



# THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations



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Thursday, April 20, 1944

## 8,500 Tons Rained on Nazis in 30 Hours

### Sevastopol Battered by Heavy Guns

Entire City Brought Under Fire; Nazis Attacking in Stanislavov Area

Massed Russian artillery, stretched around the landward sides of Sevastopol in an unbroken arc, brought the entire port under gunfire yesterday as the main forces of two Soviet armies under Gens. Feodor Tolbukhin and Andrei Yeremenko began a systematic attack to batter through the port's defenses.

The only city in the whole Crimea left to the Germans, Sevastopol appeared to be going through its final hours in Nazi hands. Great fires burned behind the enemy's street barricades, sending up thick columns of smoke, and violent explosions rocked the area.

Land batteries, a screen of warships and the Red Air Force had all but sealed the port's sea exit.

On the mainland, in front of the Carpathian passes leading into Czechoslovakia and Hungary, powerful forces of German infantry and tanks pressed strong counter-attacks against Marshal Gregory Zhukov's First Ukrainian front east of Stanislavov, the oil town 60 miles southwest of Tarnopol.

#### Germans Claim Gains

German radio claimed Nazi troops "threw the Russians out of a number of localities south of the Dniester" in this area and in particular claimed the recapture of Nadvorna, 20 miles southwest of Stanislavov. Col. Ernst von Hammer, German News Agency military commentator, expanding this claim, asserted last night that the Nazis had driven east across the upper Dniester at several points here.

The enemy counter-attacks, acknowledged briefly in the Soviet communique, strengthened the Axis line against the danger of a breakthrough that would put the Russians astride one of the main roads through central Europe. Moscow claimed the Germans were suffering "heavy losses in men and material."

Moscow dispatches made no mention of operations on the other fronts, although a brief air communique reported a mass raid on the Rumanian port of Constanza Monday night.

Russian accounts said thousands of Germans were dying as the Red Army pushed into Sevastopol.

Before losing the historic battleground of Balaclava—capture of which was announced late Tuesday night—the Germans massed with their equipment on beaches west of the town, waiting for power barges to take them off. Russian planes and surface craft circled the beaches, Soviet reporters said, and completely destroyed the embarkation fleet, killing thousands and leaving their equipment only twisted metal.

### All Southeast Europe's Oil Is Taken Over by Germany

All oil stocks in southeast Europe have been ordered placed at the disposal of the German high command, and German authorities in Rumania, Hungary, Slovakia and Yugoslavia have been told to stop issuing licenses for civilian use of oil, the Soviet News Agency reported yesterday.

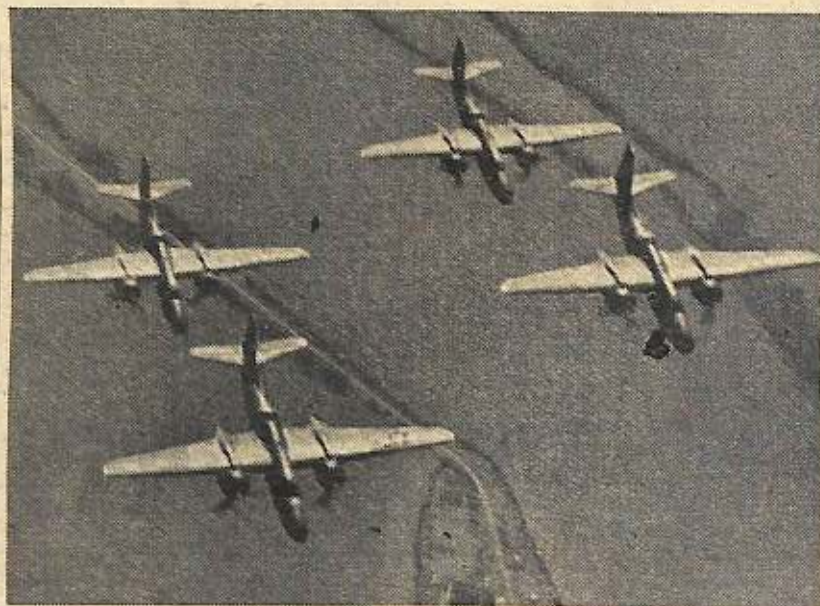
### The War Today

**Air War**—Fleets of American heavies blast Luftwaffe facilities and factories in west Germany in third great blow in 30 hours at German invasion defenses; assaults follow 4,400-ton RAF assault on railway targets in France; estimated 6,000 planes have hit German targets in two days.

**Pacific**—Rabaul, Truk and targets in New Guinea, including Hollandia, attacked again by air; areas behind Madang bombed as Australian troops prepare for final assault on New Guinea base.

**Russia**—Fall of Sevastopol appears near as Russians bring entire port under artillery fire; great fires raging, helped along by continued air attack; Germans continue counter-attacks east of Stanislavov, oil center southwest of Tarnopol, in attempt to keep gateway into central Europe closed.

### It Struck the First American Blow



Winging across France on a recent attack are four A20 Havocs, twin-engined light bombers whose capabilities in low and medium altitude bombing has been demonstrated in virtually every war theater. They were taken off the secret list yesterday.

### A20 Havocs Again Being Used By USAAF to Bomb Germans

A20 Havocs, the twin-engined light bombers which struck the first American aerial blow at Europe 21 months ago, are bombing German targets regularly today from bases in England, the Ninth Air Force announced yesterday.

Havocs, flown by the British also as Bostons, were first used by the USAAF against German targets in the July 4, 1942, Paris raid, on which six specially trained American crews flew A20s borrowed from the British.

Two were lost and one returned on a single engine without a prop and part of the nose. It had fought its way through light flak over Paris and at one time came so low that it bounced off the ground in evasive action.

After this mission the USAAF here did not use the ships again until operations which began last month. On Mar. 7 a small force successfully attacked a fighter field at Conches, 60 miles west of Paris.

Four times in March and again on Apr. 10 and 13 Havocs in greater strength bombed the French coast, and on Tuesday they joined Marauders in a strong attack on railway yards near Charleroi in Belgium and also hit a power plant at Monceau-sur-Sambre.

On one of the initial missions, 1/Lt. William Istrander, of Las Vegas, Nev., ditched his flak-ridden aircraft in the North Sea. His two gunners, Sgts. Irving Binney, of Woodside, L.I., and John Wilson, of Bogalusa, La., bailed out and floated safely to England, while Ostrander was rescued from the sea shortly afterward.

Another pilot, 1/Lt. Horace F. Pair, of Atlanta, Ga., executed a no-engine landing in his A20 after bombing the target and returning from Europe on one engine.

A20s came into the limelight almost at the outset of World War II in a Senate debate which almost fomented an international incident.

An experimental A20 had crashed in (Continued on page 4)

### Germans Seep Preparing New Offensive at Anzio

ALLIED HQ, Italy, Apr. 19—The Germans showed signs of preparing an offensive in the Anzio beachhead area today, moving heavy traffic from below the Lake Albano region toward Cisterna outside the central Allied defenses. The Germans have been keeping constant pressure on the western rim of the perimeter and on Monday four thrusts were beaten off.

On the main Italian front artillery action increased slightly along the Tyrrhenian coast; quiet continued on the Adriatic side. Allied bombers and fighter-bombers continued their "rail-busting" campaign, beating off the heaviest German fighter opposition in some time. They smashed at rail lines between the battle zone and the Florence area, while heavy bombers remained grounded.

