

Fortress Crews' Major Objective Is 'Bombs Away!'

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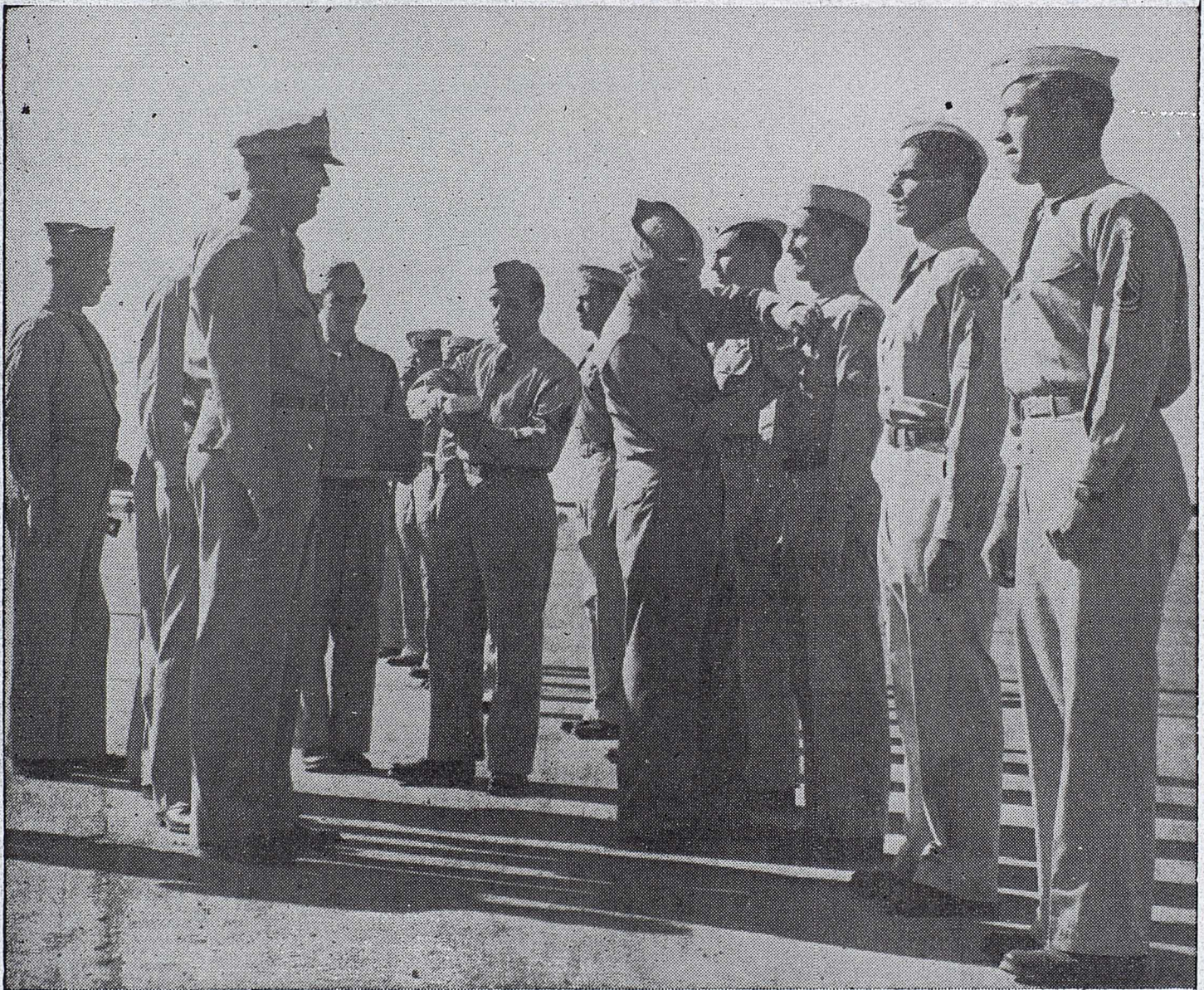
19TH GETS 65 MORE---

For making scrap of an undetermined amount of Japanese equipment during the opening months of the war in the Pacific, for battling gallantly against overwhelming odds and with very few planes and little equipment, the 19th Bombardment Group became the most decorated outfit in the U.S. Armed Forces. As a final chapter to a brilliant combat career, 65 more decorations were pinned on members of the 19th Group at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Saturday. Col. Louie Turner, 19th CO, pins medal on smiling Sergeant (below), as Lt. Col. C. L. Hewitt, Jr., base CO looks on at left with Capt. Valmer L. McCroskey, base executive, extreme left.

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UNSANITARY GREMLINS MUST BE RELIEVED OF K. P. DUTY

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NO SCRAP METAL THIS. Medals piled on a table before they were awarded 19th Group members Saturday afforded this unusual photo by S-Sgt. John C. Lucas, base photographer. Above are

Soldier's Medal (Spreading Eagle, center), Purple Heart (profile of

George Washington on heart), Silver Star (upper left), and Distinguished Flying Cross (top center). Each has a ribbon for the daily uniform and small enamel bar on button for civilian lapels after the war.

For Nineteenth Group Veterans: Sixty-Five Medals

Review, Mass Pinning Ceremony Honor Heroes Of Far East War

Sixty-five medals were added to the already prodigious individual collections of the 19th Bombardment Group Saturday at a mass medal-pinning ceremony at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base.

The array included 11 Silver Stars, 8 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Silver star, 36 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 4 Oak Leaf Clusters to the D.F.C., 4 Purple Hearts, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart, and 1 Soldier's Medal.

Doing the pinning were Col. Louie P. Turner, new 19th Group commander, Lt. Col. Edward R. Fuller, commanding officer of the Army Air Base, Clovis, New Mexico, and Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., Rattlesnake Bomber Base commander.

Awarding of the medals brought up to date decorations due members of the one group which held off the Japs in the Southwest Pacific until the rest of America was ready for war.

Wearing their new medals, the decorated men received the day's review in which all personnel on the base not actually flying missions participated. Flying Fortresses zooming into the air on regular missions formed a dramatic backdrop for the ceremony.

Receiving the Silver Star were:

435th Bombardment Squadron: 1st Lt. Ralph K. Watts, M-Sgt. Ralph J. Stiles, M-Sgt. Meddie N. Poirier, T-Sgt. Walter V. Cheek, T-Sgt. George Ryan Jr., T-Sgt. Wayne E. Johnson, Pvt. John E. Lillback.

28th Bombardment Squadron: 1st Lt. Glenn C. Osbourne, T-Sgt. George Land, T-Sgt. Leo T. Ranta, S-Sgt. Leo F. Shreve.

Group Headquarters: 2nd Lt. Lawton L. Tabor.

Receiving the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, in addition to the Silver Star previously awarded, were:

435th Bombardment Squadron: Maj. Robert E. Thacker, M-Sgt. Ralph J. Stiles, S-Sgt. Kenneth A. Gradle.

28th Bombardment Squadron: 2nd Lt. Charles C. Schierholz, T-Sgt. Regis D. Weinfurther.

Group Headquarters: Capt. Erling J. Nossam, Capt. Edward R. Yerington.

93rd Bombardment Squadron: Capt. Percy M. Hinton.

Receiving the Purple Heart were:

435th Bombardment Squadron: 1st Lt. Virgil B. Lindsey.

28th Bombardment Squadron: 2nd Lt. Charles C. Schierholz, S-Sgt. Russell D. Johnson, S-Sgt.

Leo E. Shreve.

Receiving the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, in addition to the Purple Heart previously awarded was:

28th Bombardment Squadron: S-Sgt. Russell D. Johnson.

Receiving the Soldier's Medal was:

93rd Bombardment Squadron: S-Sgt. Warren L. Tribble.

Receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross were:

435th Bombardment Squadron: Maj. R. E. Thacker, 1st Lt. Virgil B. Lindsey, M-Sgt. Ralph J. Stiles, M-Sgt. Meddie N. Poirier, T-Sgt. George Ryan Jr., 1st Lt. Ralph K. Watts, S-Sgt. Robert K. Barnard, S-Sgt. Francis R. Duclos, S-Sgt. Earl W. Curtis, S-Sgt. Kenneth A. Gradle, Pvt. John E. Lillback.

28th Bombardment Squadron: Capt. Robert C. Miller, Capt. Thomas C. Parkinson, 1st Lt. Glenn C. Osbourne, 2nd Lt. Charles C. Schierholz, M-Sgt. John H. Lindgren, T-Sgt. Clarence R. Olson, T-Sgt. Thomas J. Stewart, T-Sgt. Regis D. Weinfurther, S-Sgt. Kenneth L. House, S-Sgt. Harold E. Guse, S-Sgt. Herbert M. Lemke, S-Sgt. Leonard N. Secor, S-Sgt. Leo E. Schreve, S-Sgt. Delbert M. Clair, S-Sgt. Jack E. Maddock.

Group Headquarters: Maj. Edward C. Habberstad, Capt. Erling J. Nossam, Capt. Edward Yerington.

30th Bombardment Squadron: Capt. Edson J. Sponable Jr., 1st Lt. Guy K. Dozier, T-Sgt. Leo H. Ferraguto, T-Sgt. James H. Holcomb, T-Sgt. William I. Hamilton, S-Sgt. George Sweedar, S-Sgt. Joseph C. Wateski.

93rd Bombardment Squadron: Capt. Richard T. Hernlund.

Receiving the Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, in addition to the Distinguished Flying Cross previously awarded were:

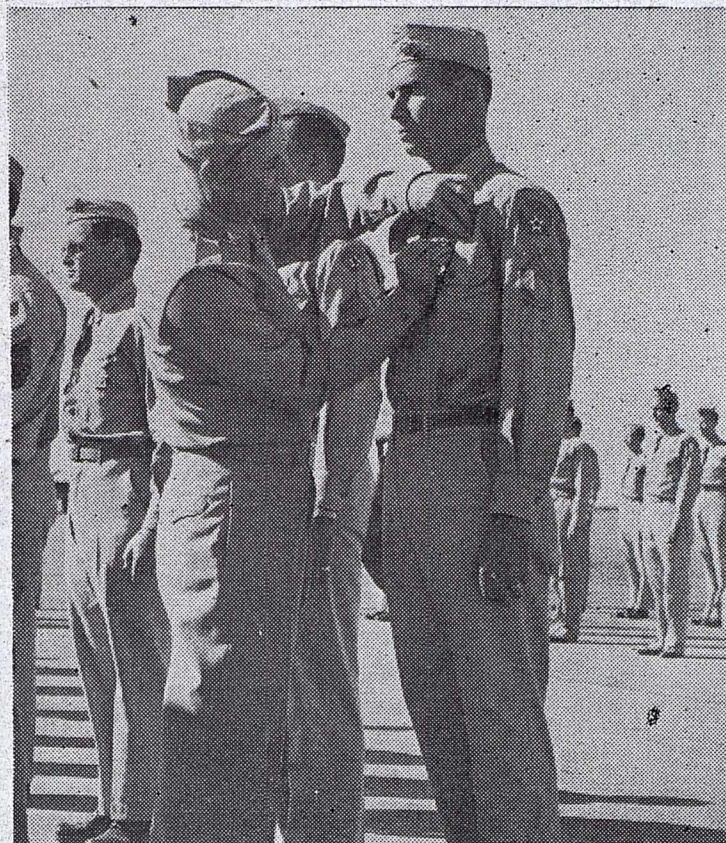
435th Bombardment Squadron: T-Sgt. Billie B. Sutton.

30th Bombardment Squadron: S-Sgt. George Sweedar, T-Sgt. Leo H. Ferraguto, T-Sgt. Lloyd D. Whipp.

