy is in the pink.

Cpl. Raymond J. Landry of Nashua, New Hampshire, just returned from a furlough. He must have stayed on the beam alright, for he came back with both eyes open. Cpl. Landry reports a grand time, in keeping with his woman-killing reputation, although things seem to have changed quite a bit since he was home last.

Pfc. Peter P. Urban of the Base Custodian's Office just returned to duty after spending a week in the Hospital which he didn't seem to mind at all because of the swell treatment. To top it all, he was promoted to Pfc. in the meantime. Congratulations, Pete, looks like we should all go to the Hospital for a week.

Weather Or Not?

BY PFCs. DAVID REESE AND ARTHUR SCHAFFER

Upon its arrival at this post on Dec. 12, the C.O. immediately recognized the talent and calibre of men in the Weather Detachment. He promptly assigned them to assist in the operation of Base Headquarters, and for more than

three weeks they were placed under the able supervision of Sergenat "Legree" Barksdale. Although their duties were of the janitorial nature, they were nevertheless considered invaluable by many—especially the Weaker Sex.

The Weather Department now consists of the base weather officer, Lt. Willard E. Lawrence, two forecasters, ten observers, and two teletype maintenance men. The reason for the detailed account is that some people are under the impression that there are hundreds of weather men roaming the Base. This might be accredited to the obvious fact that they are the fellows who are always stepping in front of you to buy the last ticket at the Post Movie, or who consistently order over your shoulder at the Taproom. The socially-correct would recognize them as the "wolves" that cut in on them at all dances and social affairs.

The Weather Office has one of the best equipped and furnished offices on the base. We are especially proud of this office because it was constructed mainly by its personnel. Our latest addition in the way of equipment consists of a ceiling light, a device for measuring the height of clouds. Besides serving this purpose, we also recommend it as a substitute for the Texas moon (for those who go in for that sort of thing).

As of late, one of our observers, Pfc. Larry H. Mayfield, is conducting a class in meteorology for pilots, navigators, and bombardiers of the 19th Bomb Group. So far there has been no sleeping in class, mainly due to Pfc. Mayfield's rigid discipline, something he cultivated while teaching school in Coffeerville, Kansas.

The Weather Glamor Guys are reluctant to have their names mentioned—but we hope that we can get an interview from the Observer, who claims that he will soon have a WAAC doing his laundry.

Testing For Gas

BY GAS HOUSE GANG

The "Gas House Gang" has a brand new house. After a long stay in Base Headquarters, this department has moved into its new office and warehouse, building T-230, located across the street from QM Warehouse 3.

The gas chambers are also in use now. The gas chambers were initiated by a class of Medics and nurses last Thursday and as the doctors said, "The building holds its gas very well." The nurses, in particular, "cried" with joy on being the first to initiate the new gas house.

A class for the Base Officers is being conducted May 4, 5, and 6.

The Section is operating at full strength, one officer and seven

Not A Bad Idea



Circulated under Nazi noses by underground groups, this cartoon has been spread throughout occupied Belgium. Translated, the caption reads: 'Running away is only the beginning—you can't escape my scalping you.' This is typical of countless devices employed by patriots of Belgium and the other occupied countries of the United Nations to harass Axis authorities and troops.

enlisted men. Three newcomers arrived April 21 and are really on the beam.

Tech Inspector's Office

BY PFC. ROSS K. LAWRENCE

It is not our intention to openly boast of having the best lawn on the base but we invite those who are pessimistic to take cognizance of same.

Through the efforts and supervision of Lt. Herbert E. Blackstock, Base Technical Inspector, we are justly proud of the lawn that surrounds the entrance of the base flight building, across from the base hangar.

The growing varieties that make up this refreshing setting consists of bermuda grass, chinese elms, native shrubs and growing plants, which will bloom in season.

M-Sgt. Harold H. Randall returned Monday evening from Bayard, Nebraska. The sergeant says that he spent a portion of his furlough camping out on "Americas Valley of the Nile." Just what he means, we don't know.

Since the recent jitterbug contest, Sgt. Stan Sosnowski wonders is Cpl. Tache still attends operas?

Our Pyote Cutie says that horse meat may become a staple food before long and maybe the next slogan will be, "remember the mane."



MAY 7, 1915 - S.S. LUSITANIA TORPEDOED BY A GERMAN U-BOAT WITH A LOSS OF 198 LIVES

Bronx, Sub-Depot Hepcats Send Solid For Rugcuttin' Cup

Out-doing all other contestants—and practically undoing themselves—Miss Bee Garner and Sgt. Samuel Mileaf jitted their way into Pyote's limelight Tuesday night at the base-wide dance.

Winners in the big jitterbug contest, they received the prize cup from Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., base commander.

But they didn't win the contest hands down. Miss Minn Trimm—a roommate of Miss Garner—and Sgt. Seymour Erdheim, a 19th Grouper, were runners-up.

Misses Garner and Trimm, both of San Angelo, are Sub-Depot employes. Sgt. Mileaf, a Baycee (Base Hq.), and Sgt. Erdheim are both from the Bronx.

A Special Services function, the dance was under the direction of Lt. George Hoffman.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE LITTLE MORON WHO—

Wrapped his watch in cellophane to keep the ticks out of his pocket?

Took his knees apart to see if there was any beer in the joints?

Took a bottle of whiskey so he could sleep tight?

Cut off his fingers so he could write shorthand?

Cut his arms off so he could wear a sleeveless sweater?

Sat on the corner with two slices of bread waiting for the traffic jam—and along came a street-car and gave him a jar?

Cut a hole in the rug to see the floor show and covered it up again because he didn't want to see the whole (hole) show?

EDITORIAL:

Mother's Day

PERHAPS in the midst of war, the clash of nations and the deadening routine that is the lot of many, Mother's Day might seem unimportant. 1943 finds most young men far from home, some unable to present the flowers or gifts that were the custom in other years.

But remembering Mother on her day—with only a letter, if nothing more, is important. In fact it is one of the main reasons this war is being fought, to keep the home from which you came what it is and what it has always been.

No soldier will have any trouble if he tries, even partially, to be what his mother thinks he is. In himself he carries the hopes, the understanding, and the love of her who brought him into life. From boy to man, character is formed by a mother's care; to let her down would be to turn to nothing her life's main work.

FEW men need such reminder, for the American soldier is known for the reverent love he holds for his mother. English families entertaining American soldiers have been impressed with the fact that one of the first things their guests would do after becoming acquainted would be to show a picture of mother, and talk of home. The memory of that kind and gentle face has held the heart in many a fighting man when the going was rough in the Solomons or North Africa.