### CIO, AFL Join in a Plea To Keep Price Controls

WASHINGTON, Apr. 19 (AP)—The CIO and the AFL, in an unusual joint statement concurred in by the Railway Labor Executives Association, called upon Congress today to continue "without weakening amendments" the federal system of price controls. The statement was read by President William Green of the AFL to the Senate Banking committee.

### Luftwaffe's Fields, Invasion Defenses Rent by U.S. Fleets

Day Thrusts Into W. Germany Mark Third Giant Raid in 2 Days, Follow RAF's 4,400-Ton Blow at Rail Targets

Thundering across Germany in the third tremendous assault at German invasion defenses within 30 hours, American Liberators and Fortresses delivered smashing blows yesterday at fighter factories and airplane parking fields in western Germany. Between 750 and 1,000 bombers took part, escorted all the way by an equally large number of P38s, P47s and P51s.

The giant armadas roared over the English coast only a few hours after the greatest force of RAF bombers ever dispatched against occupied Europe, numbering more than 1,000, had hurled a load of 4,400 tons of bombs on railway targets in France.

Within 30 hours, it was estimated that the Allied air forces had sent 6,000 planes—mediums, light bombers and fighter bombers, as well as the heavies and fighters—to dump some 8,500 tons of high explosive and incendiaries on aircraft installations and railway centers vital to the German defense of hundreds of miles of coastline.

It was 30 hours of the most intensive pre-invasion aerial assault yet loosed upon the enemy, with the RAF smashing key railway junctions and rail lines to the coast by night and the USAAF sapping the Luftwaffe's strength by day.

And so light was the opposition encountered that it appeared evident that the Germans were holding their fighter strength for the day of the landings. Losses Extremely Low

Losses in all the operations were remarkably light. The RAF, sending its biggest-ever force, lost only 14 bombers, less than 1.4 per cent. The U.S. raids on Germany cost only five bombers and two fighters. In the previous day's operations, over Berlin and surrounding areas, the USAAF lost 19 bombers and six fighters, headquarters announced yesterday.

While the biggest formations of the day hit targets in Germany, other forces ranged across northern France, hammering at the defenses behind the so-called "invasion coast."

A separate force of Liberators struck the Pas de Calais area at a cost of only one bomber, and Marauders of the Ninth struck other targets, along with Bostons, Mitchells and Typhoons of the RAF.

Meanwhile, the Ninth Air Force revealed officially for the first time that a U.S. light bomber—the A20 Havoc—now is operating against the Germans from bases here, supplementing the work of the growing Marauder forces.

The bombers met almost no fighter opposition over Germany, and American fighter pilots had to scour the skies to find enemy planes to fight. In all, the escorting fighters knocked down 16 and the bombers five.

Anti-aircraft, too, was on a reduced scale at most targets, returning crews said, though the Libs encountered intense flak over the Pas de Calais.

The Forts and Libs made round trips of 350 to 550 miles to strike their targets—fighter aircraft factories in the vicinity of Kassel; aircraft parks at Eschwege, Paderborn, Gutersloh, Lippstadt and Werl, all in the vicinity of Hamm and Kassel. Hangars and barracks were covered with bombs, strike photos showed.

Targets attacked at Eschwege, Paderborn, Gutersloh, Lippstadt and Werl were fighter fields used as parking places for new planes ready for combat. Crews back from Lippstadt said flak was light. Only one group reported encountering enemy fighters, and these did not press the attack.

The weather was overcast en route to the target, but it cleared at Lippstadt, permitting visual bombing. Fliers said the field was covered with hits. Crews attacking Werl also bombed (Continued on page 4)

**Allies Reveal RAF Laid Mines in Danube Raiding**

RAF bombers laid mines in the Danube River last week, Allied Headquarters in Italy announced yesterday, and destroyed 12 or 15 barges and tugs by strafing. Bucharest and Budapest radios announced Monday that Danube River traffic had been stopped after one big vessel and smaller ships had been sunk by mines.

**Find Gas Field in Dakota**

ARDMORE, S.D., Apr. 19—Dr. E. P. Rothrock, state geologist, reported that the first commercial gas field in South Dakota had been tapped about a half mile north of Ardmore.

### Foe Conceding The 1st Invasion Round Already

Allies Have Power to Win Initial Success, Nazi Spokesman Says

STOCKHOLM, Apr. 19 (Reuter)—A German foreign office spokesman, quoted by the German-controlled Scandinavian Telegraph Bureau, declared today: "The Allies have enough ships and armaments to gain initial success in invasion."

"We do not doubt that the Anglo-Americans have considerable air and sea superiority, and that they can create storm centers in the West where they wish."

"Every point is within reach of their bombers, and they have the initial advantage of the ability to make surprise attacks."

"Germany, however, has built strong inner defenses behind the Atlantic Wall which will prevent the initial footholds extending, and Cassino has shown that the German defense forces cannot be broken by bombing."

"It is probable that the Allies have worked out new tactics founded on the experience gained in Africa and Italy, and will use new weapons and secret invasion inventions."

"It is believed that intensified air reconnaissance will enable Germany to know to an hour when the attack will come."

(The Associated Press reported that this German spokesman was quoted by the STB as saying that invasion is the "predominating theme" in Berlin, even though there may be "many false signs" and that the Allies were "definitely well-armed for attack.")

(A United Press dispatch from Stockholm told of reports from Berlin that (Continued on page 4)

### Vandenberg Named No. 2 Man In Allied Expeditionary AF

The appointment of Maj. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, 45, of Washington, as deputy commander-in-chief of the Allied Expeditionary Air Force under Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory was announced yesterday by Gen. Eisenhower. He succeeds Maj. Gen. William O. Butler, whose new assignment has not been made public.

Vandenberg, a slim six-footer, is a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours' flying time and wears five U.S. decorations. He came to London in 1942 to assist in planning the North African invasion. He was promoted to brigadier general while chief of staff of the 12th Air Force and later was appointed chief of staff of the Northwest African Strategic Air Force under Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle, then a major general.

Vandenberg returned to Washington in the summer of 1943 to serve as deputy chief of the Air Staff. He was the senior Air Forces member of a U.S. military mission to Russia in the fall of 1943.

He was born in Milwaukee, graduated from West Point in 1923 and took his flying training at Brooks and Kelly Fields, Texas, in 1924.



Maj. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg

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Hash Marks

An old-timer in the service was heard to remark, "Back in the days when I was a boy mothers used to tell their daughters that holding a boy's hands was an offense—now it's a defense."



A California sheriff regained an arsenal for the Army when he finally caught up with a small boy who had taken a Garand rifle, six swords and scabbards, a couple of tents, some shirts, trousers and miscellaneous equipment from a nearby camp.

Capt. Karrell W. Reynolds passes on this poem, forwarded from the States and called, "The War 'Widows' Lament." I want to be where you is Instead of where I be.

Fun in the ETO. This Army life, a GI moaned, "is beginning to tell on me. Every day I look more and more like my identification photo."

GI Philosophy. "Sergeant" isn't a rank—it's a condition.

More "blitz buggy" names (this one spotted by Pfc Ed Cohen). Cpl. Angelo Toffanelli pilots a pulsating perambulator proudly named "Victory Thru Jeep Power."

With all due respect to a wonderful picture show and to all parties concerned in this story, we wish to quote one of the most amusing little incidents to come to our attention in quite a while.