Major John B. Nelson, base plans and training officer who planned the day's event, stated

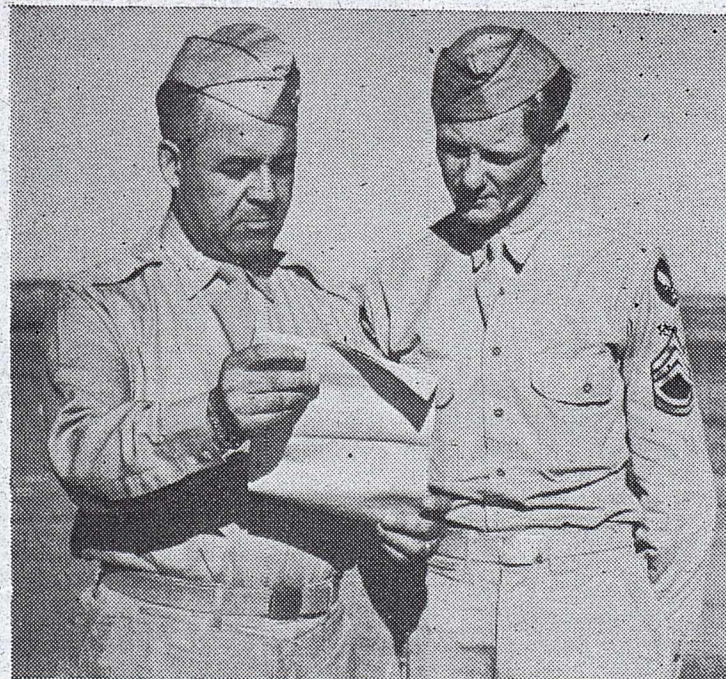
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With Great Pleasure



Col. Louie Turner, new C.O. of the 19th Bombardment Group, smiles broadly as he pins medal on T-Sgt. George Ryan, Jr. of the 435th Squadron. The act partially hides T-Sgt. Leo T. Ranta but leaves in full view freshly-decorated T-Sgt. George Land—looking very military indeed. Ranta and Land are of the 28th Squadron.

Behind The Scenes



Maj. John B. Nelson, base plans and training officer, goes over a list of the men who were to receive the 65 decorations at Saturday's ceremony with T-Sgt. Robert W. Huff, S-4's chief clerk. Maj. Nelson was behind-the-scenes director of the show.

Reviewing Officers At Decoration Ceremonies



In the reviewing party at Saturday's decoration ceremony were, left to right, Col. Louie Turner, commander of the 19th Group Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., base commander; Lt. Col. Edward

Fuller, base commander at Clovis, New Mexico, and a close friend of Col. Hewitt; Maj. John H. M. Smith, 19 Group executive; and Capt. Valmer L. McCroskey, base executive.

Still Room For Improvement

(Continued from Page 3)

that the marching of all organizations was generally improved over the first monthly parade and inspection held the preceding Saturday.

"But there's still plenty of room for improvement," Maj. Nelson said. The WAAC Company belatedly received the parade ribbon which it won the week before and will wear the ribbon on its guidon until—and when—copped by another organization at another monthly parade and inspection.

In the reviewing party Saturday, in addition to the three colonels were Maj. John H. M. Smith, 19th Group executive officer, and Capt. Valmer L. McCroskey, base executive.

Capt. Charles R. Herpich was adjutant, and Capt. Ernest R. Genter was troop commander.

Group commanders for the day were Maj. David G. Rawls for units of the 19th Group and Lt. Homer P. Smith for all remaining units.

Distinguished guest of the day was Col. Fuller of Clovis, who has

been a close friend of Col. Hewitt since the two were together in the short course for base commanders held last year at Fort George Wright, Washington. It was Col. Fuller's first visit to the Rattlesnake Bomber Base, and to prove that rivalry between the two commanders is friendly, he admitted that "Pyote has its good points."

He saw a number of "good points" receive 65 decorations Saturday and many others pass in review.

FREE MEAL AND A GIRL OFFERED SERVICEMAN

HARTFORD, Conn. (CNS) — A Theater is inviting all the girls here to leave their names in the box office. A drawing will be held and the lucky winner will get a date—and a free dinner—with a serviceman.

Part of the 200,000 population in the city is composed of beautiful girls. Another part is composed of girls who are not so terrific. The lucky soldier will have to take his chances.

But anyway he gets a meal.

Talent Is Sought For 'Eyes Right' Musical Comedy

Talent is being sought for "Eyes Right," a musical comedy portraying army life under the influence of women, to be sponsored here by the Base NCO Club and the WAAC Company.

All men who can act and/or sing are requested to report at the Rec. Hall Friday at 7 p.m. Pfc. Norman M. Labnon will direct the show—if he can find the talent which must be here. Women players will be WAACs.

Pfc. Labnon arranged the original music for the show, and the dialogue was written by David Garth, who wrote "Four Men and A Prayer" for Warner Brothers, and Lou Cook, another Hollywood writer.

The show was originally presented at State A & M College, and the big Fitch Simmons Hospital, Colorado. It was enthusiastically received at Gowan Field, Boise, Idaho.

Laff Of The Week

BOSTON (CNS) — In this staid old city of beans and breeding, school styles are important. Consequently one firm was hurled back in something less than an orderly retreat when the president of the senior class at a high school wrote a letter saying, "Please send me the prices for caps and gowns, particularly zoot gowns, if you carry them."

TALKATIVE 'SGT' NABBED

PITTSBURGH (CNS)—A phony "sergeant" who blabbed just once too often is in the clink under his right name, Pvt. Robert E. Weiller, an AWOL dogface.

Masquerading as a sergeant who had just returned from frontline combat, Weiller, who actually has never been out of the country, made a speech at a disabled veterans convention here in which he described the rigors of life in North Africa.

Some of the veterans noted discrepancies in his story and turned him over to MPs.

Army Bandman Must Be Good Soldier And Musician

Classes, Drilling, Rehearsals, And GI Routine Make His Day A Full One

Being an Army bandman is no soft job.

Behind every performance are long hours of classes, drilling, rehearsals, and general military routine—for each man has to be a musician and a soldier, and the unit aims at the precision of a combat crew.

Take a typical bandman's typical day:

He gets up by the regular GI "alarm clock" to ready the band barracks and area for inspection, and follows breakfast with stiff calisthenics.

Morning is rehearsal time. For an hour he is in sectional rehearsal, where the best musician in reeds, percussion, or brass instructs his fellows. Particularly difficult parts are worked over, and the section learns playing together smoothly. Beginning about 9 a.m., general rehearsal takes the remainder of the morning.

The first half of the bandman's afternoon is devoted to classwork, musical and military.

Special instruction is given in ear training, harmony, acoustics, timing, technique and the like. The bandman also is given infantry basic training, with lectures, manual study, and practice in gas defense, military courtesy, sanitation, use of weapons, and similar subjects. The latter is important because bands now go into combat areas and are partially responsible for headquarters protection—unlike in previous wars.

After the classes, the bandman turns out for drill and special band formations. His hut-hip-hup-ho differs in some particulars from

that of other organizations.

The band does not do about face—two left or right faces are substituted—nor does it do flanking movements or to the rear, march.

Reason for the differences is the difficulty of marching with instruments. A bass drummer would have considerable trouble doing to the rear, march, and a trombonist might knock someone's head off about facing.

After the organization progresses further, the bandman after drilling will dash back into the barrack to get ready for playing at Retreat or evening concerts. And, if he is in the dance band section, he might play for the rugcutters half the night. In addition, he must be on hand at all times for base or organization ceremonies where the band may be required to play. Later, he must also find time for Service Club shows, radio broadcasts, and other such entertainment as may be found appropriate.

Otherwise, his time is his own. Capt. Charles R. Herpich Jr., Base Adjutant, is the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Band's commanding officer, and Mr. Irvin E. Zimmerman, WO (jg), is the band leader.

A graduate of the Army Music School, Mr. Zimmerman received

his bachelor of music degree from the Cincinnati College of Music and studied also at the University of Cincinnati, Dayton University, Xavier University, and Wittenberg College. He was teaching music at the University of North Carolina before entering the service. If he needs an arrangement that is not in the band's library, that can't be requisitioned in time, or one of a local original piece, he writes it himself. Like other military outfits, the bandleader and his men must be quick to improvise.

The authorized band organization calls for 28 first line musicians with ratings, and 12 privates as students. The first sergeant of the outfit acts as assistant band leader when necessary. Similarly, other bandmen have jobs in addition to their instrument position, such as supply sergeant and librarian.

The band barrack, near the enlisted men's Service Club, serves as sleeping quarters, rehearsal and study hall, office and storage room—a convenient if perhaps somewhat close arrangement.

No band, military or otherwise, was ever perfect, and a group of good musicians do not necessarily constitute a band. Practice, practice and more of it can always improve the timing and blending that make music. The bandmen in an organization must learn each other's musical eccentricities and peculiarities as well as the notes they play. So, when martial airs in the band barrack area disturb your off-duty-day morning slumbering, that is what's going on.

Lee Bates Named Warrant Officer

Lee Gordon Bates, in charge of the Publications Section at Headquarters, last week was appointed Warrant Officer, junior grade. Formerly he was a staff sergeant.

Son of Mrs. Cora Bates, Minneapolis, Minn., Mr. Bates enlisted in the Regular Army March 17, 1941. He married the former Miss Margaret Henry of Boise, Idaho, February 28, 1942.

Mr. Bates came to the Rattlesnake Bomber Base December 25, 1942. He started, and built from the ground up, the Headquarters' efficient Publications Section.

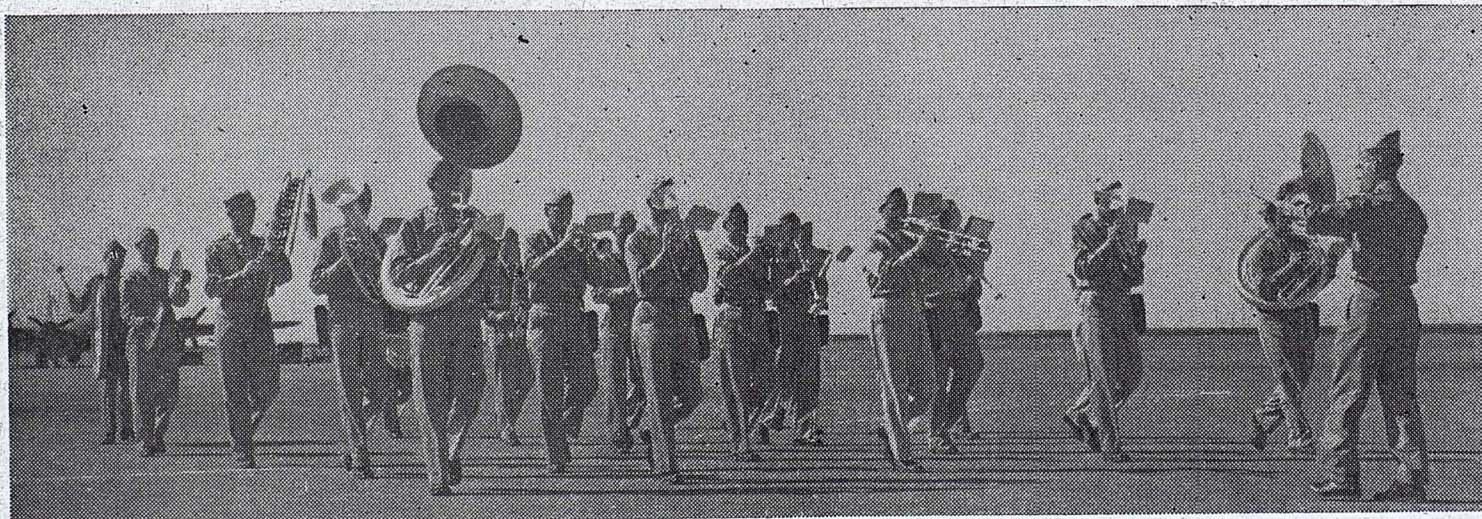
Red Cross Course In First Aid Starts Thursday

The first Red Cross First Aid Course to be conducted at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base will get under way Thursday morning, June 24, at 10 a.m. at the Red Cross Building next to Base Hospital, it was announced today by Mrs. Homer P. Smith, volunteer Red Cross worker.

Lt. Earl Malone of the Base Hospital medical staff will instruct the 20-hour course which is open to all interested military personnel and civilians.