The mothers of the men in service form a great reservoir of national strength in more than spirit. Through the centuries war to them has been a painful dread. Perhaps more than anyone else they are aware of the urgency for speed toward victory—for the all out effort that will lessen sacrifice and hardship—and understand all that is at stake in the struggle.

THEY too have their eyes on the peace that must be built when opportunity shall have been won by fighting. Through the confusion they will keep secure the family ties, foundation of any stable society. They will insist that America be kept the kind of place their sons left it, and that freedom and opportunity will be waiting for the men who return.

Next Sunday every mother in America will be thinking of her son, praying for his safety, longing for his home-coming, but resolute in the conviction that the job he is doing must be done. Don't let her down.

Live up to all her expectations in doing that job, and keep yourself wholesome for the return for which she will be working and waiting through the difficult months ahead. Above all, remember her this Sunday, with flowers, a card, or just a very special letter.

THE RATTLER

Published each Tuesday at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base, Pyote, Texas

LT. COL. CLARENCE L. HEWITT, JR.
Commanding Officer

Edited & published by and for personnel at the AAB, Pyote, Texas.
Opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the staff members of individual writers and are not to be considered as expressions of the Army Air Forces.

Lt. E. M. Robertson, Director of Publicity

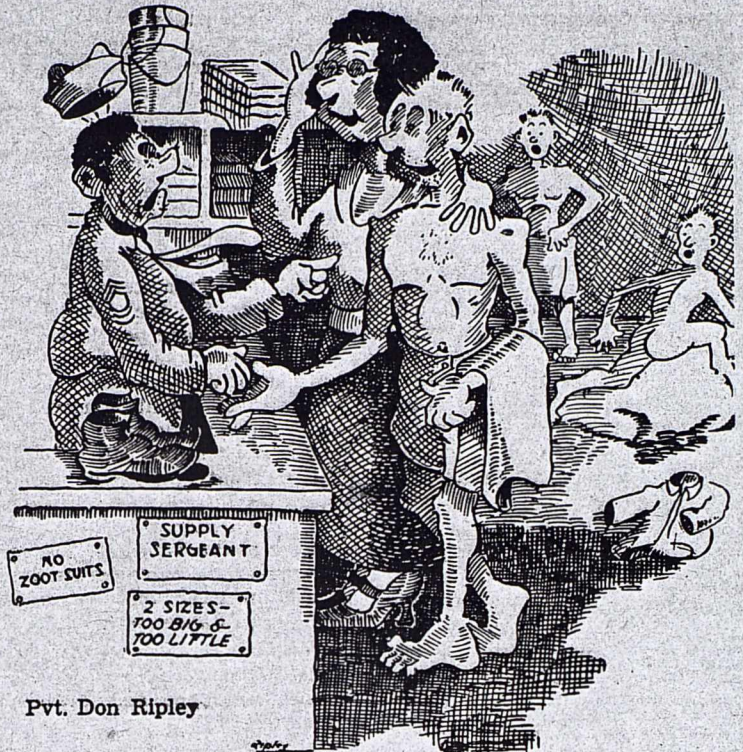
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Sgt. Elliott Core _____ Chief Clerk
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CARTOONISTS: Pvt. Don Ripley, Pfc. Robert Forrest.

The Rattler receives Camp Newspaper Service material.



Pvt. Don Ripley

It's O. K. Sarge. Ma always picks out my clothes!

The Diplomatic Front:

Civilian commentators lately have been worrying out loud over possible difficulties in United States-Soviet Union relations following the war. Russia's intention regarding territory in Eastern Europe have been particularly under discussion, also a matter of great concern to exiled governments in London.

Typical comment came from William Philip Simms, Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor in Washington:

"The crisis now involving Russia, Poland, Finland and Eastern Europe is doing great damage to American plans for post-war collaboration with the United Nations . . . With considerable reluctance many here are coming to believe that a new European balance of power is in the making, with Russia and Great Britain dominating the scene."

Threat of Soviet domination of post-war Europe is one of Hitler's most effective disunity propaganda lines—and one which the Germans hope will cause the Allies to leave defeated Germany strong enough to serve as a buffer state. American distrust of Communism is deep-rooted and understanding of the Russian people unfortunately limited, a condition assisting enemy propaganda.

With proper compromise, a strong United States and a strong Russia can cooperate toward enduring peace. A few simple facts which several authorities have pointed out, may relieve consider-

able apprehension on that score:

Russia's wars have been mainly defensive; the people are close to their soil and not inclined toward conquest. The Soviet government's main post-war task will be to reconstruct the war-torn areas and begin again long-run development of Russia's vast resources. Russia's hints at territorial claims so far appear to indicate more of a desire for future security than for national aggrandizement. Under Stalin's direction, Russia ideology has turned largely from international to national purposes.

Doubtless differences shall arise in the peace conferences to come, but with give and take—constructive cooperation to match that compelled now by war—they can be resolved. That at least is the belief and hope of some of the thoughtful writers on the subject.

For Mailing Home

A reader suggested to The Rattler would make the back page of the newspaper, when folded, an address blank. That space is needed for, it is believed, a helpful feature. The Rattler was printed in its present size purposely for convenience in folding into a regular large envelope, for mailing home or to friends at other stations. It is hoped such distribution will go to all parts of the country.

THE CHAPLAIN SAYS -



Conspicuous on the wall of a Marine mess hall in Guadalcanal there hung a torn, dirty, blood-stained shirt, and under it a sign: "Lest we forget!"

Every eye that entered sought first that relic; and from it every man drew renewed resolution that this comrade would be avenged.

Not a pretty sight: not a pretty sentiment; but this is not a pretty war. On a battle front men need the extra lift that these men got from their grisly reminder, to do a job that must be done.

No less than the fighting men of Guadalcanal, we here have a job to do that must be done. No less than they, we need a symbol and a slogan to lift us to the accomplishment of that job.

What our job is we know: to prepare ourselves to be the best soldiers in the entire Army Air Forces. And how to do that job we know: by being on the ball with everything we've got—even if our particular part in it happens to be the poling of a latrine.

But what is our symbol, what our slogan?

Next Sunday is Mother's Day.

Where is her picture? Have I even got one? Preferably a snapshot in which she is her very self, in housedress and apron, her own dear smile, and with it that ever deepening crease of worry that is for me because I am here: yet that underlying pride that is for me because I am here. There is a symbol for me—a symbol of all the goodness and fineness and sacredness for which I am preparing to fight.

And my slogan under that picture? "LEST I FORGET!" Lest I forget, in the midst of the inevitable coarsenesses of Army life, that I must bring home with me all of that goodness and fineness that she instilled in me: else I have fought in vain.

Lest I forget that rebellious resentment on my part against the monotony, the boredom, the injustices fancied or real in my present life will make me a bad soldier, a hindrance rather than a help in the doing of the job.