Sgt. John Weingartner tells us that at his base the special service office announces forthcoming movies to play at the mess-hall with posters giving the title, time and place and always featuring a drawing which is supposed to render a slight preview of what the show is all about.

An Army of Reporters Also Waits Second Front

By Charles F. Kiley Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

The American soldier's part in the coming invasion will be reported to the world through the greatest news coverage of any single event in history.

Never before have wire services, newspapers, radio networks, newsreels and picture agencies assembled an army of correspondents equal in size and quality to the one now in Britain waiting for the biggest of all news breaks—the Second Front.

When ETOUSA's public relations headquarters last counted heads there were 215 American newspapermen and women, photographers, newsreel men, magazine writers and radio correspondents, together with 91 British, Canadian, French, Australian, Swiss and Swedish reporters accredited to the U.S. Army alone in Britain.

Crack newsmen, milked from bureaus in New York and Washington, from fighting fronts in other theaters, are checking into London daily.

The Second Front is big news and big men are here to handle it.

Strongest in numbers accredited to U.S. forces is the Associated Press with 35, eight or nine of whom figure to accompany invasion troops.

Serviceing the soldiers themselves with spot news of the invasion and subsequent action will be a band of service correspondents from The Stars and Stripes, Yank and several Signal Corps photo and film units.

Representing 24 American newspapers, 12 magazines and the four major networks—NBC, Mutual, CBS and Blue Network—are still more first-line newsmen and commentators drawn from home offices and other war zones for the Big Show.

Plenty of Experience

Among the invasion force of typewriter troops is a wealth of quality and experience in war and foreign correspondence. Some followed the Germans through the blitzes of Belgium, Holland and France, and ironically had to watch colleagues attached to the British Expeditionary Force caught in the frantic exodus from Dunkirk.

A few, unable to escape from occupied countries before the panzers rolled, were temporarily interned. A great many have been called from Africa, Sicily, Italy, Australia, New Guinea and other far-flung war fronts.

Correspondents (except those in the Army) are noncombatants, but among those now operating from the ETO are some in possession of Purple Hearts and citations for gallantry in action.

The AP's invasion team includes first-stringers like Wes Gallagher, author of "Back Door to Berlin," campaigner in Greece and North Africa, who received a broken back in enemy shelling in Tunisia; William S. (Bill) White, who started the war in the infantry, received a medical discharge, and after serving as war editor in New York went on foreign service; John A. Moroso III, naval correspondent who traveled about 85,000 miles with the Navy, was in on the Moroccan

Notes from the Air Force

ARMAMENT and ordnance men of a B17 station who long played important roles in bombing missions without sitting in on a briefing learned what goes on with the other half of the team before a raid when they were briefed for an imaginary attack on Regensburg.

When is a 100-pound bomb not a 100-pound bomb? Ammunition officers at an Air Service Command station in England learned the answer the hard way.

COL. Jim Howard's Mustang group supported Marauders for the first time last week. It is a job that RAF Spitfires have been doing since the B26s started operating at medium level.

CPL. Bob Fields, stationed at an Eighth Fighter base, pulls a dirty trick on about 60 or 80 million English kids.

Lt. John F. Thornell Jr., of East Walpole, Mass., saw seven FW190s on the tail of a straggling B17.

WHEN the bomb-bay doors of a B24 Liberator jammed on a recent raid over Berlin, three sergeant gunners lined up and "passed the ammunition" from man to man to drop on Hitler's capital.

Demarinis' brother-in-law, Howard Ducey, read the story, played a hunch and bet \$10 on a horse named Bucket Brigade running at Hialeah that day.

SHORTY Ruber, whose claim to being the shortest GI in the ETO was printed in these pages Apr. 8, has two challengers—hereby shoved forward by their pals:

This Is The Army

Enlisted men of a medical unit, billeted in private homes in an English town, have shown some practical gratitude for the hospitality of the townspeople.

A PAIR of Army newlyweds, who tied the knot in the United States, had an unexpected reunion recently in Northern Ireland.

TWO general dispensaries in the London area have been combined to form the most complete overseas dispensary in the world to insure United States Army personnel the best possible medical attention.

It is supervised by Maj. Franklin D. Cooper, of Oakmont, Pa., and every doctor at the dispensary is a specialist.

Months of preparation and consideration have gone into the marshaling of the biggest invasion staff ever assembled, a staff which includes bureau chiefs, desk men, rewrite men and others necessary for supervision, editing and transmission of news.

When the invasion opens, the Fourth Estate will be there.

HUBERT by SGT. DICK WINGERT



The Human Factor

"If you were to say to me, 'What is the first essential for success in war?' I would say the human factor. We must remember it is not the tank, the armored car or the battleship that is going to win this war.

Those words, spoken by General Montgomery, were given new life and added meaning when the Luftwaffe struck at London during the early morning hours of Apr. 19.

Bracketed by a stick of H.E. bombs, eight wards in a hospital were destroyed and fire swept through other sections.

These courageous women faced a hospital in a state of chaos. Doors were torn off hinges, others were jammed, glass and debris were everywhere, beds were overturned, while smoke and fire added further to the hazards and difficulties of rescue work.

The nurses were magnificent.

Reaction to War

A recent survey was made by the University of California to check American school children's reactions to the present war.

For example, the study revealed that intermediate students thought the United States was fighting to "gain" or maintain "peace," "freedom," "liberty," "democracy" and "happiness."

Upper-grade students indicated a broader vision of war purposes than those of the intermediate grades.

Children in grades seven and eight seemed to have a real conception of those qualities of character in our enemies which they disliked.

Perhaps the experts could give more intelligently worded replies than those supplied by grammar school students, but the importance of the study lies in the fact that young America is fairly well informed.

Labor Turnover

The latest industrial turnover figures from home show that for every 1,000 workers employed in the United States, 43 resign each month, five leave to enter the armed forces, six are discharged, 51 are hired and nine are laid off.

A high rate of labor turnover in times of prosperity or depression may prove serious.

The employment stabilization program now just beginning to operate effectively at home has contributed materially to a reduction in costly employment changes and is expected soon to be sufficiently effective to eliminate the open bidding for labor on a constricting labor market.

When that day arrives we'll move a big step nearer victory.

# Feature Section

Thursday, April 20, 1944

## Finishing School for Gunners

After days of incredibly hard study student gunners must be capable of carrying on the big job

By Bud Hutton  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

**AIR DIVISION GUNNERY SCHOOL**—On a bleak coastal flat, beside the chill North Sea which stretches out to Hitler's Reich, the boys who were student air gunners in the States a week ago become the men who will fly heavy bombers against the Luftwaffe.

This place is the finishing school for aerial gunners. It is the end of the glamor which went with phase training back home. It is the beginning of the most serious job anyone here ever will have. In days of incredibly hard and applied study, student air gunners must become capable of defending their bombers, of carrying on the job which began over Rouen on August 17, 1942.

To teach these gunners scarcely a week in the ETO, the Air Force has gathered at one place and time probably more knowledge about aerial .50 caliber machine-guns than ever was assembled before. It is knowledge in the person of a great many veteran air gunners who learned their skill the hard way over the fortress of Europe and now are passing



Cleaning Old Reliable

it on to the next relay of manpower which will go to the Reich.