Those completing the course will be awarded a three-year Red Cross First Aid Certificate, and will be eligible to take the 10-hour advanced course to follow.

Rattlesnake Bomber Base Military Band Steps Out On Review



SATURDAY'S REVIEW found the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Band, under the leadership of Mr. Irvin E. Zimmerman, WO (jg), again setting the musical cadence for Pyote's marching

soldiers. Before each show like this must come long hours of drill, rehearsal, and classroom study, and these men are getting it. Once they get in full swing, they will have little time of their own.

EDITORIAL:

Save Rubber To Win

Soldiers driving the Army's numerous and varied vehicles may not always realize the critical importance of the care they are required to give those machines, particularly the tires. But rubber conservation by the military today is more necessary than that by civilians on the home front, for most of America's scant rubber supply now is being used by the armed forces.

The enemy controls 93 per cent of this Nation's former rubber sources. This year's supply of crude and synthetic will total only 716,000 tons, compared with 800,000 tons used for civilian purposes alone before the war.

The army has mechanized forces in about 75 areas throughout the world; fighting power that must roll on rubber tires. Rubber is used for almost uncountable purposes, from inflatable bridge pontoons to eye pads for telescopes. The enemy had counted on our forces slowing up or breaking down for lack of the precious commodity, but strict conservation—until such time as scientific genius can fill the gap with synthetics—is "Keeping 'Em Rolling."

To thwart the enemy, Army drivers keep constant check on their tires—examining treads for irregular wear, maintaining proper inflation, keeping valve caps tightly fastened. Tire are interchanged—including the spare—for maximum use, groomed to keep them free from glass, nails, stones or other foreign matter, and recapped several times. Spares are stored to prevent contact with sunlight, oil, and other harmful elements. Careful mounting and de-mounting and having chains not too loose or too tight also conserve tires.

Careful driving is one of the most important means of conserving rubber. Road surfaces should be watched, to avoid holes or rocks. A car should be braked gradually, using the "apply-and-release" system to minimize wear. Strict obedience to the 35-mile-an-hour speed limit—with easy acceleration—is required for the same reason.

Vehicles should not be overloaded; wasteful tire wear will result. Taking curves slowly also makes the treads and sidewalls last longer.

Civilian car-users would do well to follow the Army regulations for prolonging the life of scarce tires, and GI drivers—realizing the importance of rubber conservation to winning the war—should observe those rules cheerfully.

As a War Department statement put it:

"In the care and conservation of precious tires, the United States Army has established an enviable record . . . Conservation must continue to be our watchword in our Army and on the home front. The more fully we conserve, the more quickly will our armed forces be ready to smash their way to final victory!"

THE RATTLER

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

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CARTOONISTS: Pfc. Robert Forrest.

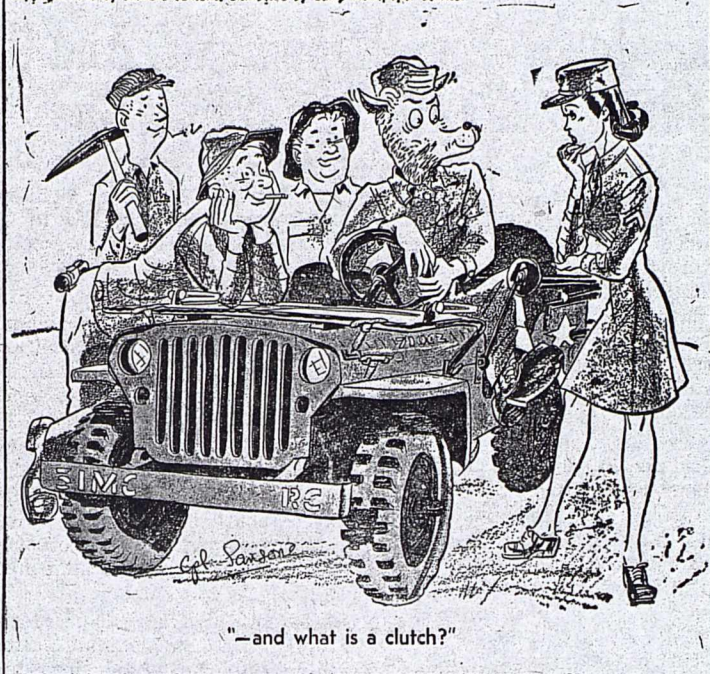
PHOTOGRAPHERS: S-Sgt. John Lucas, Sgt. Walter Seefeldt.

The Rattler receives Camp Newspaper Service material.

The Wolf

by Sansone

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"—and what is a clutch?"

The Diplomatic Front:

The United Nations, their peoples and governments, are finding it increasingly difficult to ignore a pressing problem: What punitive measures are to be applied to the defeated enemies?

Two general schools of thought prevail: 1. The "guilty leaders" must be punished, and removed, but the peoples merely rehabilitated under Allied-approved governments of their own making; 2. The entire enemy populations should be punished, for theirs was the choice to follow evil leadership.

Proponents of the first school argue that promising leniency to the enemy populations easily might shorten the war greatly by removing fear as a motive for continued resistance. Also, underground movements might develop more quickly into revolt against authoritarian regimes. That argument carries some weight regarding the European theater, emphatically so in Italy's case, but most American commentators do not consider that it presents a plausible case in the Far East.

Argument behind the second school usually centers on universal punishment of the aggressor peoples as a means to prevent future wars. In short, if losing a war of conquest were made a terrible experience, peoples might be more hesitant to follow war-making leadership.

The British and American governments have demanded "unconditional surrender" of the enemy, but statesmen in both countries have attempted to define the limits of punishment to exclude

the mass of the populations involved. But, no such definite promissory propaganda as President Wilson's Fourteen Points has been used, though The Atlantic Charter (in generalities) applies to enemy nations. The Soviet government, on the other hand, consistently has made a distinction between the totalitarian leaders and the peoples themselves, as regards post-war punishment. Dorothy Thompson, political commentator, lately made a good case for like policy by Britain and the United States, concluding:

" . . . open discussion advocating the dismemberment of Germany, its de-industrialization, subjection for years to foreign rule, and, in general, unilateral treatment, no matter what government might succeed the present one, all militate against effective political warfare. For it is obvious that even the most anti-Nazi and discouraged German will fight to the last ditch against such a program."

That opinion is supported by the nature of current enemy home-front propaganda, which stresses fear of the consequences of defeat rather than the glories of victory.

This question will not be an easy one to decide. The various United Nations doubtless will find it difficult—for historical as well as immediate reasons—to agree on the nature of punishment to be extended to each enemy people. In fact the details may have to await a peace conference following a "cooling off" period.

MEET YOUR BUDDIES:

**From Bookkeeper To Top Kick,
WAAC Sgt. Vincent Likes Army**

BY CPL. SID KANE
435th Bomb. Sqd.

You've seen her; you've heard about her; now read all about how she got to be one. Yes, I mean 1st Sergeant Alron H. Vincent, of the Rattlesnake Bomber Base WAAC Company.

She was employed as chief bookkeeper for the Fred Miller Hardware Co. of Port Arthur, Texas, her home town. Enlisting in the WAAC in Nov. 1942, she was sent to Daytona Beach, Florida, for basic and administrative training. At the end of this training, she was selected for 1st Sgt. because of the excellence of her grades.

She arrived here with the cadre of 12 WAACs on June 1st, 1943. Now, there are 78 of them, doing all kinds of work on the base. All are extremely proud of being a part of the Air Force and look forward to their daily tasks with eagerness.

Sgt. Vincent's "men" have the typical WAAC attitude. She says that 95% of them feel that by the WAACs became a part of the of the Army, they are releasing that many more men for combat service. They believe that all soldiers want active duty, but until taking over the non-combat jobs Army, that was an impossibility. As a matter of fact, some of the auxiliaries have requested combat service for the WAACs.

Sgt. Vincent's opinions of Army methods are interesting. She says that the Army is really "on the ball." The schedules for her detachment are as stringent as for the men, and they are expected to follow orders to the letter. The special types of training that they receive prior to active duty will stand them in good stead when peace has once again been restored.

There are a few rules that the girls have to obey on the post, regarding passes and clothing. Too much makeup is frowned upon; hair must be worn off the collar; clothes must be neat and clean at all times. The girls do their own laundry, and their room for that purpose looks like a Chinese laundry, after duty hours. As for Army chow, they think it's out of this world. They have originated their own three M's for Army life . . . Money, Mess, Mail, or it it Male?

Sgt. Vincent is called "Mom" by some of the girls. It originated while she and the original 12 were leaving Florida for Pyote. The girls threw "Mom" a birthday party a few weeks ago, with cake and all the trimmings. They went all out for their 1st Sgt., who is very well liked by all of them. Her desk is the clearing house for all the girls' problems, as well as their service records.

In closing, Sgt. Vincent emphasizes

that the WAACs do not want to be coddled. They know that they are in the Army and that they are rendering a definite service; so, treat 'em rough, fellers.

It's The War

**BOMB BLASTS 'CHUTIST
BACK UP INTO AIR**

NORTH AFRICA (CNS) — A bomb blast blew a parachutist skyward as he floated down with his silk after he had bailed out of his burning plane during the battle of Tunisia.

T-Sgt. Robert Root had floated to within 75 feet of the ground after his jump when a delayed action bomb, lodged directly beneath him, exploded. The force of the blast blew him upward again. That was all he remembered until he regained consciousness in a British hospital weeks later.

**GI BURNS WAY OUT OF CLINK
CAMP PICKETT, Va. (CNS)**

While in the clink Pvt. Robert C. Buckley heated a poker in a stove, burned away parts of the door panelling near the lock, opened the door and walked out. No one has seen him since.

**BROTHERS NAME FOUND
ON CAPTURED TRUCK**

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. (CNS)—Pvt. Sam Bucheri was inspecting a captured Italian truck brought here from Africa when his eyes popped open in amazement. On the side of the truck was the autograph of his brother, Cpl. Pat Bucheri, who is serving in that area.

**SOLDIERS AT SIBERT
SALUTE D. FUEHRER**

CAMP SIBERT, Ala. (CNS) — GIs at Camp Sibert have been going around saluting a guy called D. Fuehrer.

It's okay, however, because this D. Fuehrer isn't the monkey with the little mustache. He's Lt. Donald Fuehrer, a Chemical Warfare Service officer.

LONDON (CNS) — A local track meet for soldiers was delayed recently because the Army couldn't find a pistol to start the races.

Her Desk: A Clearing House



WAAC COMPANY First Sergeant Alron H. Vincent is well liked by the soldier-women under her leadership. Hers are all the problems that usually go with one of the toughest jobs in any man's army.



Genter's Outfit

BY SGT. LLOYD K. PEARSON

WANTED: A name for the Genter Squadron's newest recruit—Cpl. White's Mess Hall Jackrabbit. All suggestions will be gratefully received. Unlike the rest of his family this bunny is quite friendly and is thriving on army chow.

See that Staff Sergeant Devine is now smoking his pipe. This is a sure sign that the end of the month is approaching and the old pocket book is losing weight. Heard that Staff Sergeant Rosenfield was seen cavorting around the Hobbs roller skating rink. That's a long way to go for entertainment, but then Pyote is a long way from excitement anyhow. Wonder what the cause is for Sgt. Eldredge's and Cpl. LeSuer's frequent trips to Monahans? Such regularity must have something of great interest to the boys.

Last week's lecture was on the past history of Italy, with some very interesting comments by Sgt. Peacock and several other boys. This week's target laurels go to Cpl. Blint who got 7 bullseyes the first ten rounds he shot. This is quite unusual when you consider the fact that this was his first attempt at shooting. Saw

Private Sheckels doing his daily acrobatics on the horizontal bars. After watching this performance for several minutes I decided that my conditioning will continue to be done playing ping pong in the squadron day room.