On Mother's Day, then,—and on every day until I return to her—the symbol of everything I wish to be and wish to do will be my Mother—lest I forget.

By Chaplain Bernard J. Gannon

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Sunday Masses: 0600; 0800; and 1615.

Weekday Mass: 1730 (None on Thursdays).

Hospital Mass: Thursday at 1500.

May Devotions: Every night dur-

Community Sing Slated Thursday

Another community sing, with two interesting sound motion pictures, will be held at the Base Chapel at 8 p.m. Thursday, Chaplain Edwin W. Norton has announced.

The films will be "Exploring with X-Rays" and "Excursions in Science," with Dr. W. D. Coolidge, world famous for research in X-ray, explaining the former. In the second film, liquid air is seen turning mercury into a frigid solid, and the apparatus making it possible to "see" around is demonstrated.

A quartet, participating in the community singing and doing separate numbers, includes Cpl. Norman Tache, Cpl. John Pilon, Chaplain Norton, and Cpl. Harold Shultz. An accordion solo also is scheduled for this week's entertainment.

Those who wish only to see the films may come at 8:30 p.m., but men attending Chaplain Norton's program in past weeks have high praise for the enjoyment of the community sing as well as the motion pictures. All personnel, enlisted, commissioned and civilian, is invited.

Base-Wide Dance On Beam Tonight

Another base-wide dance will be held Tuesday night from 8 to 12 p.m. in the Recreation Hall, Lt. George A. Hoffman, Special Service Officer, has announced.

Girls will be furnished transportation from service centers in Wink, Pecos and Monahans, and girls working on the Base are invited. All enlisted personnel will be guests of the Special Service Office, and are urged to bring their wives or girl friends.

The Pecos Flying School's 10-piece orchestra will play a return engagement.

The second Jitterbug Contest will be the night's feature, and winners will have their names engraved on the cup presented by Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., Base Commander.

ing May at 2100 (None on Thursday.)

Confessions: Saturday 1500 to 1730; Sunday 0700 to 0755.

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sunday Services: 1030 and 1930. Wednesday: Bible Study Class 1930.

Thursday: Chorus Rehearsal, 1900; Community Sing, 2000; Motion Pictures, "Exploring With X-Rays," 2030.

SPECIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Base Library Receives 2,500 Books To Add To Swell Collection

Base Library, backstage in the Recreation Hall, now has an excellent collection of books covering a wide variety of subjects, as a shipment of 2,500 volumes has been received from the Victory Book Campaign and are now ready for use.

In addition, Texas State Library has lent 1,000 volumes, and

books from the Army Traveling Library also are available. Books may be checked out for five days, with renewals if necessary, or read in the adjacent reading room.

The stacks contain newer titles in fiction and non-fiction, the latter covering such a wide range as business, agriculture, aircraft, music, photography, games, movies, public speaking, travel, psychology, biography, religion, poetry, and art.

The Library will welcome contributions by soldiers to add to the collection. The Library is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

In charge is Sgt. Samuel Mileaf, known to New York night club goers as Sammy Miles. Formerly half a dance and comedy team with his brother, Jackie Miles, lately signed with 20th Century Fox. Sgt. Mileaf has participated in two shows at the Officer's Club, under the direction of Lt. George A. Hoffman, Special Services Officer. Experience for his present job was obtained as an employee of a New York public library.

Personal secretary to Lt. Hoffman, Cpl. Paul von Krum also helps keep the Library functioning properly. He should know his stuff. Look as this record: graduate of Columbia University, with a degree in library science; graduate work at the University of Cambridge, England; master degree, University of Cincinnati; served on staff of Main Reference Division, New York Public Library, largest in the world.

For entertainment, instruction to speed promotion, information on trends in the war, politics, economics, and the like, the Base Library is an excellent answer to those off hours that otherwise might be wasted.

Back Copies

Copies of The Rattler, Vol. 1, No. 1, are still available at the Public Relations Office at five cents a copy. To complete your files or to mail both the first and second issues home together, get back copies while they last.

HQ Non-Com Club Plans May Dance

Base Headquarters Squadron's NCO Club, the first formed here, April 7, plans its first dance for mid-May, with the dance committee including TSgt. Harry B. Moon, Cpl. Richard J. Ream, Cpl. Daniel E. Pittman, and Sgt. Stanley Z. Frajkowski.

Pay day left the new NCO Club with 118 paid-up memberships, and every non-commissioned officer in the Headquarters Squadron and detachments—which include Quartermaster, Finance, Ordnance and Weather—is urged to become a member in time to attend the first major entertainment.

The club meets each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the organization's Day Room. Refreshments will be served at this week's meeting.

Five Couples Yield To Marksman Cupid And Sign On Line

Whether inspired by The Rattler's previous marriage list or finding some matrimonial urge even in Pyote's sandy spring, five couples were reported taking out marriage licenses last week.

The happy people include: Lt. Carl N. Smith, 30th Squadron, 19th Group, and Miss Jane Marshall, April 23.

Sgt. Henry Czhegaray, 30th Squadron, 19th Group, and Miss Juanita Marsh of California, April 28.

S-Sgt. Robert A. Baldi, 30th Squadron, 19th Group, and Miss Hasel Mae Battelle, New Jersey, April 28.

Sgt. Joel J. McClurg, Headquarters, 19th Group, and Miss Beatrice Stone, Monahans, April 25.

Cpl. George E. Williams, Jr., 435th Squadron, 19th Group, and Miss Charley Mae Martin, April 24.

A A B SPORTS

Baseball Doings In The Majors

BY PVT. HYMAN BROOK
Sports Editor

American League — Going into the 3rd week of the 1943 season, the N.Y. Yankees hold top position with 8 wins and two defeats, after having one of their worst spring training seasons. Ernie Bonham has already credited himself with three wins for the Yanks with no defeats. The Yankees suffered their first defeat of the 43 season against the Boston Red Sox by the score of 5 to 1. Marius Russo was the losing hurler against Tex Hughson, who got his second win and no defeats.

The Cleveland Indians went into a virtual tie with the Detroit Tigers for 2nd and 3rd positions. Virgil (Fire) Trucks of the Tigers also got his second win of the season when he gave the St. Louis Browns 4 hits to win 3 to 2.

Rookie Ewald Pyle of the Wash. Sen. handed the Yankees their second defeat to allow the Yankees to collect 6 hits, to win the night cap of Sunday's doubleheader 4 to 1.

Rookie Jesse Flores of the Phil. Athletics got his first win in the major leagues after pitching for 15 innings to nip out the Wash. Sen. 2 to 1. It was Flores second start, he lost his first game to the Red Sox after allowing but 2 hits, Tex Hughson getting the win.

The Chicago White Sox are tagging along in seventh position.