There are men who have completed a tour of operations, some who were wounded and grounded, some who never have been on ops but know so much about air warfare that they are more valuable teaching others than flying and fighting themselves.

Their job it is to strip the illusion of glamor from students just arrived from the States; to instruct by example, pleading, cajoling, shocking—any way that works is a good way to do the job.

### Air Gunner's Last Chance

"As we see it, this place is the air gunner's last chance," explains Lt. Col. Harold W. Orr, of Meadville, Pa., commandant of the school. "If we fail to teach them properly here—or if they fail to learn, and there's a difference—they won't have a chance when they get up against the Luftwaffe. We'll do anything we can to see they have a chance to win and get home and go again."

The school has done everything. The day, ten months ago, that Orr arrived here the "school" was a couple of tents in a field. Col. Orr's tent was under water. The Air Force sent a staff; the staff built the school as it went along. It begged, borrowed, invoiced for and came pretty close to stealing equipment.

Where a year ago there were only gulls shrilling and the North Sea lapping against tidal flats, today there stand long echelons of .50 cal. guns in concrete mounts, steel-girdered frames for ball and top turrets. There is a city of Nissen huts and seaside bungalows taken over for the duration, classrooms of enlarged Nissen huts—together with the veteran staff, the machinery for making air gunners out of soldiers who wanted to fly.

"Material wasn't the only thing," Col. Orr adds. "There were no rules to go by,

no precedents. An air gunnery school in an operational theater—that's what they wanted. We had to make our own rules, set up our own curriculum by trial and error and using the knowledge the instructors themselves had gained in combat."

Maj. Charles Nowark, director of training, explains what that means in practice: "We can take boys who have finished months of training in the States, start from the very fundamentals and in short order turn them out of here later capable of handling themselves in combat."

The curriculum around which the instructors work was built up by trial and error. Watched over by Nowark and Capt. Jack McGruder, training executive, it includes:

### Thorough Curriculum

General description and nomenclature of the Browning .50 cal. Stripping and assembly. Malfunctions. Care and maintenance. Daily and preflight inspections. Turret operation, including care and maintenance required by gunners, installation of guns, adjustment of firing mechanisms, preflight of turrets, loading ammunition and turret malfunctions correctable at altitude. Flexible and turret sighting. Skeet shooting. Aircraft recognition. First aid. Combat tactics and ground-to-ground and ground-to-air gunnery.

That's the part of the curriculum in the books. There is more—and it isn't official, but it's possibly the most effective part of the tough grind.

"Psychology goes a long way here," explains Col. Orr. "Now and then the bombers use the sky above this area to form up before heading for Germany. Student gunners seeing them go out, and hearing the RAF go out at night, suddenly realize that the war is right next to them."

"They were 4,000 miles and an ocean away from war a week ago," adds Capt. Normand Bourget, Lawrence, Mass., turret chief at the school. "Now they're seeing the war, or the start of it, and the sound of those bombers simply repeats our warning: 'Last chance.'"

The same psychology of reality goes all the way through the school—from the moment a new batch of students arrives and gets the paper work of registering done until they leave in the buses bound for operations.

Every day they are here the students get a chance to count the bombs on the backs of instructors' leather jackets which symbolize not only the missions to their credit but the knowledge they've gained. Students still conscious of their shiny

new silver wings find out that the wings don't mean much until the string of bombs with them begins to mount up and names such as Oschersleben and Magdeburg and Schweinfurt fit into their conversation.

"We're professional bogey men," says S/Sgt. Dick Willis, of Brockton, Mass., who started flying in the days when B17s carried only one waist gunner and high altitude, daylight, precision bombing was still an unproved phase.

"Mostly we try to show these kids what the score is. We tell them all we have learned. But that isn't always enough. Some of them arrive here still not knowing—literally—which end of the gun goes into the receiver first."

"If they still haven't learned after the regular instruction, there's nothing left to do but scare 'em. A good bull session around a Nissen hut stove, spilling a little blood and guts, and they sit up and listen."

Willis is typical of that section of the instructional staff composed of airmen who didn't finish their tour of operations. He froze up his left eye peering from the waist hatch of the famed B17 Dry Martini when an engine was smoking on his eighth haul.

The Air Force grounded Willis but he knew too much about gunnery to take a line job and they made him an instructor.

Working with him in the classroom which teaches embryonic ball turret gunners which end of the glasshouse to get into are two men typical of those who have finished their tours—S/Sgt. Harry Goldthorpe, of Mineral Pt., Wis., and Glen De Phillippe, of Lawrenceville, Ill. To the classroom discussions which precede range firing they bring first-hand knowledge of the latest developments in gunnery tactics, of what the Luftwaffe's fighters have been trying most recently. When they, and the scores more like them in other classrooms in the school, have gone on home, more will come to take their places, bringing even fresher knowledge of air combat and its changing tactics, and leaving their impressions on the ever-changing curriculum.

### Key Men Seek Improvements

In addition to the fresh knowledge brought by the gunners who have just rounded off their learning in blood and sweat and tears at five miles up and 50 degrees below, the school weekly sends out key men to visit operational groups, study gunnery reports, talk to operational airmen and bring back suggestions as to how to improve the course.

The third category of instructors includes soldiers whose knowledge of gunnery and armament was such that the Air Force made instructors of them before they ever went on ops—men such as T/Sgt. Douglas Deacon, of Detroit, who has been teaching aerial gunners since the first class was opened in the ETO.

Even the first sergeant of this outfit is a veteran gunner—M/Sgt. Francis Hurn, of Erie, Pa., who caught a 20mm. shell in his guts the first time over the target, back



in October, 1942. Hurn spent four and a half months in the hospital, then was an instructor, now administers the affairs of this transient body of soldiers.

The whole school is full of specialists, men who probably know more about specific phases of aerial gunnery than anyone else in the world. There are even specialists for such sub-divisions as sighting with bomb sights. T/Sgt. Clyde W. Dean, of Circleville, Ohio, heads that section, leaning on the experience of 50 B17 missions in Africa as top turret man in the Fort Hi-de-Ho.

Yet despite their specialist capabilities, the instructors didn't stand on their dignity when it came to building the school. Men who had 25 missions and more to their credit went out and poured concrete for gun mounts, worked with Jack McGruder in devising a steel-girder mount so that ball turret gunnery could be taught with some regard for actual conditions.

It is a paradox that this school, devoted to the instruction of aerial gunners, hasn't a single bombing plane on its TBA. It has three old RAF Lysanders in which six airmen under Capt. R. L. Swain, of Danville, Va., tow sleeve targets for the student gunners. But it hasn't a bomber, which is understandable enough: Instruction at this school is so crammed, so packed into concentrated days that they couldn't even afford the time necessary to get into flying clothes. The students who come here have had endless hours of flying; they know what a plane is like; but too many of them don't know enough about the guns which defend the planes.

Aircraft recognition is the chief subject of the curriculum aside from matters directly related to a .50 cal. The staff

feels that most students arrive from the states with an overload of unnecessary aircraft recognition learning—how to tell a Mitsubishi Zero, how a Savoia-Machetti looks in flight. So they concentrate on just a few types, the ones most likely to be encountered above Europe:

Messerschmitt 109Fs and Gs, 110s, 210s and 410s; Focke Wulf 190s and Junkers 88s and 188s; USAAF P47s, 38s and 51Bs, and RAF Spitfires, Mosquitoes and Typhoons.