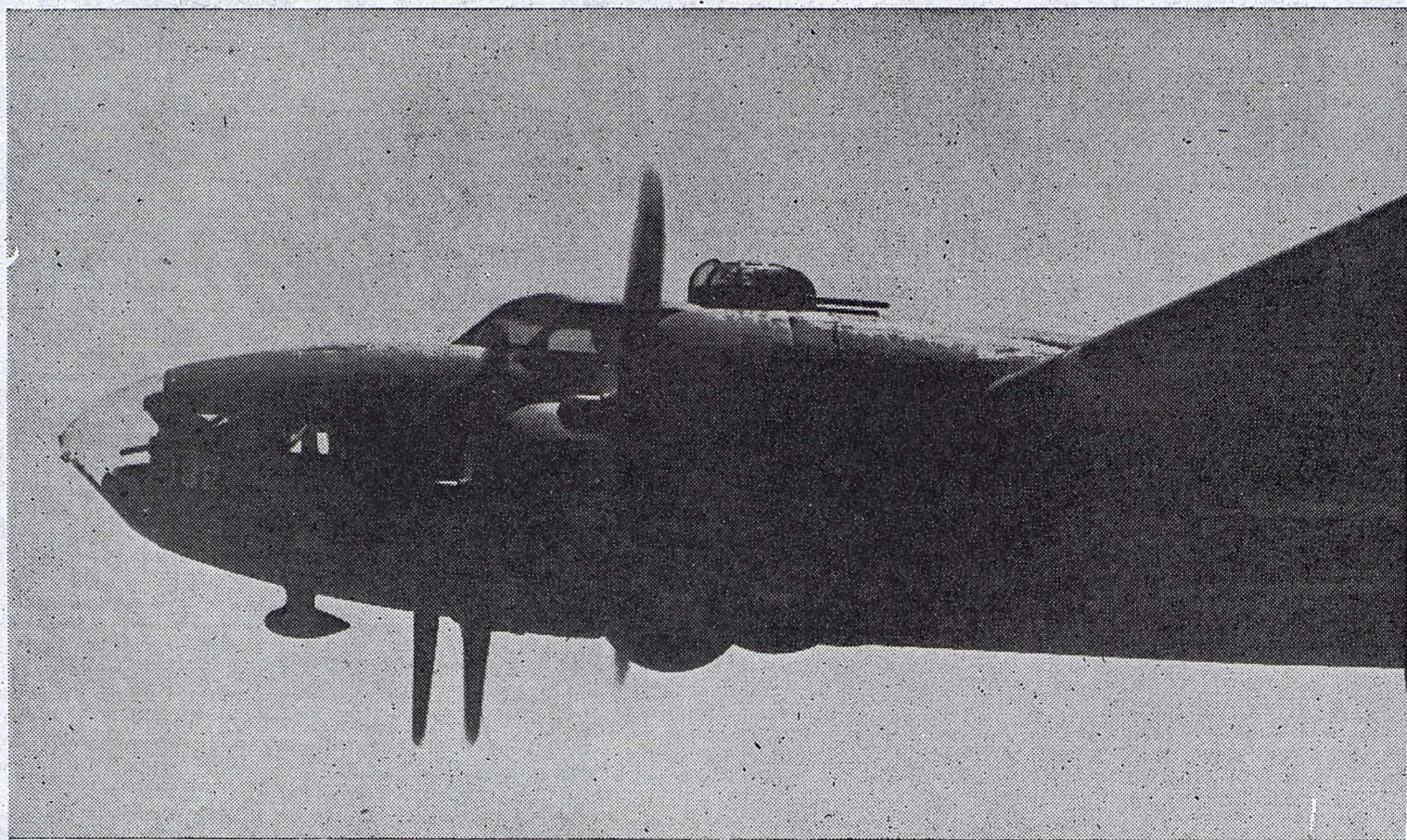
**FOLDING WING MODEL
AIDS AA GUNNERS**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — After extensive tests the Antiaircraft Artillery Command of the Army Ground Forces has approved the use of a new type of model airplane in the training of machine gunners for ground combat against low flying planes, according to a War Department announcement.

The model plane is revolutionary in design. It is a folding wing type craft that is launched from a catapult. The plane is made so that when it leaves the catapult the wings remain folded until it attains its desired altitude. This feature allows the plane to reach a greater altitude due to lessened resistance and drag. Then the wings open for the glide and a zig-zag and extended flight back to earth.

The model is a low-cost product that uses a minimum of essential war material and labor in construction.

FT. BENNING, Ga. (CNS)—The Army is providing parachutes for its carrier pigeons. The parachute pigeons are going to be dropped with paratroops who might land behind enemy lines and be unable to use radio or get necessary information back to their bases.



B-17: Its Crewmen Toward One Goal

The efforts of several thousand men stationed at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base and of countless thousands at other 2nd Air Force bases are turned toward the ultimate utterance of two small words.

The words: "Bombs away!"

These two words have caused millions of tons of destruction to be rained on enemies of the Allies the world over. Even as you read these sentences, crews welded together and trained either at Pyote or at other 2nd Air Force bases are dropping their venom of bombs at some point on the globe. You can count on that.

The 2nd Air Force, under the command of Maj. Gen. Davenport Johnson, with its two bomber commands, has the responsibility of assembling, putting on the edge for combat, and forwarding to theaters of operation all heavy bombardment crews supplied by the U.S. Army Air Forces in World War II.

Our 2AF has two kinds of assembly lines, each kind being made up of a number of bases. One is producing complete bombardment groups. The other is producing individual crews for replacements in groups already in combat zones. The Rattlesnake Bomber Base is now a first phase link in the latter chain.

Here's the story at Pyote:

The three big centers under the Flying Training Command send us pilots, co-pilots, bombardiers and navigators. But manpower supply doesn't stop with the schools which turn out these men. From technical schools we get radio men, engineers and armorers, each of whom is also a graduate gunner. (There is no longer a career gunner, who does nothing but man a particular gun).

Pyote's ground crews are static personnel. The bombardment groups to which our crews will eventually be assigned will have their ground crews with them.

Ground crew replacements—important to the nth degree, all right—are made on a separate production line. Only at bases concerned with manufacturing whole groups are air and ground crews trained as a unit.

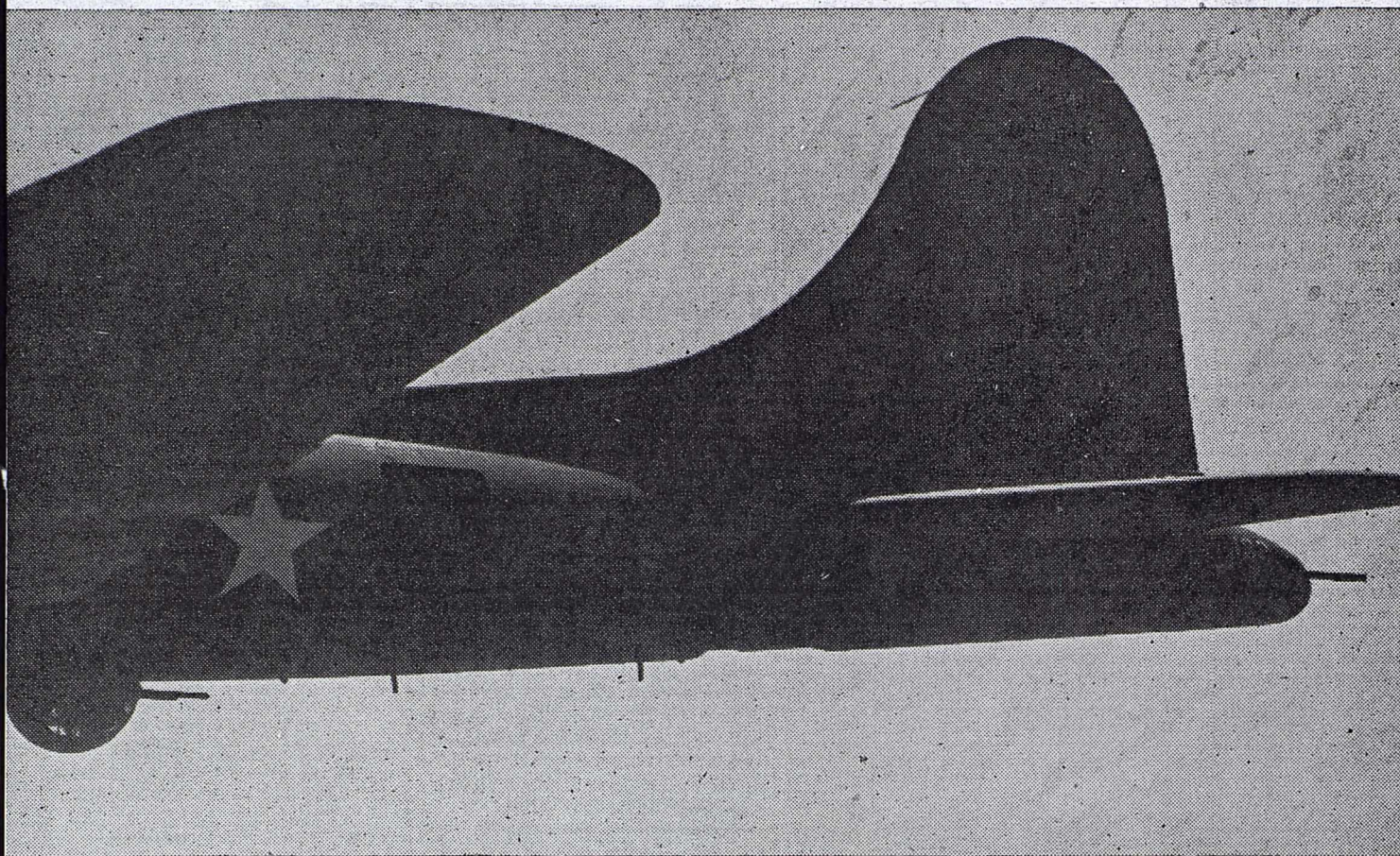
The pilots, co-pilots, navigators, bombardiers, and technician-gunners which make up the ten men who take a Flying Fortress into action are processed through a reception center which is a part of Pyote's parent organization, the 19th Bombardment Group. They are now, for the first time, assigned to a Fortress crew.

The key to a successful crew: Every member must think that every other member is the best in the business. For example, crewmen who do not believe that their pilot is the best are not likely to work together as a unit—and that would be fatal in combat. In reverse, the pilot must know that he's backed up by an expert tail gunner to help keep enemy pur-

suit at a comfortable level. Extend this line to every member of the crew and you begin to understand the problem in manning a bombardment group. The kind of crew which is trained and efficient in combat is the result.

Upon reporting to the 19th Bombardment Group reception center, crews—not really provisional groups—most cases, however, are fully records on file and used as a guide for assignment—are formed as far as possible.

Forty of these provisional groups are assigned a commanding officer, a bombardier, a surgeon, a bombardier and usually a tail gunner, and is at the head of the Group squadron for provisional group as a unit through the various phases. This gives the crew members an opportunity to be acquainted with the problems and eccen-



Trained With Expert Care Command: 'Bombs Away!'

table distance. of thought to the crew and understand the prob- a B-17 with the which spells safety combat.

to the 19th center, tentative so tentative in ver, since care- each man are in making as- med as quickly

crews make a which is assign- officer, adju- navigator, bom- ally four flight each to a 19th or training. This is held together h four training s the group of- nity to become the personal entricities of in-

dividual crew members.

It's been pretty well proven that crews which come back are those whose members get along together day in and day out on the ground. Consequently, the four officers of the crew—pilot, co-pilot, bombardier, and navigator—are assigned quarters together, and the six enlisted men are barracked together. Personality clashes are carefully sought out during first phase and adjustments and reassignments made accordingly.

Meantime, flying does not take all of the crew's time. Each man attends ground school several hours a day. Among other things, every member of the crew, including pilot, learns to operate the B-17's cal. .50 machine guns. When the crew leaves Pyote for second phase training, it's well on the way to being a unit of the kind it takes to win air battles.