National League — The Brooklyn Dodgers are playing ball in real Brookline fashion with 8 wins and 2 defeats to their record. A crowd of 45,000 fans was on hand to watch the first doubleheader of the 43 season at the Polo Grounds, to see the Dodgers split the twin bill with Giants. The first game to the Dodgers by the score of 3 to 2. Giants taking the night cap 2 to 1.

Mort Cooper of the St. Louis Cards got his first win of the season at home by blanking out the Chicago Cubs 7 to 0. The Cards went into second position after taking the twin bill from the Cinn. Reds Sunday.—Connie Ryan who was traded to the Boston Braves this week for Ernie Lombardi, made his opening debut for the Braves by hitting a three run homer in the ninth inning, beating

out the Giants 3 to 2.—The Pittsburgh Pirates scored a three run rally in the 8th inning in Wednesday's game with the Reds to win 4 to 1 in their opening at home. Bob Kinger got the win, Starr was on the mound for the Reds.

Standings:

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

American League

Boston 7-1, Philadelphia 6-8.
Cleveland 5, Detroit 2, second game postponed.
New York 11-1, Washington 3-4.
St. Louis 3-5, Chicago 2-1, first game eleven innings.

National League

Pittsburgh 3-1, Chicago 0-0.
Boston 3-5, Philadelphia 1-6, second game twelve innings.
St. Louis 7, Cincinnati 6.
Brooklyn 3-1, New York 2-2.

STANDINGS SUNDAY

National League

Team—	W	L	Pct
Brooklyn	8	2	.800
Pittsburgh	6	4	.600
Boston	4	3	.571
Cincinnati	5	4	.556
St. Louis	5	4	.556
Chicago	3	7	.300
New York	3	7	.300
Philadelphia	2	5	.286

American League

Team—	W	L	Pct
New York	7	3	.700
Cleveland	6	3	.667
Washington	7	5	.583
Detroit	5	4	.556
St. Louis	4	4	.500
Boston	4	6	.400
Philadelphia	4	8	.333
Chicago	2	6	.250

Knoxville, Tenn. (CNS) — Mrs. Dale Atchley, 20, was freed on a charge of possessing liquor despite the fact that she admitted in court that "she took two pints of whiskey from her bosom and turned it over to the vice squad." That quotation is from the Knoxville Sentinel.

Count Fleet Wins Kentucky Derby

Churchill Downs, May 1—Count Fleet, the Hertz's hurricane, lived up to the turf fans' expectations when he came down the home stretch and finished two and a lengths in front of Blue Swords, who got second place money.

Jockey Longden, who has ridden the Count in all of his races broke fourth at the starting gate and made his move to the front after the quarter of a mile pole to run second behind the pace-setting Gold Shower. Coming into the far turn Longden gave the Count his command, and went to the front of the field to stay. Count Fleet toured the mile and a quarter distance in the fast time of 2.04. It was the fourth Derby winner for Jockey Longden.

Blue Swords, the Allen T. Simmons colt from Akron, finished six lengths in front of Slide Rule, who got third. Blue Swords took over the second position when Gold Shower started to fade in the back stretch. Blue Swords ran second to the Count in the Wood Memorial Handicap at Jamaica track in N. Y. last week.

Back of the leaders the field finished in this order; Amber Light, fourth; Bankrupt, fifth; No Wrinkles, sixth; Dove Pie, seventh; Gold Shower, eighth; Modest Lad, ninth; and Burnt Corg, 10th and last.

Count Fleet paid \$2.80 to win, \$2.40 to place and \$2.20 to show, Blue Swords paid \$3.40 to place and \$3.00 to show, with Slide Rule paying \$3.20 to show.

RING NOTES

Pittsburgh, April 27 — Willie Pep won an easy decision over Pittsburgh's Jackie Wilson, in a twelve round bout. It was the 66th triumph for the kid from Hartford, Conn., out of 67 professional bouts. A capacity crowd came through the turnstiles at the gardens, to gross the sum of \$18,634.

Ft. Worth, April 28 — A terrific attack of lefts and rights to the body and midsection by Bantamweight Champ Ortiz forced Cordoza's knees to buckle and go down for the count in the sixth round. Ortiz came out in the first round with striking blows to send Cordoza to the ropes, cut above both his left and right eyes and bleeding from the nostrils.

Ortiz defended his title for the first time since mid-March. Ortiz' only trouble was in the fourth round, when Cordoza sent a looping right cross to the champ's chin. Other bouts on the card

Garcia's Marauders Win Medics' Softball Tournament Easily

BY S-SGT. LAWRENCE SHIPP

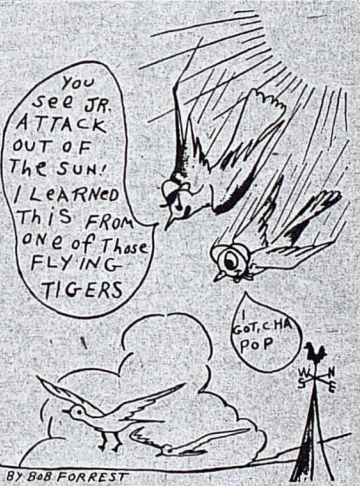
Wednesday night Barracks 5 came through with another victory over Barracks 1, with a score of 14 to 11. The game was a thriller and at one time it looked as if Barracks 1 was going to hit it up in true "Brooklyn style." Fortunately, nothing serious resulted.

Cpl. Garcia, former Frisco star, and Pvt. DeMeio, young Connecticut starlet, pitched their team to an easy victory and were backed by a strong outfield. Pfc. Echols, lanky Atlanta, Georgia, athlete, performed brilliantly at the short stop position.

The final game played Thursday night saw Garcia's marauders smash through to another easy victory with the mounting score of 24 to 6, thus making them the undisputed champions of the Medics.

The following is the lineup of the Championship team:

Pvt. Leonard Garcia — Catcher
Pvt. Walter Pietrusinski — 2B
Pvt. Isaac Kronenburg — 1B
Cpl. Edgar Garcia — 3B (Capt)
Pfc. Leroy Echols — SS
Pvt. John DeMeio — Pitcher
Cpl. Warren Fohey — LF
Pvt. Francis McGinley — SC
Pvt. Justus Crow — CF
Pvt. Samuel Koop — RF
Cpl. Ted Zimmerman (Bat Boy)



found Little Jose Andres, in his first successful bout as a pro, defeating Manny Camarillo of Mexico City. Buster Burrell, 1942 Golden Gloves champ, fought a draw with Owen Smith. Johnnie Salas scored the only K.O. of the eve over Floyd Parrish.

Washington, April 30 — Louis-Conn fight was definitely called off for this summer, as announced by Secretary of War Stimson. Stimson told members of the press that the War Department would not approve or sponsor any match between the two heavy weights at this time.