"There are some others," an instructor explains "but they aren't likely to be numerous. If something turns towards you that doesn't fit any of those planes, fire."

The instructors connect classroom learning in aircraft recognition with immediately subsequent firing on the range, demanding from a student in the midst of firing a .50 what the flight characteristics of a Ju188 are, for instance. Or at skeet, S/Sgt. Roy Knudson, of Cranfliss Gap, Tex., will ask a student to compare an FW190 with a P47.

### 'Final Examination'—Not Quite

The skeet range, incidentally, has been enlarged through trial and error, and at present the school is installing a 1,000-foot track along the waterfront. A shot-gun is to be mounted on a weapons carrier running along the track, and gunners will fire at clay pigeons coming at them from traps along the way, thus teaching two-dimensional speed and lead which most closely approximates actual battle conditions.

Even if they didn't realize the seriousness of their jobs and the necessity of learning all they can at "last chance school," students wouldn't have much chance to dissipate their energies. From the moment they arrive until they leave for their groups, students are confined to base.

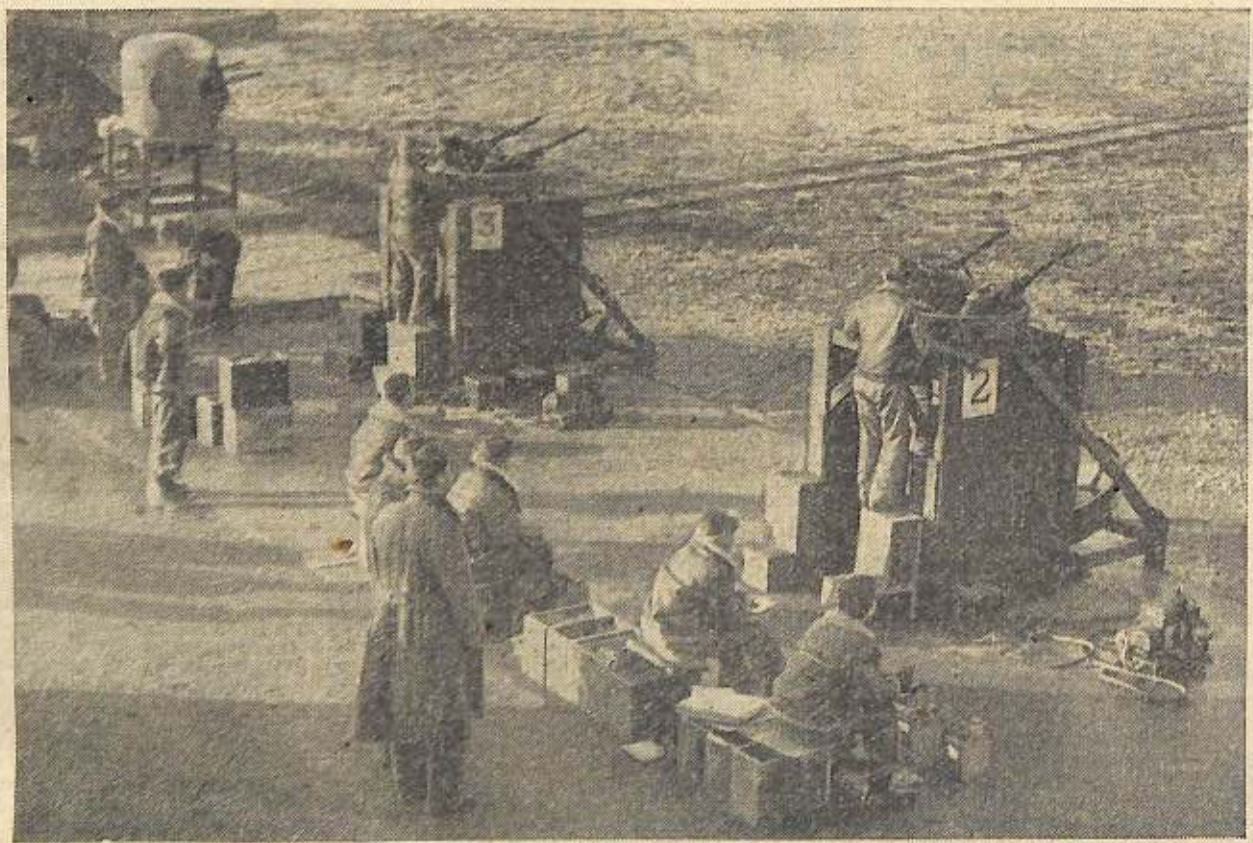
"There's all the work in the world for them here," says Col. Orr. "This thing is dead serious. As a matter of fact, our written curriculum is a little misleading. The last item on it says, 'Final examination.'"

"That really isn't so. The real final examination for these students comes soon—when they go to Germany in a bomber and find out if they have learned enough to get back and go again."

The Colonel tells the gunners that, point blank. And sometime before they leave the school, the psychological aspect of their training brings it home to them in the best possible way.

They will be out on the range, early in the morning, when a low thunder begins to build up in the sky, pounding above the sound of the wheeling gulls, even above the hammering of the .50s on the firing line. Instructors and students alike look up and watch for the first black specks in the morning sky.

The bombers appear, a precise mass gathering to the main body other masses which are groups and combat wings. Possibly once or twice they will fly above the coastal plain on which sits the school, and then, the noise fading as the black mass grows faint against the eastern distance, they head off to Hitler's Reich, and the students who watch them go know that shortly they will be part of that fleet.



Students, fresh from the States, learn from the combat veterans.

USAAF Photos by Jack Lord

# Tunisian Battlefields —

**T**HE push for Tunisia is on." This was the first paragraph of the lead story in The Stars and Stripes March 26, 1943. The story itself told how Seneid had been recaptured for the third time and how triumphant Americans had advanced half a dozen miles past Maknassy. There was a picture of GIs digging out a land mine near Gafsa and a feature story was headlined: "Gafsa Empty As Yanks Return."

Those were the days when the II Corps was smashing northward through Tunisia after the near-disaster at Kasserine Pass. Rommel's veteran 21st Panzers had battered to within three miles of Thala, but now "The Fox" was on the run.

The 1st Armored, 1st Infantry and 34th Infantry Divisions had met the Nazis' best and hurled them back. To the east the British Eighth Army had just delivered a knockout wallop at the Mareth Line. It was the beginning of the end in North Africa—an end which came May 13 as French, British and Americans mopped up the last German remnants on Cape Bon.

These weeks mark the first anniversary of the Tunisia campaign. They recall the first real test of American troops in North African combat. They bring back grim, stirring memories of Hill 609, El Guettar, "Stuka Valley," Seneid and all the rest that made up the panorama of Tunisian war.

Anniversary No. 1!

The boys are a bit too busy to light a candle or bake a cake, what with unfinished business in Italy, and there are no reunions being held where Darby's Rangers bayoneted enemy outposts in the gloom of the Tunisian night. But those boys who are still on deck probably would like to know what's going on in those old battle spots—what mementos are left a year after.

Feeling much the same way, I borrowed a jeep from our Tunis office along with Sgt. Jake Wentzel, two dozen cigars and a case of C-rations. Six days and 1,500 miles later, I can report on the battlefields of Tunisia as they are today. This is the report.

The true monument to the American Army in Tunisia is the C-ration tin.