On completion of fourth phase, the 40 crews of provisional group

are usually sent to a single theater of operations. Ordinarily, the group commander and surgeon accompany the group to the battle zone. After a period of orientation, crews are assigned as needed for replacements in the various squadrons and groups within the theater. The commander and surgeon usually return to the States to take on a new provisional group.

Men behind the training program at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base:

Col. Louie Turner is commander of the 19th Bombardment Group. His primary policy: Nothing must interfere with the training of replacement crews. The training process must be continuous, complete.

Maj. Edward C. Habberstad is deputy group commander, and Maj. John H. M. Smith is group executive. Both were overseas with

the 19th and know the meaning of the word combat.

Operations officer is Maj. David G. Rawls, also a veteran member of the 19th Group. Commander of the Heavy Bombardment Crew Reception Center is Maj. Norman A. Leer, who came to Pyote and the 2nd Air Force from the Flying Training Command where his experience was with the early phases of flight training.

Squadron commanders: Maj. Robert E. Thacker, 435th Bomb Squadron; Capt. Victor J. Poncik, 28th Squadron; Capt. Richard T. Hernlund, 93rd Squadron; and Capt. Edson J. Sponable, 30th Squadron.

Capt. Robert T. Jones, who has had plenty of action in World War II, is Pyote's only provisional group commander at the moment. Other groups await commanders to be assigned and still others are in the making.

THE CHAPLAIN SAYS -



"What hath God wrought!" This was the first message sent over the telegraph wires. Those words came to me with great force as I sat a few days ago in the absolute darkness of Carlsbad Caverns.

There, by the Rock of Ages, a great stalagmite in the building of which God spent 60,000,000 years, a group of 250 people sat in utter silence as the lights were turned off. No ray of light could penetrate to that depth, 750 feet below the earth's surface. No greater sense of peace and quiet could be had. We were in the midst of a creation of God.

Later, as we had left that lovely spot, and were returning to the city of Carlsbad, we passed the Air Base there, with its bombers, and piles of empty bomb cases waiting shipment to where they could be made over into implements of destruction. The contrast was inescapable. That which God had made was beautiful beyond the wildest dreams of man. Those things which man had made were for the destruction of his fellowman. The pathos of the situation struck me. Man, made in the image of God, is spending his every energy toward the destruction of other men, also made in the image of God.

The argument is not against the war in which we find ourselves. This conflict has been forced upon us. We are still our brothers' keepers. We must see this thing through. Other men, forgetting the lessons of beauty, love and peace taught by God and by His Son, have wantonly attacked those institutions and ideals which we hold dear. We must defend them. We must strive with every ounce of our strength toward that victory we desire.

When we have won the war, there is still a greater victory to be won. We must also win the peace. "Peace on earth, good will among men." This was the message of the angels of that wonderful night when the Babe came to the manger of Bethlehem. How far we have strayed from that night! There will be no lasting peace on earth until men cease hating; until they forget bitterness, until they can learn the laws of love. That is the message of the life of our Lord on earth, and the message of His Word.

In the midst of a war to the death, let us keep our hearts free from hatred of those against whom we fight. Difficult? Yes, but possible, and infinitely worthwhile. Let us be good soldiers of our country, and at the same time, good soldiers of our Lord. Let us

remember the beauty of the peace of Carlsbad, and make that kind of peace a reality for the whole world.

—Chaplain Edwin W. Norton

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Sunday Masses: 0600, 0800, and 1615.
 Weekday Masses: every day but Thursday, 1730.
 Hospital Mass: Thursday, 1500, in Hospital Mess Hall.
 Evening Devotions: Tuesday, 1930. Friday, 2100.
 Confessions: Saturday, afternoon and evening to 2100.
 Sunday, before the Masses.

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sunday: Aviation Squadron Service, 0900.
 1030, Base Chapel
 1430, Hospital Service
 1930, Base Chapel
 Wednesday: Bible Study Class, 1930.
 Thursday: Chapel Chorus Rehearsal, 1900.
 Community Sing, 2000.
 Motion Picture, 2030.

JEWISH SERVICES

Friday: Sabbath Evening Services, 1930.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

Sunday, 1715.

OVERSEAS GIs TO SEE FILM FIRST

HOLLYWOOD (CNS) — GIs overseas will see previews of the movie "Stage Door Canteen" even before the film is previewed in New York and Hollywood.

Featured in the movie are 50 stage and screen stars and six name bands — Benny Goodman, Count Basie, Xavier Cugat, Kay Kyser, Guy Lombardo and Freddy Martin.



AVOID OUTSTANDING landmarks such as lone trees, rocks or fence corners when seeking cover. Such points are easily picked up as targets.



WHEN DRINKING from a Leyster bag always use the faucet. Never dip the cup into the bag nor drink by putting your mouth to the faucet.

AT THE THEATER

There are those who like Saroyan's stuff, and there are those who don't. "The Human Comedy" (Sun. & Mon.) undoubtedly is the best thing Saroyan—now a private at a post in the suburbs of New York—has done, the novel being a Book of the Month Club selection.

The story is of a family in a small town in California in wartime. Mickey Rooney, as Homer Macauley, becomes head of the family and "grows up" fast delivering "we regret to inform you..." messages for the local telegraph office.

Jack Jenkins, as young Ulysses, almost steals the show. Also excellent is Frank Morgan, telegraph operator who drinks to forget the messages of death and other misfortune he receives. Reviews generally were highly favorable:

Look: "Saroyan's great American fable has been made into a heart-tugging movie about war's effects on a small-town family. Beautifully acted..."

New Yorker: "... an overabundance of sentiment but with an abundance of good screenwriting, too. There are also fine performances..."

Liberty: "... hardly a true or complete picture of any phase of life, but take it apart and each little scene is a gem."

Movie Story, a fan mag, gave it four stars (the best), and Time rated it Current & Choice.

For "China" (Wed. & Thurs.) not so much can be said. Time says that the film "manages to make one of the most impressive races on earth seem like a corny subject." Trouble seems to be that the producer bit off more than he could chew, and the script writers didn't help the situation any.

A saving grace, perhaps, was noted by Look: "In the cast are many easy-to-view Chinese girls."

A couple of he-men—former cowboy star John Wayne and "perfect husband" Walter Pidgeon—should make "Dark Command" (Saturday) a hot war picture. Richard Dix in a western (Friday) should carry a GI audience back to popcorn, front row childhood days. And Tuesday of course is double feature day, with films to fit.

This Week's Schedule—
 Wed. & Thurs. — "China," with Loretta Young, Alan Ladd. Shorts: "The War," Paramount News, "Greetings Bait."
 Friday. — "Buckskin Frontier," with Richard Dix, Jane Wyatt. Shorts: "This Is America,"

The Inquiring Line

Q. I'm getting an honorable discharge and would like to know whether or not it is possible to keep my National Service Life Insurance. If so, what steps should be taken?

A. You can keep your insurance. Write to Veteran's Administration, Washington, D. C., stating that you have been discharged and want to continue your insurance. Give your name, rank, organization, serial number, insurance number and the address to which you wish premium notices mailed. You should also send any premiums which are due.

Q. Can a soldier who has been trained in an Army Technical School apply for transfer to the Army Specialized Training School if he has the necessary qualifications?

A. Yes. The Army Specialized Training Program has been assigned a priority rating following only direct assignment to Officer Candidate School or to Aviation Cadet Training.

Sports Parade.
 Saturday. — "Dark Command," with John Wayne, Walter Pidgeon. Shorts: "Community Sing," "The Boy & the Wolf."

Sun. & Mon. — "The Human Comedy," with Mickey Rooney, Frank Morgan, Marsha Hunt. Shorts: "Invasion of Europe," Paramount News.

Tuesday. — Double Feature: "Spy Train," with Richard Travis, Evelyn Brent, and "Gildersleeve's Bad Day," with Harold Peary, Jane Darwell.

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.

Bonds Dood It!



YOU, TOO, can sink U-boats —by regularly purchasing the War Savings Stamps and Bonds that furnish the sea and air weapons now destroying Hitler's submarines at a healthy rate.

W A A C Flak

BY AUX. SYLVIA WEXLER

Congratulations to First Sgt. Vincent—she saw a real live artlesnake t'other day in camp. When asked what her reaction was, she calmly answered: "I looked for the rattles, but just couldn't see them."

Why are people so surprised when we WAACs say we like Pyote—and vicinity? Aux. Ferrell was all excited over her first trip to Monahans. She claims it reminds her of home—real trees and green grass.

Mess Sgt. Ogden must have a guilty conscience or sumthin'—'cause when she signed for her supplies, instead of WAAC Post Hqs., she signed WAAC Pest Hqs.

Amazing though it may seem, there were a few soldiers at the dance Tuesday who didn't know where the WAAC Barracks are located. Tch, tch, will wonders ever cease!

Something to add to the sights in Texas—the WAACs falling out for fire drill at 12 midnight last Monday. What a mad scramble to fall out in double time.

Try asking T-5th Libfeld of the Technical Inspector's Office how she likes her job. She's sure to answer: "It's swell. Why, it's the only office on the base that has grass in front of it."

Aux. Schneider scared the First Sergeant t'other night. The Sgt. took one look at her and exclaimed, "You must have the measles!" But it was only shellac spots all over her face as Aux. Schneider had been busy dressing up her new desk.

We hear tell the Motor Pool has a dog named "Waacy" . . . She never pays any attention to the WAACs—just to the soldiers . . .

Who said it never rains in Pyote, Texas? The WAACs sure welcomed the touch of home the other night when we had that very welcome thunder storm.

Quartermasterings

BY A. BUFFBRAID

Notwithstanding the 24-hour schedule maintained by the Q.M. lads, much jubilant whoopee-making and Buff Braid rattle shaking was indulged in recently by that group, which culminated in the closing of shop at 3:00 P.M. on June 16. Reasons: (a) Celebration of the 168 anniversary of the Quartermaster Corps. But you've

M A L E C A L L

BY
MILTON
CANIFF



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read all about that. (b) Out "yonder" at the Army Air Force Bombardier School, Big Spring, Texas, young Leonard R. Griffith had just received his Wings.

"But," say you, "what's the connection?" Simply this: Lt. Griffith happens to be attached by matrimonial bond to lovely and efficient Harriet Griffith, dynamic QM personality who knows all and sees all about the place and keeps the Supply wheels in buzzing activation. She's one of the pioneer civilians at Rattlesnake Bomber Base. In the early days, as Property Clerk, she helped in the job of equipping some of the Heavy Bombardment Groups which trained here. She is now QM Jr. Administrative Assistant.

Lt. Griffith is now stationed at Laredo, Texas, and though his future plans are indefinite, his finger is itching to press the trigger and stamp his brand of American valor and heroic intrepidity upon the Axls "gang" of international outlaws.

To "us" the Quartermasters, we say, "Congratulations." To Mrs. Griffith, also "Congratulations." To Lieutenant Griffith, "Congratulations, and may you bring us back a piece of Hirohito's scalp."

\$\$ Financiers \$\$

BY SGT. JOHN J SHAW

The playboys of the Finance Dep't. are going west these days in the pursuit of happiness . . . The city of Pecos and Carlsbad Caverns seem to be the main attractions . . . Sgt. Gurney, Pfc. McDonald, and Pfc. Tepe are frequent visitors to Pecos . . . S-Sgt. Bagley and wife and S-Sgt. Larson, Pfc. Bell and Cpl. Cláy tell us they had a swell time at the Caverns . . . That certain S-Sgt. still goes to Kermit regularly to visit a very DEAR friend.

Cpl. Gardner and Cpl. Strader are home on furlough telling the folks all about Army life . . . A welcome addition to our staff is T-5th Marie Derby of the WAAC. She is learning the fundamentals of 'Officers Pay' . . . We can't understand why Cpl. Jaekle and Pfc. Bell visit Kermit so often . . . They insist that the only reason they go is for the long bus ride . . . We hear different.

Cpl. Pearson and Pvt. Baumgartner are still talking about the good time they had while home on furlough . . . Pfc. Dominick

has July 3 circled on the calendar, so has S-Sgt. Larson . . . Pfc. Miller and a certain Pvt. in the Link Trainer Dep't can always be seen on Tuesday nights at the Rec. Hall dancing the blues away . . . Just a couple of rug cutters from little ole' New York. . . .