Supply

BY LOW-SCORE FOUR

Say! Did you see little Bea Garner kicking the dust around at the Tuesday Night Stomp? By the way, if Mme. Garner can rumba as well as she can 'jit', would she be interested in a hip-throwing contest?

Flossie Means, with lips softly flapping in the breeze, laughing at the sign on her skirt. Having trouble, Flossie? . . . What Supply femme has gone 'native' and, throwing formalities out the warehouse door, has discarded her Size 3's? . . . Marie Devine was heard observing that Pyote is as hot as the "Hinges of Hades." That's just getting under the Hays Code, isn't it?

The rattlesnakes are getting busy . . . The Janeski pup, Topper, was the first victim, throwing Warehouse One into quite a dither.

There was no available veterinarian handy in Monahans, so Virginia brought Topper to the base veterinarian, then the problem presented itself — What to do with Topper while she worked. Private Sontz quickly came to the rescue, however, and the Maintenance Department promptly acquired a new sign "Maintenance and Veterinarian." The last report on Topper was not so good, but we're hoping he will soon be well . . .

Latest style around Supply—Pleated skirts with an "L" tear in the back of them . . . And maybe the two barefoot girls—two is all we've seen these hot days . . . Rumors have it that the flowers are doing well at Rabbit Hutch No. 5 . . . We would have liked to see the expression on Mr. Donaldson's face when he turned out the lights in the rubber storage room the other day . . . Bet next time he looks to see if anyone is in there . . . How about that "Not In Stocked" 81 for a tractor—wonder if we could get an airplane that way?

Reports are beginning to pour in about the lovely trees and grass, etc., in other parts of our United States, as the boys return from furloughs. Pfc. Kenter even made the surprising discovery that things grow in other parts of Texas . . . Couldn't they please notice how nice and green the mesquite are getting?

The Supply Office has blossomed forth with a new coat of paint, all nice brown and cream . . . We also have a new parking lot (if the M. P. could only make us all

realize it, he'd be a much happier fellow).

Why does Dewees "Why-So-Soon" look forward to those long letters from her "Cousin" in Wisconsin with such great anxiety? We had a "Cousin" once! . . . Incidentally, "Why-So-Soon" has been nominated "Stumble-Bum" of Supply . . . We heard a good story about a knife, but we don't like to put cuttin' gthings in the paper—How's about it Kilpatrick?

We've heard a lot lately about Lt. Jordan and some funny little sound that he is said to be quite good at—from all reports it's sorta like a puppy in distress and is said to have quite an effect on the ladies?

The not-so-official reporters of the 351st Sub-Depot are asking themselves if attaining said positions on Administrative Memorandum 13 has any special meaning . . . What persuasive approach does Virginia (Front Desk) Janeski use over the ice-cream-dish-er at Ye Old Cafeteria. She doesn't come home with the bacon but, oh, the cream a la glace she exhibits . . . Bea "Hot Foots" Garner adds to the glory of rah, rah Sub-Depot by staggering away with the wee-silver cup at the local corn-stomper contest. If and when Supply runs out of jeeps her name will be submitted to the Motor Pool as a means of getting 'round in a hurry.

After a rest-up of a week, LuLu and Lover are back on the old running basis. Wow, it's Turney's inspiration for bigger and better boxes of candy . . . More fun going on over at Supply what with all the bosses gone . . . Minnie Timm seems to have a mania for eating lunch in the Cafeteria, especially in the Officer's Club Room. Unnecessary to say she eats alone . . . The MP situation around Warehouse 1 is terrific. Quote the MP "Once we teach one person in Supply how to park correctly we will have no more worries. At that place all have a one-track mind" unquote. Far be it from me to argue with anyone concerning my mental condition.

We wonder if that transfer between Service Squadrons will in any way interfere with that long-awaited furlough of Inspector Morrow? . . . How come that Betty Jo Cannon of the Airplane and Engine Division, after spending a glum morning, is suddenly radiating with pep and smiles, after her almost daily phone call? No one is that good, or are they, Betty? . . . And again, who in the Shipping and Receiving Office is spending their evenings sewing the newly acquired staff sergeant stripes on a very definite soldier's shirt? And why not mine, I saw her first! . . . Hearts beat a little faster now, and we do mean faster, in Shipping and Receiving

Always In Season



Yes, my darling daughter, but don't go near the water, seems to be rhyme rule followed by Mary Brodel, Warner decoration. Who would want to bother with swimming, even in the West Texas heat, in the above dream scheme?

since Mamie Joe Ballard has been sentenced to a term in Warehouse No. 2—or should we say that Warehouse No. 2 has been sentenced to a term of Mamie Joe? . . . Then the current champion—Ginny Gale, the Blond Inspectress, whose feet are even lighter than her hair . . . Unofficially elected for this issue . . .

Headquarters

BY JOHN BOGARD

Deane Blakeney of Wink started to work Saturday, April 24th, as an assistant in the Payroll office.

Floryne Presler, receptionist and assistant personnel clerk at Headquarters, recently spent a three-days' leave visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Green Preslar of Robert Lee, Texas.

Victory Volunteers last week included Edward B. Vigee, Engineering, who bought a \$225.00 War Bond, and Mrs. Hellen Reese, Headquarters, who bought a \$50.00 War Bond, according to J. C. Reese, War Bond representative.

James R. Watford, foreman of the Sub-Depot Signal Section, went to Pecos recently to help repair a Navy plane, and while there visited the Signal Section at 387th Sub-Depot.

Curtis Renfro, radio mechanic's helper in Sub-Depot Signal

Section, left Tuesday of last week for his Army physical in El Paso.

Miss Pat M. Hawks, transfer from Davis-Monahan, assumed her duties as assistant personnel clerk at Sub-Depot Headquarters Tuesday of last week.

Mrs. Mabel L. Burkholder property clerk at Sub-Depot Signal Section, left Tuesday of last week course at SAAD in Signal Corps Property and Supply for airborne radio equipment, according to Lt. Joseph Seaman, Signal Officer. Mrs. Burkholder has earned the distinction of being the first person ever to make a perfect score there in setting up stock bins for Signal Corps property.

Recent improvements at the Sub-Depot Signal Section include the addition of a new stock room, the installation of an outside telephone (No. 147), and the provision of individual benches for the radio mechanics.

"Mother" Jiles, Headquarters senior personnel clerk, has a large family of general mechanic learners which is growing at a rabbit-rate.

Miss Jean Williams of Monahans started to work Thursday as assistant file clerk at Headquarters.

Miss Ronda Geeslin of Wink went on duty Thursday as Headquarters messenger girl.