Salvage units armed with acetylene torches have dismembered most of the tanks and sent the pieces back to the States for melting and new tanks. Native scavengers have pawed through and carried off fallen airplanes. Old dugouts now serve to shelter Arabs from those bitter winds—the boys so roundly cursed on the airfields of Youks Les Bains and Thelepie. Goats and sheep roam over the land which once shook to the impact of bombs and shells. Arab shepherds drowse in long-forgotten foxholes, already grown over with those rich red, blue and green Tunisian flowers.

But the C-ration tin remains, a mute, empty reminder of the day when Mars ran rampant. Some of the tins are rust brown and some still gleam in the sun as though they had been tossed away yesterday. They are everywhere, lining the roads, fields, old bivouac spots where hungry men damned their rations and then pissed off the lids.

Some of the battle sites now appear to be a picture of peace. Not even shell cases may be seen. Tanks are gone and French gendarmes rule the land. But you can count on C-ration tins. Like death and taxes, they are always there. Even the Arabs won't pick them up—probably the unkindest cut of all to the C-ration manufacturer.

There are other reminders of year-old struggles. You can find them 15 miles south of Mateur, in Gafsa and in many other places. They are symbolized by crosses—crosses, the Star of David and the black, flaring German marker.

In these graveyards rest the men who fought, bled and died for supremacy of Tunisia. Perhaps the most impressive to the year-later visitor is the II Corps Cemetery near Mateur. Here, in the very shadow of Hill 609, some 700 Americans sleep. Many of them lost their lives on the very same hill that now looks green and tranquil, four miles away.

I talked with Lt. Selden Lawe, Saco, Me. He and 26 men are stationed at the cemetery. The cemetery itself is deep in a valley. Hill 609 stands sentinel to the west, the highest peak in the entire area. It was a scene of complete, absolute peace—worthy tribute to men whose jobs were finished forever.

"But it isn't always quiet," said Lt. Lawe. "Land mines are still going off in this sector. Arabs or cattle set them off, I imagine."

Not far from the II Corps Cemetery, however, is a scene which vividly depicts the titanic battle that took place in these rugged hills last year. Rounding a bend in the road, I came upon tank after tank, all German, and all blown to hell. In a half-mile area Wentzel and I counted at least 15 tanks and other vehicles.

Evidently they had been caught with their breeches at half mast by Allied airplanes or artillery, for they were bunched together in most un military manner. They had been blasted to a fare-thee-well. Such was the force of the explosions that turrets were knocked 20 yards from their moorings. "I'd have given 20 bucks to have seen

this party," said Wentzel. "I bet Rommel needed an aspirin when he heard the news."

Twelve miles farther, in Beja, there were additional evidences of aerial ferocity. Some buildings were rubble and those that stood bore pock-marks of machine-gun strafing. The proprietor of a hotel who doubled as bartender assured us German planes were responsible. It was pretty rough, he added. One day 150 civilians were killed.

The next day saw us go to Feriana via Souk el Arba, El Kef and Kasserine. It was at Kasserine, a year ago February, that the Americans took their most painful licking.

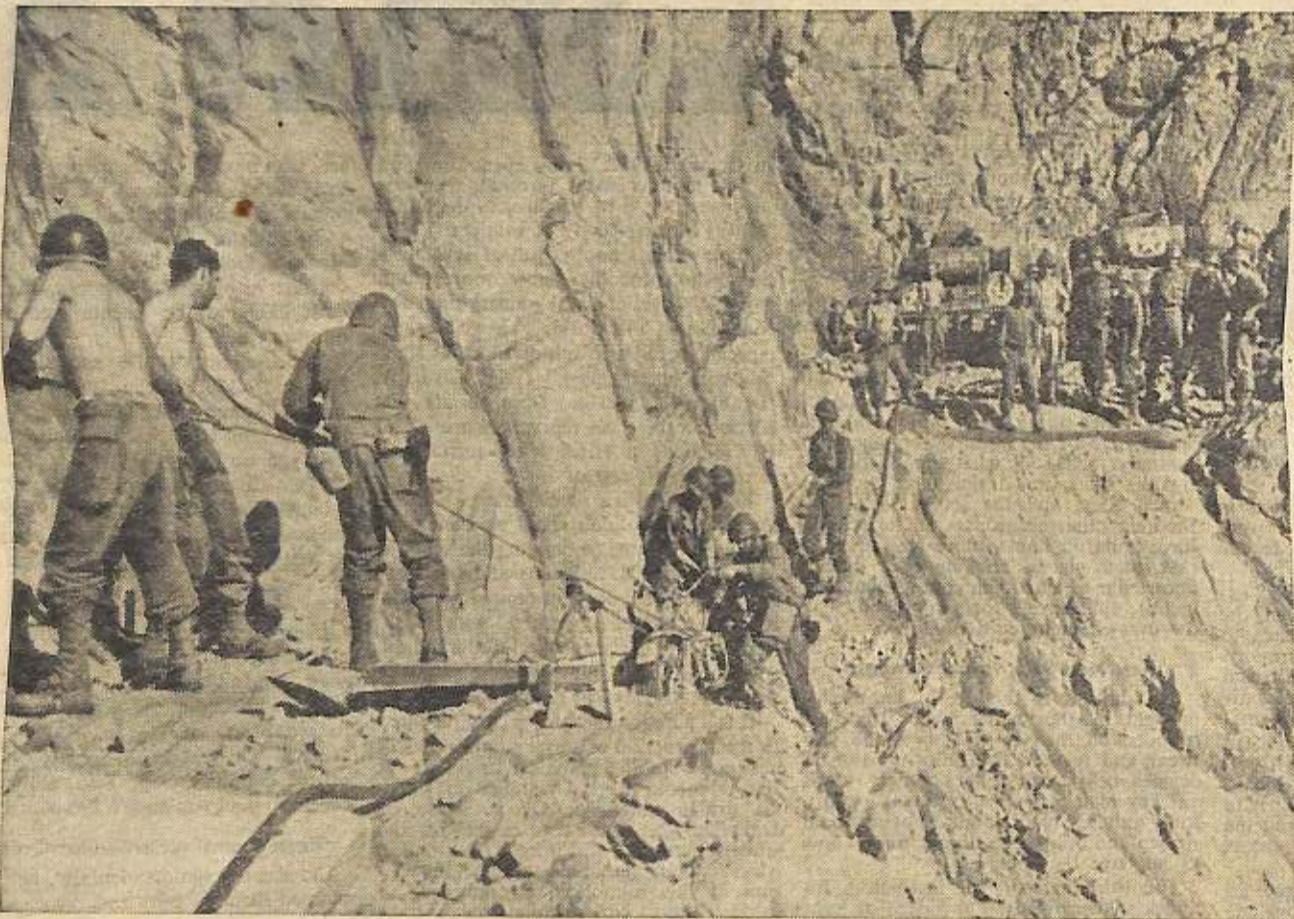
Remember how the Jerries launched those twin drives from Faid and Gafsa on Feb. 8. They hit through the mountain gap at Kasserine and took two-thirds of a flat plain eight miles wide and 18 miles long. They almost got to Thala. They were so sure of taking Tebessa they sent a carload of MPs ahead to start regulating traffic. Those MPs still were prisoners, at last reports.

It cost a lot of men and machines to stop the Jerries that time. But they lost some 80 tanks. We stopped them because they just had to be stopped. Then came the great German retreat which didn't stop until the Allies had ended the African campaign in complete victory.