NEWS AND VIEWS: It looks like we are in for some very stiff competition in these monthly reviews . . . Well, in Brooklyn they say "wait till next year" . . . in Pyote we say "wait till next week!"

Do you notice how crowded the patio in the PX is these nights? That 9:45 p.m. curfew seems a wee bit too early; if the tap room served beer till 11 p.m. it would be a good deal.

That juke box in Mess Hall No. 1 still blares away all hours of the night . . . Mr. F. P. Morrison of the U.S.O. in Pecos informs us that anyone interested in amateur photography is welcome to use the equipment he has on hand free of charge . . . You can have some excellent recordings made there in a jiffy . . . He can be contacted by calling Pecos 160 or by writing to him at Box 271, Pecos, Texas . . . Better still, why not stop in and see him?

A A B SPORTS

Baseball Doings In The Majors

BY PFC. HYMAN BROOK
Sports Editor

AMERICAN LEAGUE. — The first place New York Yankees are still holding their slim three run lead over the Wash. Sen. The Yanks split the twin bill with Washington Sunday by taking the night cap, 7 to 6. The first game went to the Senators by the score of 5 to 3. The Yankees' slugging power just wasn't there at all this week although they did nose out the Boston Red Sox in Saturday's game after extra innings of play. The Yanks will have to snap out of it if they want to hold on to first place.

The last place St. Louis Browns trimmed the Detroit Tigers in both ends of a doubleheader Sunday by the scores of 6 to 3 and 5 to 4. St. Louis also took Saturday's game from the Tigers after 11 innings. I'll make my prediction that the Brown's will move out of the cellar this week.

The Cleveland Indians seem to be snapping out of their losing streak, as they took four out of their five games with the Chicago White Sox. In Saturday's doubleheader the Indians edged out the Sox in the first game, 5 to 4, and won the second game after going 10 innings by the score of 10 to 8.

Indians made a six run tally in the 7th inning to give Jim Bagby his seventh win of the season. The Indians will probably be moving right along to the top for the next week or two.

The Boston Red Sox clipped the Phil. Athletics twice Sunday by the scores of 7 to 3 and 6 to 5. Jim Tabor, Boston's third baseman, clouted out two homers before the 25,000 fans at Shibe Park.

NATIONAL LEAGUE. — The St. Louis Cards are still holding their three-game lead in the National League over the Brooklyn Dodgers. The Cards had a regular wildcat game Sunday with the Chicago Cubs by sending 18 players out on the field during the first game to win 10 to 9, after the Cubs sent four of their hurlers to the mound. Bill Nicholson, the Cubs' right fielder, slapped out two homers.

The Brooklyn Dodgers came from behind to edge out the New York Giants 9 to 7 in ten innings of play. Them Dodgers really were

desperate to win after sending five of their hurlers to the diamond. Webber got credit for the victory.

The Pittsburgh Pirates moved up to third place after winning both games of a doubleheader Sunday from the Reds. The Pirates won the first game on Elbie Fletcher's eighth inning homer, with two men on, to edge out the Reds 5 to 4. The second game was a 4 to 2 victory from Rip Sewell getting his eighth win.

The Phil. Phillies came up to wallop the Boston Braves twice Sunday. The first game went to the Phillies 13 to 7. They copped the nightcap to the tune of 7 to 0.

Standings

Tuesday:

American League			
Teams—	W	L	Pct.
New York	31	20	.608
Washington	30	25	.545
Cleveland	27	27	.500
Boston	28	29	.491
Detroit	24	26	.480
Philadelphia	27	30	.474
Chicago	22	27	.449
St. Louis	27	27	.449

National League			
Teams—	W	L	Pct.
St. Louis	33	19	.635
Brooklyn	34	24	.586
Pittsburgh	28	24	.538
Philadelphia	28	25	.528
Cincinnati	27	25	.519
Boston	22	28	.440
New York	21	33	.389
Chicago	19	34	.358

INJURED PILOTS COOPERATE TO LAND BOMBER SAFELY

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Cooperation between a pilot and copilot resulted in the safe landing of a Martin B-26 Marauder bomber in the Southwest Pacific Area recently, according to a War Department announcement here.

The pilot had lost the use of both legs and the copilot had lost the use of both arms as a result of Jap bullets riddling their cockpit. The pilot handled the wheel and throttles while the copilot operated the rudder pedals. Between them both they managed to set the ship down safely.

ASK ME ANOTHER Sports Quiz

By Camp Newspaper Service (CNS). — Some sporting figures, like Johnny Vander Meer, who once pitched two consecutive no-hit ball games, seem predestined to accomplish the un-accomplishable. Such were those who hold the records listed below. What were their names?

1. In modern baseball, six pitchers have won 300 or more games. Who won the most?

() Walter Johnson. () Cy Young. () Christy Mathewson. () Joe E. Brown.

2. Who holds the Olympic record for the 100-meter dash?

() Charlie Paddock. () Jesse Owens. () Eddie Tolan. () Ernie Lombardi.

3. Only one modern fighter has held three world titles simultaneously. Who is he?

() Gene Tunney. () Henry Armstrong. () Beau Jack. () Tony Galento.

4. Four big league players have hit four home runs in one game. Who was the last to pull this stunt?

() Chuck Klein. () Lou Gehrig. () Babe Ruth. () Connie Mack.

5. Only one race horse before Count Fleet succeeded in winning the top four races for three-year-old thoroughbreds. What was his name?

() Whirlaway. () Man O'War. () Sir Barton. () The Black Stallion.

ANSWERS

1. Walter Johnson. 2. Charlie Paddock. 3. Gene Tunney. 4. Babe Ruth. 5. Sir Barton.

1. Denton Tatum (Cy) Young. 2. Eddie Tolan ran 100 meters in 10.3 in 1932 at Los Angeles, top mark for Olympic competition.

3. Hammering Henry Armstrong once held the featherweight, lightweight and welterweight crowns all at once.

4. Chuck Klein, of the Philadelphia Phillies, was the last man to hit four home runs in a single game. Others to accomplish this feat were Lou Gehrig, Bobby Lowe and Ed Delahanty.

5. In 1919, Sir Barton won the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness, the Withers Mile and the Belmont Stakes. Count Fleet recently duplicated this feat.

Medics Win Two More Ball Games For 17 In A Row

In a tight game with a specially picked team from the 28th Bomb Squadron, 19th Group, the Medics again came through by winning with a score of 2 to 0.

On Thursday evening, the Medics really had some competition when they defeated the Genter Service Squadron by the close score of 5 to 4. The two games brought the undefeated Medics' consecutive wins to 17.

Soldier Sports

Charley Gelbert, Cardinal shortstop in 1930 and '31, and Johnny Rizzo, who patrolled the outfield in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Brooklyn, are team mates now at the Norman (Okla.) Naval Station. Recently their team won two out of three from the Waco (Texas) Army Air Field team, managed by Lt. Birdie Tebbets, who used to catch for Detroit.

Eddie Wergeles, son of Chick Wergeles, has been promoted to staff sergeant at Ft. Jay, N. Y. Eddie's dad is Beau Jack's manager.

Before the current baseball season ends. Lt. Cdr. Mickey Cochran's powerful Great Lakes Training Station team will have met 13 of the 16 big league clubs.

Pfc. Bryan (Bitsy) Grant, pint-sized Georgia tennis star, recently won the men's singles crown in the Texas State tennis tournament. Bitsy is stationed at Kelly Field.

It's Cpl. Max Baer now. And it's Cpl. Buddy Baer, too. The two big boys have been promoted. Max, former world's heavyweight champion, and Buddy, who fought Joe Louis twice, are stationed at the Sacramento (Cal.) Air Service Command where they're teaching AAF ground crews how to box and wrestle.

Frank Carideo, star quarterback on Knute Rockne's last team and backfield coach at the State University of Iowa, has been ordered to report June 29 at the Naval Aviation Training Station at Quonset Point, R. I. Carideo already has been sworn into the Navy with the rank of lieutenant junior grade.

Phil Rizzuto, S1c, former Yankee shortstop and now stationed at the Norfolk Naval Training Station, and Cora Esselborn, of Newark, N. J. will be married June 23 at Norfolk. Miss Esselborn's parents have announced.

WACKY SALUTE GIVEN

GOWEN FIELD, Ida. (CNS) — Wackey was the salute given by a bundle laden WAAC to a major. He kidded her about the sloppiness of her highball so she thrust the bundles into his arms, saluted snappily, took the bundles back and glided away.

Mess Halls To Compete For Cleanliness Award, Col. Hewitt Announces

Inaugurating a competitive program to increase interest in mess sanitation, a plaque will be awarded the best rated mess hall each month, it was announced today by Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., base commander. The first award will be made in July, Col. Hewitt said.

Lt. Charles P. Ripley of Base Hospital will inspect all messes once each week, scoring them on a 100-point system. Results will be published weekly, and the mess with the best average for the month will win the award. The winning mess will keep the plaque only so long as it has the highest monthly average.

Cleanest messes this week belonged to Base Hospital, WAAC Company, and Guard Squadron, in the order named. (Note: The 30th Squadron's heretofore model mess, No. 5, dropped to sixth place).

Reasoning behind the stepped-up interest in mess sanitation was sound: If the mess is clean, it generally follows that cooks and attendants are more discriminating, and the food served is likely to be better all around.

This week's standings:

Base Hospital	96
WAAC Company	92
Guard Squadron	86
Aviation Sq.	84
Mess No. 2	
(Service Squadrons)	80
Mess No. 3	
(19 Group Trainees)	79
PX Cafeteria	79
Officers Mess	79
Mess No. 5	
(30th Sq.)	76
Mess No. 1	
(Base Hq. Sq.)	76
Bomb Range Mess	67
Mess No. 3	
(93rd & 28th Sqs.)	65

Lt. Burns and Sgt. Rayfield are in charge of the Hospital's top-ranking mess, at which eat patients, Medical Detachment members, medical officers, and hospital civilians.

Lt. Edith Haslam and Aux. A. Ogden are responsible for the clean condition—and good food—at the WAAC mess.

Capt. S. B. Lang, the provost marshal and Guard Squadron commander, directs the work at the Guard mess, with Sgt. Warren W. Sandall in charge. (Policy: Good food, better guards).

Commander of the colored Aviation Squadron, Lt. Fred W. Thacker, directs messing activities, with Sgt. John D. Hill as mess sergeant.

The once-model 30th Squadron mess — which may still be model in certain aspects—is now in the care of Warrant Officer R. D. Faquet. Mess Sergeant is still E. E.

Shea.

The low score of 65, according to the week's mess report, fell to the un-handwork of Warrant Officer W. B. Cuffel and Mess Sergeant C. R. Whitney, who are responsible for the feeding of the 93rd and 28th Squadrons of the 19th Bombardment Squadron.

Some of the un-model things about this mess:

- (1) fly traps not scattered, but lined up one next to the other;
- (2) mop racks sloppy;
- (3) grease trap needed emptying;
- (4) personal clothing was found in the kitchen;
- (5) too many cardboard boxes in ice box;
- (6) meat scraps were scattered on the floor;
- (7) large pressure cookers need cleaning;
- (8) rags were in evidence throughout kitchen and serving line.



BY PVT. SAMMY KAPLAN

Well Well Well, another romance is brewing here in Base Headquarters. The surprising subjects are Cpl. Lubits and the beautiful little WAAC by the name of Dorothy who works in Lt. Bogart's office. Cpl. Lubits used to tell how bashful he was. You should have seen him last Thursday. Dorothy and he were straightening out the court room, and she was going to pick up a chair and put it in place; but, as we all know, he's a perfect gentleman, so he said: "Don't pick up the chair because it is too heavy. Let me pick it up and put it in place as I am afraid that you will hurt yourself." A perfect gentleman this cpl., and a scholar. Keep up the good work Lubits, but in the meantime keep the locator files going.