SERVICE SQUADRONS

Genter's Outfit

BY S-SGT JOHN A. DEVINE

Our renowned and most proficient reporter, Cpl. Lloyd K. Pearson, at the present is on an extended tour of recreation, i. e., a furlough. Here's hoping the column meets with his approval.

The Genter Outfit has finally packed their bags and moved. We must admit there wasn't a better spot on the field than our old abode, and incidentally why weren't the shade trees taken along? They're practically worth their weight in gold around these parts.

Attention: Barracks No. 4.

Who's the goat that got somebody's goat?

It seems poor old "Jug Head" is getting plenty of competition these days.

May I quote Miss Margaret Myers of Engineering (Quote) "It seems we have quite a number of Jitterbugs in our midst by the representation of girls at the past two balls, did we say balls or brawls." (Unquote).

I wish to inform Miss Margaret Myers that the next time we hold our event we will try to make it more demure, if possible entirely formal at the Coconut Grove. Will that accomodate you, Mam???

A toast to our acting 1st Sgt. Cpl. Paul Eckberg, he has done and is doing a marvelous job. I'm sure this toast represents the feeling of our entire squadron. He has what goes with the heavy burden of a 1st Sgt's job — a knowledge of human nature and the psychology of handling men.

To the boys that are leaving our midst and going back to civilian life: we hate to see you go, but someone must carry on the second front at home. The entire squadron and its command section wishes you all the best of everything. You have done your part in the armed forces well, carry on in civilian life.

In my opinion our squadron has a number of excellent ball players. We are still watching for our promised diamond, when that happens, gentlemen — look out.

Our Sq. was well represented at the post ball. By the way, Manupelli who was that lovely creature you were right grooveeee with? Such exotic feet-ures—my oh my.

Diedrich's Outfit

BY PFC. MYRON ROBERTS

Egypt has its Pyramids, Nevada has Boulder Dam, Panama's got a canal and now a new miracle of

mankind's ingenuity is about to be displayed right here in Pyote. Sgt. Jack Yaros and his loyal, if dusty, crew of dirt-shovelers are now launched upon a campaign to make a veritable Garden of Eden out of what today is nothing but sandy waste-land. Yaros is grimly determined to add a touch of natural beauty to the desolate exterior of the Sq. Orderly Room. If his mighty project is successful and he actually makes something grow out of this barren wasteland he will have achieved a true eighth wonder of the world.

Miscellany:

Latest achievement of our mighty reptile-killers comes from Pfc. Barcus who smashed the life out of a hissing rattlesnake outside Barracks 1. — Our Hero . . . Sgt. Abrahams is secretly considering sending a mash-note to some young innocent in the Sub-Depot. It seems she cannot be contacted by the usual methods of polite society . . . A reward of six rattlesnake skins is now being offered for the capture (preferably dead) of the culprit who swiped 1st Sgt. Walshe's blanket and comforter. What lies in store for the villain when and if he is captured is too gruesome to print . . . Pvt. W. Bottorf announces a standing offer to walk home barefooted with a wildcat under each arm—if he can get a 99 year furlough upon arriving.

The peaceful little hamlet of Cisco is still the major topic of discussion. To hear the boys tell it, G.I.'s, upon entering the town, are issued clubs to beat off the hordes of hungry females. (Pardon me while I enquire about when the next train leaves for Cisco.)

Trick of the week was pulled off by Norman Vonesh who went to the hospital a Pfc. and came out a S-Sgt. Modern Medical Science is indeed a miracle worker . . . The squadron's first casualty will be suffered sometime between May 1 and May 15. Sgt. Britton has announced he's going home to marry the gal . . .

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

By S-Sgt. Lawrence Shipp

Not only is the Medical Department interested in hasty and eventful recovery of all patients but also in the culture of anything that grows on the desert. Could it be that 1st Lt. Szymkowicz (Chief Nurse) studied the culture of cactus on her 3 day leave to Yua-rez, Mexico? It's a cinch she didn't see a bull fight—Incidentally, those tomatoe plants—terrible!

Attention: all flower lovers

One's Enough



Alexis Smith, statuesque blonde beauty from Washington State, spends much of her time entertaining servicemen in the camps over the country. Ever hear of Pyote, Alexis?

who would like to see roses in West Texas call on Lt. Tesitor; could he be co-owner of "The Garden of Hidden Roses." Oh yes, was Lt. Igou there or under the table? One thing we do know; cactus will grow! The Adjutant drove over 60 miles one day just to bring back various species of cacti that he didn't have for his "Pride and Joy," namely the veritable Paradise that is springing up in front of the Administration Bldg. Nice work, Cpl. McCauliffe. The fish pool's OK, but ah, were it only large enough for swimming!

What's the matter Zweren? Could it be that you have a leaky bucket; more water on yourself than on the tree! By the way, who started the slogan. "BUY BONDS TO HELP BUILD MY FISH POND"?—very aptly put.

Corp. Garcia, the scarlet baseball champion you've heard so much about, spent most of Tuesday evening dancing with the same girl; wanna watch that stuff Corporal. "Bobbie" Freas, who thinks someone is sabotaging his mail, couldn't quit talking one night—she must have been lovely! Since when does it take a day and a half to come back from Wink, Sgt. Mason? If it's the stage coach you're waiting for, they quite running 40 years ago.

Well! Some's got it and some "Aint got it." As far as nurses,

Lt. Kennedy and Robinson were concerned Saturday night, no one had "it" but they. Is it high altitude that causes all the soldiers in the pressure chamber to look so "knocked out" or is it that new secretary of Lt. Hafkenshields? Among the missing at present is "The Office of the Chief Ward Master." No one seems to be able to find it. Could you give us any light on that, Sgt. Tucker or Cpl. Biondi?

On Pvt. "Henry" Aldridge's escorted trip back from Dallas recently his appetite was very poor—wonder why? But it's certainly picking up; could it be the "Evening Bucket Brigade?"

Easter Sunday saw Cpl. Zimmerman in a truly festive mood. Haven't you heard, Zim, the Mardi Gras's been called off for the duration! As a result of a 30 minute call to Atlanta thirty-two tired soldiers didn't sleep for three hours but they did learn that it is possible to perform a G.I. wedding in 28 minutes flat; that is from the time the train pulls into Pyote and a happily married leave the Base Chapel—Sounds OK, Echols.

No one is happier than Lt. Kinsey that Ras Campbell got his "Choppers." For three months to the day Ras never failed to make inquiries. Oh yes, Ras, if it's Lt. Igou you want to find—try Surgery!

AT THE THEATER

Two high flying pictures this week should be "Flight for Freedom" and "Cabin in the Sky," contrasting in theme but both on the beam.