Naturally, with all this background, we thought we'd see no end of tanks around Kasserine. But we were disappointed. The salvage boys beat us to it. Today, driving through the Kasserine gap, you might as well be in prewar Tunisia. Nothing but goats, sheep and curious children. The big plain is empty and desolate. You could never tell a decisive, bitter fight had been waged there.



We drove on to Feriana. There assured Wentzel, would be something reminded him of Col. Edson Raff and paratroopers who had their headquarters at Feriana. I told him of the Airac and P38 boys who were quartered miles away at Thelepie. Surely there would be many tasty items in that. Again it was the same old story.



Associated Press Photo

**S**PRING of 1943 was a grim season for German troops in North Africa. Remnants of the battered Afrika Korps were beating their way up the Tunisian coast toward the escape ports of Tunis and Bizerte. And they were hemmed in—as though in a giant cylinder. One cylinder

was the Mediterranean, the other the American Second Corps stretched out in a long north-south line to keep the retreating Germans between themselves and the sea.

Meanwhile, like a great piston inside the cylinder, the war-wise British Eighth Army

was pushing up from the south on the heels of the escaping Nazis. The Mareth Line had been broken, and with it the will of the Afrika Korps to resist.

But as the Germans passed by, there was no longer any need for the cylinder wall in the west. So, in one of the most smoothly-managed of all military transport

## The Fighting Engineers

operations, Lieutenant General George S. Patton's American Second Corps moved hundreds of miles to the north to take part in the final offensive aimed at Tunis and Bizerte.

Besides the problems of military security in such a move, which was carried out in secrecy, were the basic transport problems. For the Second Corps, moving north, cut directly across the supply lines feeding British and French forces laying siege to Germans in northern Tunisia. But the move was completed without disrupting the supply columns.

The success of the operation was a tribute to one arm of America's Armed Forces, a tribute expressed by British staff officers commenting on the move. Said the British: "The roads were kept open by incessant work of the Engineers, equipped with some of the most modern mechanical road-making equipment in the world."

That road-making equipment was the kind that gave America its present super-highway system. Huge tractor-bulldozers, "V"-shaped drags to clear away debris, six-wheel-drive trucks—Yankee-made equipment turned to war. And it was in the right hands. For U.S. Army Engineers handled their giant machines like toys, laying down roads through desert dust at the rate of four miles per hour. That speed is considered good time for infantry on the march—and when roads are built at that rate, it's some kind of record.

When Allied troops hit the beaches at Salerno, on Italy's western coast, Engineers again were in the thick of the action. Oblivious of Stukas and German artillery, they unloaded thousands of tons of food and ammunition to establish supply dumps on the beachhead. As they worked, roads appeared, mines were neutralized, bridges repaired—all proof of the fact that the Engineers were getting on with the war.

Meanwhile, half-way around the world, other Engineer units were learning their

Building roads while keeping the fighting our troops are a

jobs. Amphibian Engineers ran invasion boats which skirted 200 miles of Japanese coast to land Australian troops for final drive on Lae, New Guinea. Under the noses of Nipponese guns, Engineer-manned barges kept to a schedule of work precision, arriving and departing with the regularity of a commercial ferry route in the United States.

The South Pacific has come to know U.S. Engineers. In one year they built made serviceable more than 100 airfields in Australia and New Guinea. They constructed or improved more than 15,000 miles of Australian roads. Hospitals, their creation, as were wharf and berthing facilities in South Pacific harbors. It's the job of the Engineers to maintain adequate water supplies near combat areas, to construct, repair and supply depots for aircraft, to construct and repair and repair wherever Allied troops are fighting.

In the 1930s when signs of impending war darkened the skies over Europe and the Pacific, Engineers were busy on American defenses in Alaska, Hawaii, Panama, Puerto Rico, and other offshore possessions. In January of 1941 they began work on Atlantic bases leased from Great Britain. Later, more Caribbean bases were added to the list of continental defenses; and in July of that year Engineers moved to Greenland to begin facilities for air operations and the housing of defensive troops. These jobs meant temporary and permanent dwelling places, airfields and defensive installations.

Late in 1941 tension increased as international relations neared the demarcation

## Will Japanese Morale Meet the Big Test?

By K. K. Kawakami  
Japanese author and journalist who has long resided in America.

**T**HE grand strategy adopted by Allied leaders has no doubt confirmed in the minds of the Japanese militarists what they had already sensed—that their doom is sealed.

Japan's mad gamble in this war is a result of militarist miscalculation. Not even the Tojos and Itagakis would have risked the fate of the nation had they not deluded themselves in the belief that Hitler would seize Egypt and seal Suez, that he would seize Stalin into submission, and that he could then turn on England to finish the job which the Luftwaffe had left unfinished in 1940. Their Admiral Nomura, while Ambassador at Washington, strove to dispel their delusion, but the militarists were then blind.

When Rommel was driven from North Africa, when Germany began to grow groggy under Russian blows, when Mussolini showed himself the little tin soldier that he really was—then the militarists at Tokyo, no doubt, opened their eyes in bewilderment. They know, of course, that once Germany is beaten their newly won empire will prove a house of cards.

Publicly, however, they are still putting on a bold front, telling tales for the benefit of the man in the street. And the man in the street is not impervious to such propaganda, for the war is still thousands of miles away and the spell of Hong Kong and Manila, of Singapore and Java is still

upon him. That is the whole secret of Japanese morale, so far so high.

Not much longer, however, can the man in the street live in a fool's paradise, for the Allied offensive against Japan's home islands is only a matter of time. Indeed, he has already begun to sense that things are beginning to go badly with his country. The dawning sense of uneasiness was sharply accentuated when Seigo Nakano, the fire-eating totalitarian politician who had been in on the secrets of the military clique, performed hara-kiri in traditional samurai fashion. No doubt the Japanese are asking, "Why this suicide?" And they must be answering the question, "Because Nakano was convinced that the cause he espoused was lost, that Japan is in for the worst beating any nation has ever experienced."

This leads to another question: "If Japan has already lost the war, what is the good of keeping up the fight?" The answer to this question will begin to shape itself when the Allies have secured air bases from which Japan can be systematically raided. Certainly it will become definite when the Allies launch amphibious war on a big scale against Japan's home islands.

In spite of all the fantastic claims made for Bushido and the loyalty and patriotism of the Japanese, their morale, when tested in the crucible of modern warfare carried to their very door, will prove fragile. Whatever their natural virtues, patience and tenacity are not among them. John Galsworthy, the British novelist, once told an American audience that the "English-

man is a deceptive personality to the outside eye." The same is true of the Japanese, but in a different sense. Outwardly the Japanese is stoical, but his stoicism is a facade to a tumultuous soul which often permits his heart to run away with his head. Apparently phlegmatic, the Japanese is excitable, impatient, hot-tempered. He is prone to be influenced by emotions and moods rather than by reason and logic. When his feelings are deeply stirred he is capable of heroic acts, but his is a heroism lacking stability and staying power.

The Japanese themselves are fully aware of their own shortcomings. Read the textbooks compiled by the Japanese Department of Education for the grammar and high schools. They point out the lack of patience, tenacity and perseverance in the character of the Japanese. They express admiration for British doggedness and admonish the Japanese to cultivate the same quality.