Jean King, who works in the Adjutant's Office, really is looking for a husband. All the officers that make clearances before leaving this base are always met by this question from Jeanny: "Are you married, sir?"

This S-1 Section has lost a wonderful service record and payroll clerk, namely, Pfc. Charles Semira, who was transferred to an Airdrome Sq. We all wish him

Gift From The Emerald Isle



GERALDINE FITZGERALD, green-eyed, auburn-haired Irish lass, plays a feature role in Warners' "Watch on the Rhine," former Broadway wartime hit. There are lots of Irishmen at Pyote, Gerry. How about dropping out?

lots of luck, wherever he may go. A real swell fellow and a hard worker. Keep 'Em Flying, Charley.

Sgt. Sammy Mileaf of Base Hq. Squadron is small in size, but, oh my, how the girls go for him, tall or small. He has a certain personality about him. He jitterbugs and dances in all ways, bends his legs, hops skips and jumps, but when it comes to doing his calisthenics he can hardly move his legs. He tells the instructor, namely, Lt. Yeager, that his legs hurt. What a fibber, what a fibber. He says he has found a home in the Army since he started working for Special Services. He never had it so good in civilian life.

Cpl. Gerst, our assistant special order clerk, has just returned from a furlough which was well spent, and has gotten down to serious business making out special orders. He has left his dear little wife and baby home but expects to have them back in the near future.

Under the competent instruction of Lt. Charles Yeager, athletic director, the men in Base Hq. are painfully getting into shape. Despite the groans, the men generally are trying to get the full benefit of the exercises. Credit for helping run the show also goes to Lt. Bogart, Lt. Foulk, Lt. Wakefield, and the squadron's drill sergeants.

Determined to make a better showing in the reviews, the squadron also is doubling up on close order drill practice. The WAACs seemed to have started something.

435th Bomb Squadron

BY CPL. HUELING DAVIS, JR.

Your former correspondent, Sgt. Morgan Sheedy, has returned to civilian life. No word has been received from him as yet, so we can't tell you what it would feel like to throw away the sun tans and don a sport jacket.

Squadron Supply lost one of its oldest members recently. S-Sgt. C. P. Wallin left for parts undisclosed.

S-Sgt. Olin Whistler is the newly appointed baby-minder for the Amundsen family.

Cpl. Byron Clark is to be congratulated on his trading ability. We understand he sold his radio for \$10.00 the other day. Original cost brand new—\$2.50.

In a recent issue of "The Rattler" there was considerable discussion as to which lucky Supplyman should be privileged to take the Midland run. S-Sgt. Michael Angelo Francisco Cassrella, the Irish Latin, thought he had everything under control, but a Second Lieutenant upset his bandwagon. How come?

T-Sgt. Amundsen's prayer goes something like this: "Oh, Lord, why don't some people keep their noses out of other people's business." We doubt that he is, but he could be referring to your correspondent, who inserted his nose into two other fellows' unfinished business the other day with dire results.



Headquarters

BY JOHN BOGARD, ET AL

Robert L. Campbell has resigned his position as Headquarters Administrative Assistant, effective June 15, and has returned to Kansas City, Mo. After a rest of several weeks, he plans to resume work with the War Department there.

Armond M. Breit, formerly assistant instructor in bombsight training at Kelly Field, arrived at Pyote Tuesday of last week (June 15) to take over the duties of Civilian Training Coordinator. His quarters at present are in the Mail, File and Record Section. Mr. Breit's arrival takes on special interest for the feminine eligibles.

Miss Anita Mae Pinney from Chicago should have rated mention in The Rattler last week as a new Headquarters employee, but the reporter forgot to write his column. Miss Pinney has been assigned to the Personnel Section.

James R. Watford, of the Sub Depot Signal Section, is back from his induction ordeal, pleased to be classified 2B until October.

Syble M. Jiles, variously known as "Mother," "Teacher," and "Cupid," has added barefooted puddle-jumping to her list of accomplishments. The setting was Wednesday's rainstorm, and the puddle she didn't clear as she made a dash for the car was the ditch at the southeast end of the hangar. It was all smoothed over with water, and though she knew the ditch was there she didn't know just where until she found out the hard way.

Marjorie Hitt brings 'em back alive and then doesn't know what to do with them. She brought a small snake, well packaged, into Headquarters Wednesday, and then when someone turned it loose in her desk she wouldn't go back to work.

Earline Senter of Wink was assigned to the Personnel Section Wednesday of last week.

Edna Earl McDougal has been employed in the Payroll Section. Miss McDougal is also from Wink, the "city of continuous prosperity."

Pat Hawks, accompanied by Jackie Melton of Supply, left Friday for a trip to Indiana. They planned to return Monday of this week.

Vera Mae Brown spent Friday and the week end in Abilene.

There's a great day coming, just wait and see . . . when Floryne Preslar recuperates, Syble Jiles

cheers up, and Jean Williams forgets "Over Thar."

The red-headed bunch of dynamite has gone home on leave. Happy landings, Pat.

Jean Williams drags up the steps to work every morning; then every evening when work is over she runs down. Could it be that she is an owl?

You've heard the old saying, "A year older and much wiser." Ask Major Saenger about it. He is a year older. Although, it actually happened about ten days ago, the word just leaked out, and he still had to blow candles. Think of this as the fifth, and here's birthday wishes, Major Saenger.

"Lil Abner," the Boeing Aircraft man, is going back to Washington. How does he do it? Rush back to see us soon, eh, Babka?

Why does Miss Hitt come back to the coyotes at Pyote when she could be in Houston with her father? (Mostly the Coast Guards).

Supply

BY LOW-SCORE FOUR

J. O. Donaldson had to have witnesses to back him up in his story that a TENT ran into his car during the rainstorm last Wednesday, causing him to be so late getting home. In case you've been wondering at his studying the regulations so closely the past few days, the reason has been to find out who has the right-of-way, a parked car or a floating tent.

From now on we'll bet Kilpatrick does her nose-powdering on the dock at Warehouse Three, after spending twenty-five minutes locked up all by herself (with no electricity) in said warehouse. Seems the rest of her crew were all excited about the pending storm and just forgot her! When she was finally rescued by Mr. Neblett and Mr. Miller, after several frantic phone calls, she had piled a bunch of Coca Cola boxes in front of one of the doors and was standing on them, face pressed against the pane, wistfully seeking rescue.

Emi "Weight Lifter" Robbins is on extended sick leave suffering with a sprained back. The injury was sustained in the frantic clean-up prior to an inspection. You'd better hurry back Emi, cause there's another inspector due before long.

We've been hearing about the Pyote soldier who went into a local honky-tonk optimistically and came out misty optically.

We've been wondering what bivouac means, and according to Gramling, Weishuhn and Wooten, it's a major catastrophe! Reports are circulating that Turney has gone from hospital to morgue as the result.

Won't Hanson and Lt. (Don't Spell My Name With a "D") Wyp-er ever learn it's basis enough for a tragedy to occur each time

Adventuress



THIS LANGOROUS lovely goes in for exciting action, on the screen. She is Marjorie Lord, heroine in Universal's "The Adventures of Smilin' Jack," comic strip airman.

they take a turn at rough ranch life? Variation in the patients seems to relieve the monotony of the situation, however. This time it was Hanson who suffered the worse from wear and tear. It seems ice cream and onions are not too good in an empty stomach, Irene.

With all the shortage of entertainment these days, it has been brought to our attention that we have a very able One-Man-Floor-Show in our midst—Mr. Milton Eckerman. Careful Milton, and keep out of that "Tailspin."

Engineering

BY MARGARET MYERS

After searching endlessly for a shady spot on Pyote Air Base with no success whatsoever, Lt. Diedrichs finally brought in his own shade tree, and now boasts the biggest tree on the Base. If he had one more, and a hammock, that would be quite a deal, or would it? We've noticed a patch of green in front of his orderly room too—could it be grass? We wonder how Sgt. Yorif is going to solve the lawnmower problem now?

We have another young lady from Wickett with us, namely, Helen White, which makes the third girl from the little oil town helping us in the Sub Depot Engineering Office. With the steady increase of the fairer sex now working in the office, we'll have to keep an eagle eye on Ken "Blue Room" Bowers to make sure he keeps his mind in his work.

Seems that Betty Logan's No. 1 man left as soon as he arrived. At least she can spend her time looking forward to his return again. Let's hope it won't be so long this time, Betty.

Frances Connally was contem-

Tech Inspector's Office

BY CPL. SARAH LIBFELD

Lt. Blackstock's lawn and garden, the envy of the base, is really doing itself proud. Too bad we don't have any competition.

M-Sgt. Randall seems to have nothing better to do with his time than scare unsuspecting WAACs with fake tarantulas. Is that a streak of sadism, Sarge?

Our famous Polka dancer S-Sgt. Sos— etc., has added another laurel to his already immense bouquet by doing no less than 3 pull-ups in the recent endurance tests. He claims that his nutritious diet of soda crackers (he keeps a box handy at all times) and cokes, he'll be able to do 4 pull-ups come next endurance test.

Cpl. Penny Mathes, the blonde bombshell of this office, has practically burned up the typewriter with her super-duper typing ability. In case of fire please refer to this column.

Cpl. George Dayton, the trouble-shooter of our outfit, must have had his mind on "foreign affairs (or somethin'). Made a special trip to Monahans to have his watch repaired and returned with his "mission to Monahans" incomplete.

Chivalry is truly a thing of the past. Example: Sgt. Norman C. Tache standin' by while our lovely secretary, Ann Drewry, empties the waste basket.

Welcome back, Cpl. Lawrence. We hope you're still on the beam after your 'lengthy furlough.'

In absence of the chaplain, I have received a heart-rending complaint from S-Sgt. Sosnowski, otherwise known as "Toughie" by the fellows, he claims to 'mother.' Don't be harsh with him boys, he means well.

Our Pyote Cutie says some bachelors have a tough time deciding whether they should stay single and disappoint a few women now, or get married and disappoint one woman for the rest of her life.

SERGEANT'S 20-FOOT JUMP SAVES HIS LIFE IN CRASH

SEATTLE, Wash. (CNS) — Sgt.

Verden Scow's civilian training as a tumbling instructor saved his life recently. Just as his motorcycle and an automobile were about to collide the sergeant jumped. He cleared the car and landed on his feet 20 feet away.

plating a trip to Wink since she heard it came to life again. She seemed rather surprised, but what can she expect with a bunch of soldiers from Pyote around?

We are wondering if Eula Beavers lost one of her pals when the last shipment of men left Pyote. Seems there was a Jones boy in the outfit.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

By S-Sgt. Lawrence Shipp

Lightning was flashing violently across the Great Texas Sky last Wednesday evening, rain was coming down in torrents and for once the desert was getting a good soaking. Ah! What an excellent evening to stay in the barracks and read a good book!

No, not the Medics, a hike was scheduled, and the hike must go on, and it did. Everyone, with the exception of those that seem to have gotten KP the next day, fell out in full field pack and were off for that much needed exercise. Thanks to the leggings; they helped a lot when it was necessary to ford through some of the 6 inch ravines. At a fast cadence the two platoons, very much resembling commandoes, moved out of the area, past the WAAC's Quarters, and on through the East Gate (No pass for the MP's that time) toward Pyote.

Almost all of the village's population turned out to see some 'Real Soldiers' pass by. Then came the long trek across the desert with more rain, cactus, and an occasional rabbit running across the path. The homeward trip was made in one hour flat.

True to form, the rain stopped when the tired hikers reached the Hospital Area; but the beautiful double rainbow was certainly a welcome sight. After hot showers, dry clothes and hot coffee and cookies in the Mess Hall, over 150 tired soldiers were fully ready to retire for the night.

Attractive Mrs. Irma Foster, dietician in Ward 5, is certainly doing a splendid job; not only is she carrying on her usual routine work but is also helping in many ways to make the soldiers comfortable. All patients in Ward 5 are from the Aviation Squadron. Mrs. Foster reports "they are all such good patients." The fact that her fine efforts are appreciated was proved conclusively when her patients took up a collection and bought her a beautiful purse.