"Flight for Freedom," starring Rosalind Russell, Fred MacMurray and Herbert Marshall, drew this from Liberty: "It has all the elements that make for an entertaining movie . . . fast-moving . . . exciting . . . see it."

In this show, Roz is a woman flyer who gives her life in a sea crash to give the Navy opportunity to search for her and incidentally to photograph Japanese military preparations in the Pacific mandated islands. The film centers around Jap expansion during the 1930s, and Time says that "Russell's and MacMurray's thanks-for-the-memory love junket is as bland as anything the Hays office has swallowed in recent months." There are weak spots in the script, but the story should be particularly interesting locally, MacMurray is a navigator and Marshall a plane designer.

"Cabin in the Sky" is a "musical fantasy," according to Liberty, and Movies magazine lets go with the adjective "spectacular." The cast is all-Negro, and includes Jack Benny's Rochester, as well as super-songstress Ethel Waters. Little Joe, Rochester, struggles with the forces of good and evil. For added attractions: Duke Ellington, Lous Armstrong, and the Hall Johnson Choir. That should be okay.

The week begins with "Henry Aldrich Gets Glamour," inspired by the popular radio show, written by human-wise Clifford Goldsmith. In this, Henry visits Hollywood, and in that tangle-happy town he should instruct the natives. Meeting a movie queen launches the fun.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Tuesday: Double Feature — "Henry Aldrich Gets Glamour" with Jimmy Lydon and John Litel, and "Ladies Day," with Lupe Velez, Eddie Albert and Patsy Kelly.

Wednesday and Thursday: "Flight from Freedom," with Rosalind Russell, Fred MacMurray and Herbert Marshall. Shorts: "Coal Black and De Sebben Dwarfs". Paramount News.

Friday: "Cabin in the Sky" with Ethel Waters, Eddie Anderson and Louis Armstrong. Shorts: Ina Ray and Orchestra and Barney Barnyard Black out.

Saturday: Flying Tigers," with John Wayne, John Correll and Anna Lee. Shorts: Pluto and the Armadillo; Paratroops.

6 Base Officers Sport New Bars

Six Base Officers last week received notice of promotion, one to captain and five to first lieutenant, and brand new bars are shining in Pyote's spring sun.

Promoted from first lieutenant to captain was Base Chaplain Edwin W. Norton, whose home is at 701 E. Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colo. Chaplain Norton was commissioned October 7, 1942, and came to the Rattlesnake Bomber Base, appropriately enough, on Christmas Day.

Promoted from second lieutenant were:

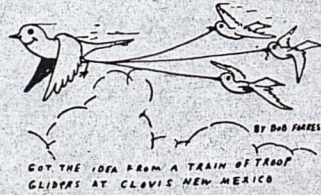
Lt. Ellis D. Orchard, Assistant Base S-4 Officer, who was commissioned December 9, 1942 and whose home is at 137 Fairway Drive, Twin Falls, Idaho.

Lt. Frank L. Orfanello, Base Courts, Boards and Claims Officer, who was commissioned January 20, 1943 and whose home is at 610 Adams St., Dorchester, Mass.

Lt. Charles L. Honn, Maintenance Officer, commissioned September 24, 1942 with home address, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Lt. George A. Hoffman, Base Special Services Officer, commissioned December 9, 1942, whose home address is 11574 Sunshine Terr., N Hollywood, Calif.

Lt. Wadd W. Lackey, Base Library and Theatre Officer, commissioned November 17, 1942, with home address, Hiddenite, N. C.



Laugh Of The Week

(CNS)—Victor Mature, now in the Coast Guard, went on patrol duty on a vessel which was outfitted with a movie screen, projector and nine Victor Mature movies. Every night after dinner there was a Victor Mature movie. His buddies were very frank and outspoken in their criticism.

Sunday and Monday: "The Moon Is Down," with Sir Cecil Hardwicke and Henry Travers, Shorts: "This is America," Paramount News.

Show Time:

STARTS	ENDS
1:30 p. m.	3:30 p. m.
5:30 p. m.	7:30 p. m.
8:00 p. m.	10:00 p. m.
10:15 p. m.	12:15 a. m.

Some Soldier



It would be nice to label this: "Preview of WAACS Summer Uniform, Regulation for Rattlesnake Bomber Base." But it is Republic's Lola Coogan swinging the neat landing gear in an Army-theme show.

QM Store Opens For Servicemen And Dependents

The Quartermaster Commissary Store is now open for business from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays, Lt. Conrad Erickson, Jr., Base Sales Officer, has announced.

All military personnel and their authorized dependents may make purchases, as well as civilians employed by the Army—but not those working for contractors. Customers must present proper identification, and goods may be purchased only for personal use and, if rationed, according to OPA restrictions.

Officers may purchase clothing on Mondays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., in Quartermaster Warehouse No. 3.



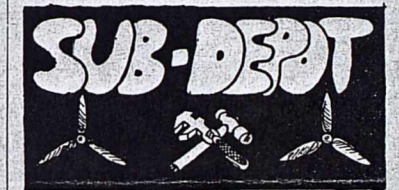
These Camouflage guys really know their stuff!

Watch Your Step —Wed Wisely

A committee of military experts—a second louie with a pair of wings at stake, and a buck private and a buck sergeant who recently completed the AAF's version of the Charles Atlas course—convened at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base this week and accomplished the following questionnaire for use by all soldiers in proposals of marriage.

Next time she asks you, hand her this questionnaire.

1. Are you engaged in remunerative war work?
 2. Do you own an automobile?
 3. Are all five tires in excellent condition?
 4. Do you have a "C" card?
- If her answer is "yes" to 1, 2, 3, and 4, time's a-wastin'.



Engineering

BY MARGARET MYERS

The Sub-Depot is just like the army. They come and they go. We certainly do hate to see Mrs. McBee leave, but the impression of her sweet disposition and marvelous personality will remain with us. We welcome Mrs. Ruth Mendleson into our midst, from Denver, Colorado, who is Mr. Dozier's new secretary.

The Tuesday night dance was a huge success, according to Miss Reeves; plenty of good music and an ample supply of stags and what more does a good dance need?

If you see a red flash go by you'll know it is Betty "Red" Logan and Sgt. Sheeley going for a motorcycle ride.

One would think a B-17 would be rather hard to lose, but if you see Frances Connally on the run you'll know she has lost another plane. Have you seen that wide-grin and bright-eyed look on none other than Jack Wazell's and Marguerite Reeves' faces—and no wonder from the picture and mail they have been receiving from their "sweetest ones" in Tucson and Dyersburg—if you don't believe it, ask them!

You would think one was being paid in the Sub-Depot for working but Mrs. Beavers delights in playing cards—time cards. Until next time here's a joke from yours truly:

"A Lt. coming in late to a Monahans-Odessa football game sat down by a blond cutie from Monahans and asked "Who's game?" "I am," she replied.

May 4, 1943

The Problem: To Get Within Effective Bomb Range

Jap Brutality Fires Demand For More Raids

BY PVT. TOMME CALL
Rattler Editor

Japanese brutality last week had turned American eyes temporarily from the victory-headed struggle in Tunisia toward the Far East enemy's home islands. The Japanese government had cold-bloodedly murdered an undisclosed number of the eight flyers captured out of the Doolittle raid on Tokyo, and later reports revealed that men, women and children in the Chinese coastal region, where American fliers from the raid were assisted in escaping into the interior, were wantonly slaughtered.

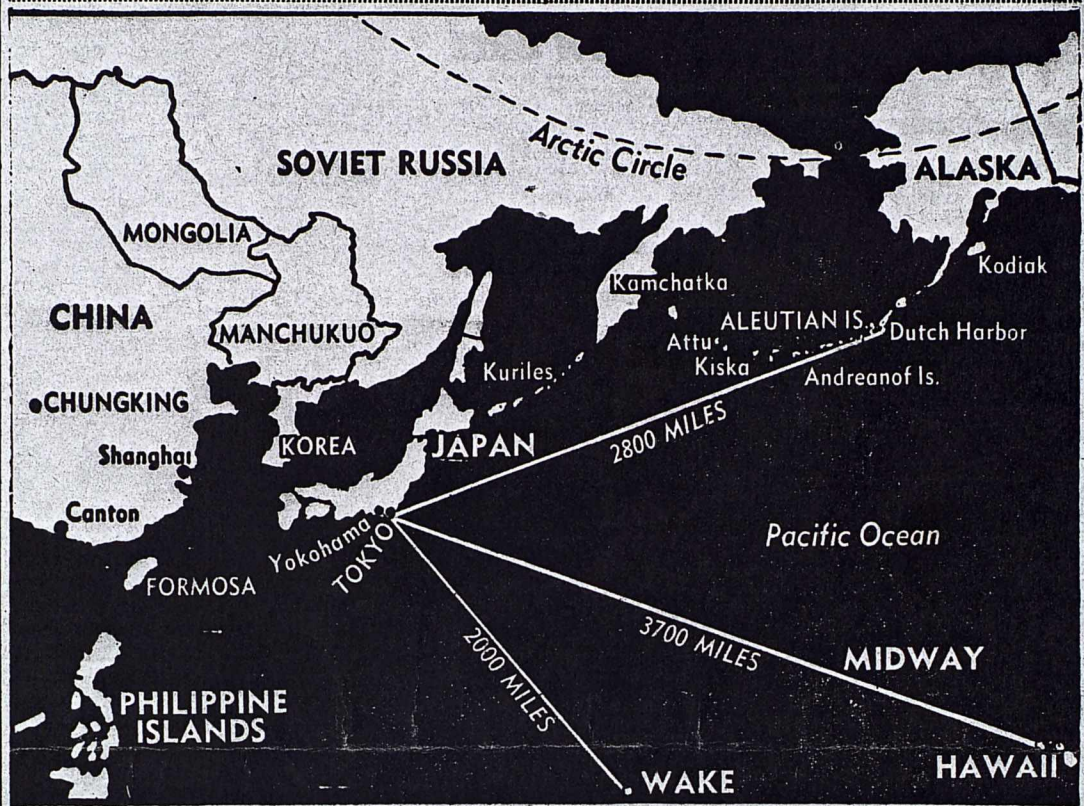
Maj. Gen. Doolittle, whose bombers are now blasting the enemy in Tunisia and the Mediterranean theater, gave America's answer: The Japanese would be bombed again and again "until they beg for mercy." Press speculation on how that purpose is to be accomplished generally concluded that a major successful campaign must precede heavy, sustained bombardment of Japan proper.

Such bombardment was not considered feasible from carriers, as the Doolittle raiders mission used the Hornet, and adequate bases were yet to be had for striking at Japan's industrial heart. Adjacent news map indicates the difficulties of distance from presently held points.

Most logical solution would be to establish the bomber bases in China, but for that, commentators pointed out, facilities for a greater flow of supplies must be obtained. Burma probably would have to be retaken to accomplish that. Or, perhaps the attacks will have to wait until the Allied forces fight their way through the Pacific islands to within bombing distance of Tokyo.

Press opinion also considered the possibility of Allied air forces using nearby Russian territory for bases from which to bomb Japanese industrial centers, but Russo - Japanese neutrality may not be broken by either side so long as each is heavily engaged on other fronts.

Japan reputedly has streng-



thened its defenses in the Kuriles, which stand between its home islands and the American Aleutians, perhaps anticipating a bid to get within bombing range from that direction. Consequently the next bombing of Tokyo may come from any point around Japan's defense circle, but there appears to be no easy route to accomplish the factory-shattering bombardment to which every American looks forward.

Last week the war on the Eastern Front centered mainly in the Kuban region of the Caucasus, where the Nazis were trying to expand their bridgehead and maintain their foothold in that rich land. The Russians' winter offensive fell just short of pushing the Germans completely out of the Caucasus, but the Red Army was holding its own against the German counterattacks. Though the other sectors of that front reported only minor actions, dispatches from European sources indicated another German summer offensive in the making. How much offensive power is still left in the Wehrmacht soon may be revealed.

Secretary of War Stimson last week hit an optimistic note in his war summary, terming definite air superiority in North Africa as the Allies' outstanding advantage. From March 29 to April 24, the official score

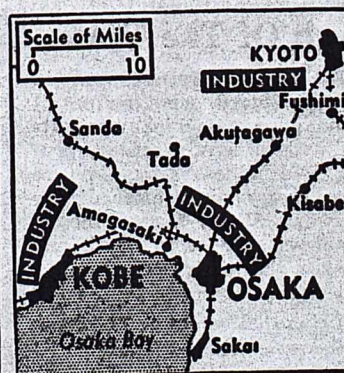
Above: The Roads To Tokyo

stood at 1,064 enemy planes destroyed against 270 Allied planes lost. Robert G. Nixon, veteran INS staff correspondent surveying front news dispatches in New York, concluded:

"In five to six weeks—the latter part of May and early June—the Battle of Africa should be at an end with a smashing Allied victory."

Secretary Stimson added that the Southwest Pacific sit-

uation had improved somewhat during the past week—but added that there is still strong possibility of a Japanese offensive. For that reason, he revealed, Gen. MacArthur now is receiving "all possible reinforcements, particularly aircraft." In Europe, the Secretary added, American daylight raids on German industrial centers have been more successful than previous information indicated.



What Bombardier wouldn't like to get his sights set on one of the targets indicated here? It has been done once; it can be done again.