Auxiliary First Class Duncan in Sick and Wounded is really happy with her new job. She says, "It certainly beats grubbing stumps at Camp Polk, La."

Tuesday Sergeant Tucker received a telegram stating that he had become a father and the following morning he was a patient in Ward 2! You explain that one—we can't. Congratulations, Sergeant.

For a neat demonstration of unusual writing see Tommy Frain, New England flash, who can write your name twice simultaneously; in the regular manner and one

backward. Both are written equally well. It's very clever; have him prove this fact to you sometime. He'll be glad to.

"Scarface" Hagendoffer, Pittsburgh Kid, is fully in favor of placing a railing on the back porch of the mess hall. Reason—it will eliminate people falling off after dark! Is that the real reason, Fat?

Friday morning good conduct ribbons were awarded to 16 Enlisted Men of the Detachment. Major Ten Houten, Base Surgeon, made the awards as the entire detachment stood in formation.

Like the circus, the Medics too have their three fat men. Your guess is right, it's Aldridge, Houseknecht and Hagendoffer. Together, 'tis rumored, they weigh nearly one-half ton!

Altitude Training

BY PVT. HENRY SPAS

The past few days the Altitude Training Unit has been giving some finishing touches to the chamber building and grounds. Lt. Blair was at the head of the group which planted the cactus around the building. The fellows are all hoping it grows, for all the hard work they put out in getting it.

The ATU's want to thank the Medical Detachment for the invitation and the swell time they had at their party June 10th, especially those fellows who got acquainted with the friendly WAACs!

When talking to Pvt. Robert Freas about girls, he seems to have just one name on his mind; that's "Jerry." No wonder, he gets three letters a day from her.

Why is it that Pvt. Minkin eats only half the portion he used to? Could he be living on love? Ask the WAAC; I bet she eats regular and enough.

The ATU's are wondering whether to let Pvt. Moskowitz go home on a furlough. There's a rumor about marriage. Is that right Irving?

Why does S-Sgt. Shipp hurry back to his office so soon after chow. Could it be because of the WAACs working there now? How about that Shipp?

The WAAC day room is sure getting to be some place, isn't it men? The other day I overheard some of them saying that they wouldn't mind doing KP for the WAACs.

BATTLE NOISES TEST TANK DESTROYER GUNNERS

CAMP HOOD, Tex. (CNS)—The Tank Destroyer Center here is using model planes in new ways in its training. Antiaircraft gunners fire at the miniature planes, while other gunners fire over their heads at balloons. The gunners who qualify under this roaring confusion demonstrate the requisite ability to react calmly under battle conditions.



Honor: First Relieved By WAAC

BY SGT. ELWOOD GAINER

Pfc. Lionel E. Depew was relieved June 19 from his duty as bonded messenger and Chief Welcoming Committee of all transient aircraft. Sparky, as he is better known to his buddies, is believed to be the first on the base to be relieved by a member of the newly arrived WAAC.

Pfc. Depew was relieved by Corporal Opal I. Grandoff, of the WAAC Co. Pfc. Depew was awarded a "gold star" in honor of

being the first GI to be relieved of his duties at Base Flight so as to be ready for embarkation to the fighting front. He is one of the many men being relieved by members of the different WAAC Companies all over the country, so that they can be of better use on the fighting front.

All the members of Base Flight wish Pfc. Depew, the best of luck as he takes up his new duties on the Alert Crew.

Pyote Base Has New Guest House

A guest house for the convenience of families, relatives, and friends of soldiers stationed at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base was ready for use this week, Lt. George A. Hoffmann, special service officer, announced. First priority on accommodations will go to visitors of men in Base Hospital.

Except in emergencies no guest may remain in the guest house for more than three consecutive nights.

Guests will be required to sign a register, giving name, address and relationship to the soldier they are visiting. The fee for guests is 75 cents a night.

While no visitors will be permitted in guests' rooms, they may

be received in the guest house lounge. Soldiers desiring to make reservations for guests may call Lt. Hoffmann's office (27) or the Base Adjutant (4).

MIRACLE OF THE WEEK

Two fragile blooms were discovered last week in the flower garden at Rabbit Hutch (BOQ) No. 5. Other blooms in the plot which was pictured, as a barren bit of earth in a recent RATTLER issue were an immediate prospect.

Renewed interest in cultivation by Maj. Alfred O. Saenger, Capt. Valmer L. McCroskey, et al, rather than a rumored visit to a Monahans florist resulted in the blooms.

75,000 DOCS SERVE

Seventy-five thousand of the Nation's 176,000 physicians are in the Army.

Invasion Speculation Dominates News From Europe

Enemy Jittery As Allied Moves Hint Big Blow

BY PFC. TOMME CALL
Rattler Editor

Invasion speculation and political rumors dominated news from the tense European theater last week.

Writing on invasion possibilities in the June issue of *Field Artillery Journal*, Col. Conrad H. Lanza, retired, concluded:

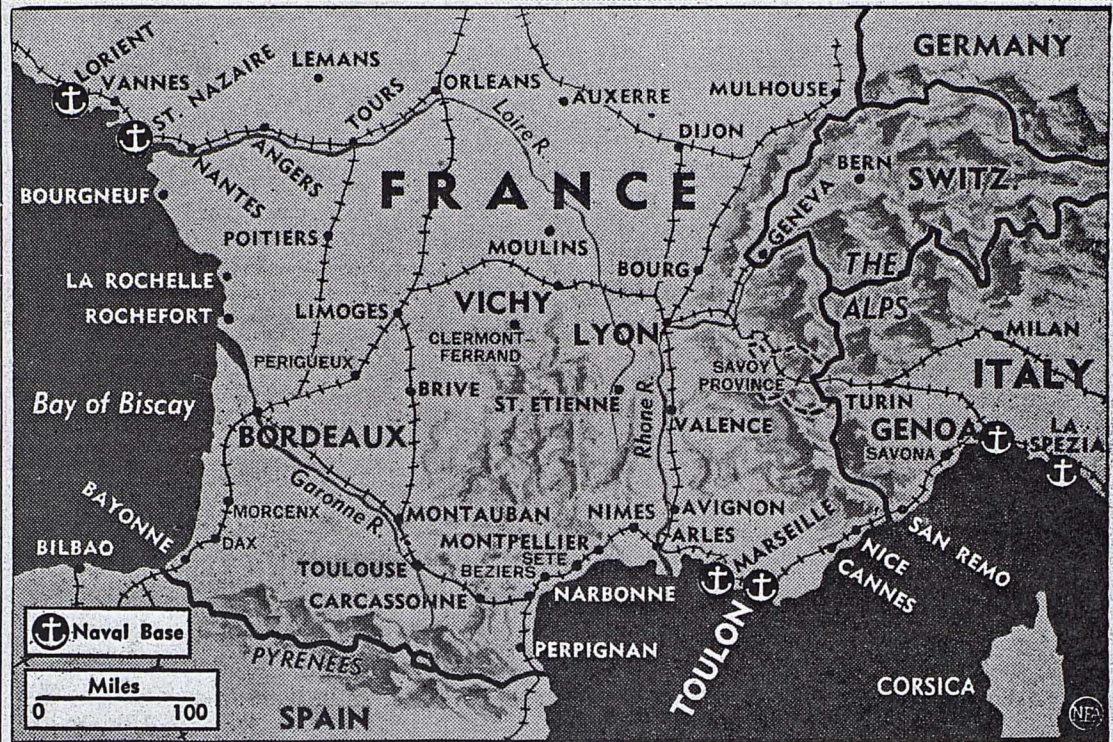
"Best chance of success appears to be in employing very large forces, at as many different areas as possible, and as nearly simultaneously as practicable. It will be a great and difficult task."

The United Nations had such forces last week, though their readiness for the great task was largely secret. Prime Minister Churchill did assert that the Allied armies in Africa were "a most powerful and finely tempered weapon" and alluded to "more numerous and powerful forces" in the British Isles.

Britain's closing of the Syrian-Turkish frontier — indicating troop movements in the Levant—heightened Axis apprehension of an Allied drive through Greece into the troubled Balkans. Turkish Premier Saracoglu's recent pro-Allied speech — which included a friendly gesture toward the Soviet Union—did nothing to lessen Axis worry in that quarter. Such an offensive would finish clearing the Mediterranean for Allied shipping and also threaten Germany's main source of oil, Rumania. Britain reportedly has two powerful armies in the Middle East, with considerable Allied support.

On the Eastern Front, Red Army planes continued to hammer at German air fields, supply lines and concentrations. Stronger for British-American aid and developing interior industries, Russia feasibly might launch the offensive on that front this summer rather than Germany.

Tuesday, the first day of summer, was the second anniversary of Germany's ill-fated attack on Russia. Two previous offensives launched at summer's beginning bogged down in Russian snow. If Hitler were going to try again, observers suggested, he logically



Southern France looms as a likely invasion target with announcement that Rommel, formerly of Africa, is rushing fortifications on the Mediterranean shore. Allies might strike on both Atlantic (Bay of Biscay) and Mediterranean shores like they did against Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts of French North Africa last fall. The Nazis have had the least time to prepare their defenses here, and a direct drive up the Rhone valley would by-pass Italy and its mountain barriers to attack on Germany. Unity of fighting Frenchmen in North Africa is another indication that an attempt to liberate France may be soon coming. Only disadvantage is the long naval haul open to attack from axis bases, but still Britain is closer to Bordeaux than it was to Algiers, and Tunisia is closer to Toulon than the U. S. was to Casablanca in November, 1942.

would have started earlier this time. Reputedly a major offensive readied in the central sector, around the Orel hotspot, was called off last week for lack of necessary supplies: a compliment to the continuous British - American aerial bombardment of German industries.

The situation outlined apparently left the Allies free to strike from any side, or from several sides simultaneously. The prospect, news reports stated, was giving the Germans and the Italians—particularly the latter who are in a much more vulnerable position — a bad case of jitters. Also, it was causing disaffection among Hitler's satellites and increasing determination in underground ranks of the occupied countries.

Frank O'Brien and Ernest Lindley, Associated Press war writers, pointed out that sharp guerrilla fighting in Greece and Yugoslavia might attract Allied attempts to establish the invasion bridgehead from the Middle East. Another observer; Kirke Simpson, also favored that route. Thomas F. Hawkins, AP correspondent in Bern, Switzerland, reported both Ru-

mania and Hungary anxious to be out of the war and in a position to solicit Allied sympathy. An Ankara (Turkey) report also said they were sending out serious peace feelers.

Other events sharpened the war of nerves now being waged against the "European Fortress."

The Allies were winning the Battle of the Atlantic, and more quickly and decisively than they themselves had expected. Reason: more protective escort vessels and patrolling aircraft, with better anti - submarine weapons. Result: invasion men and materials were flowing faster to the springboards.

Fleets of warships, transports and landing barges were reported by Rome Radio to be concentrating off the African ports, threatening Sicily, and hence southern France and Italy. The Allies were enjoying almost complete air cover for any such preparations.

Britain had formed at home bases a tactical air force, presumably for use with invasion ground forces. James Long, AP writer, reported observing invasion practices involving a "little navy" of landing craft.

In Washington, organization of a powerful Army-Navy amphibious force—apparently along the lines of England's Combined Operations—was announced.

In the Far East, China had erased almost all gains of the Japanese offensive up the Yangtze River—which began three months ago in the Ichang region and threatened both Chungking and the Hunan rice bowl. American airpower was offering valuable support. General Joseph W. Stilwell, U.S. commander in China, and Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault, commanding the 14th US AAF, returned to Chungking apparently well pleased with the results of the recent strategy conferences in Washington.

Allied planes in the Southwest Pacific continued to pound Japan's ring of defense bases above Australia, particularly Rabaul—a key enemy stronghold in that theater. In one air engagement—perhaps the greatest in the Far East war—American airmen knocked out 77 Jap fighters and bombers, with the phenomenally favorable score reported 13 to 1.