It is even possible that Bushido itself was conceived by the feudal progenitors of modern militarists to restrain the impetuous spirit of the samurai. Bushido, the unwritten moral code of the knight, is a composite of precepts culled from Shinto, Confucianism, the apocryphisms of Lao-tse and the teachings of Buddhism. It exalts the virtues of self-examination and self-control. It encourages meditation and introspection to restrain emotionalism.

"There is no higher happiness than rest," says Buddha. Lao-tse exalts the virtue of non-assertion and non-resistance.

"I would not," says Confucius, "have him to act with me who will unarmed attack a tiger or cross a river without a boat." Again, "Your body, your hair, your skin are the gifts of your parents; do not harm them, and that is the first step to filial piety."

All such teachings the samurai knew by heart, yet he never permitted them to conquer his romantic nature, as witness his practice of hara-kiri, the most painful, if equally heroic, method of self-immolation for the protection of his honor. The leopard's spots remained unchanged.

The explanation lies, perhaps, in the fact that the characteristics of the Japanese are rooted in their racial origin and also in the physical and cosmic environment in which they live.

Henry Thomas Buckle, the English historian, advanced the theory that the "aspect of nature"—mountains, rivers, oceans, climate, earthquakes, hurricanes, tidal waves, &c.—exercise profound influence upon the human mind. Earthquakes are the most conspicuous example. They are, says Buckle, "always preceded by atmospheric changes which strike immediately at the nervous system, and thus have a direct physical tendency to impair the intellectual powers." The terror they inspire excites the "imagination" at the expense of the "understanding," thus overbalancing the judgment and predisposing to superstitious fancies.

The history of Japan is a series of earthquake disasters. Not a month passes but that the country experiences 400 quakes.





# War in the Pacific Island Group

## Campaign Highlights

**M**AJOR Gen. Willis H. Hale, revealing that the USAAF's most advanced air base is 1,800 nautical miles (2,073 statute miles) from Tokyo, told the Seventh Air Force, "It will not be long before you are over Tokyo. The Japanese appear to have been defeated in the Central Pacific."

This statement, latest development in the vast Pacific area of war, typifies recent Allied successes which have seen the large-scale invasion of the Marshall Islands; the success of a giant pincer movement encircling Japanese forces on New Ireland, the Admiralties, the Solomon Islands and New Guinea; the task force actions against Palau, one of the greatest bombardments ever staged by the Navy; and devastating, continuous bombing and shelling of such key Japanese strongholds as Rabaul, Saipan, Truk, Ponape, Yap, Wewak and Hollandia.

Another side of the picture is presented in the War Department announcement: "More than 26,000 Japanese have been killed in recent months in the Pacific theaters." Approximately 10,000 died on Bougainville and New Britain, 14,000 in the Marshalls and Gilberts; and 2,000 in New Guinea and the Admiralties. The figures do not include those who have died of starvation and in sinkings, which are estimated to be in the thousands.

Important events in the warfare in the Pacific in chronological order:  
 Feb. 29—U.S. warships again shell Rabaul, New Britain, and Kavieng, New Ireland. In New Guinea, Allied bombers dump 102 tons of bombs on Baram airfield at Wewak.

Mar. 1—For the seventh day in succession the Japs fail to put up a single plane to meet the well-over 200 U.S. bombers which smashed at Rabaul, the bomb-gutted New Britain base.

Mar. 2—By-passing Rabaul, American troops of the First Cavalry Division invade the Admiralty Islands, 250 miles north of New Guinea and 1,300 miles east of the Philippines—thus cutting the last sea lifeline to the Philippines and the East Indies.

Mar. 4—Hollandia, New Guinea, Rabaul and Bougainville heavily bombed by Allied raiders.

Mar. 6—Gen. MacArthur reports 3,000 Japs killed in fierce fighting on Admiralty Islands.

Mar. 8—Adm. Nimitz declares that U.S. submarines have taken such a huge toll of Jap shipping that Japan has probably been forced to abandon Truk as a naval base.

Mar. 22—About 1,500 Japanese soldiers drowned in the Bismarck sea when a Fifth Air Force air fleet bounces on a Jap convoy trying to sneak through the Allied blockade to bomb-battered Wewak.

Mar. 23—Marines seize two Jap-held islands 85 miles north of Kavieng, New Ireland, completing the Allied encirclement of enemy bases in the Solomons, New Britain and New Ireland. Allied bomber range advanced to within 580 miles of Truk, Japan's great Carolines stronghold to the north.

Mar. 28—Three hundred Japanese killed in counter-attacks against our forces at Torokina on Bougainville.

Mar. 29—Mitchell bombers, escorted by Corsairs, strike at Ponape; U.S. bombers smash 145 buildings in raid on Rabaul.

Apr. 1—A powerful U.S. Navy armada strikes at the Palau Islands, westernmost of the Caroline Islands, and located 500 miles due east of the Philippines in an attack described as "the first deliberate challenge to the Japanese fleet to leave its hiding places and come out and fight."

Apr. 3—Several fleets of American warships and aircraft, hammering at the Japanese in co-ordinated attacks over



Clip this map and commentary for future reference and discussion group work.

a vast 2,000 mile arc of the Central Pacific, blast Truk for the fifth time in three days. A task force of battleships and aircraft carriers returns to safe waters after giving the Palau Islands one of the greatest bombardments ever staged by the Navy.

Apr. 8—Fifth Air Force airmen complete the crippling of Hollandia, key enemy base on the north coast of New Guinea. Truk hit again by heavy bombers.

Apr. 10—Adm. Nimitz reveals 28 Jap vessels sunk and 132 planes destroyed by task force which raided Palau Islands. The task force "sank or damaged every ship it saw" in attacks on Palau, Yap and Wolca, Jap strongholds spread out over 900 miles of the Carolines.

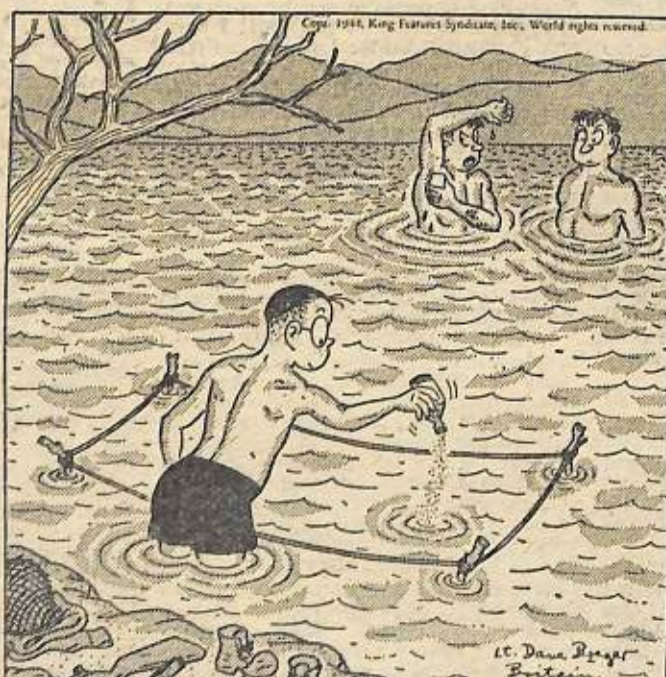
Apr. 13—American forces capture five more atolls in the northeastern Marshall Islands, giving the Allies control over 18 of the group's 22 main atolls—hem in Jap troops on Mille, Wotje and Jaluit, last big enemy bases in the group.

## GI JOE

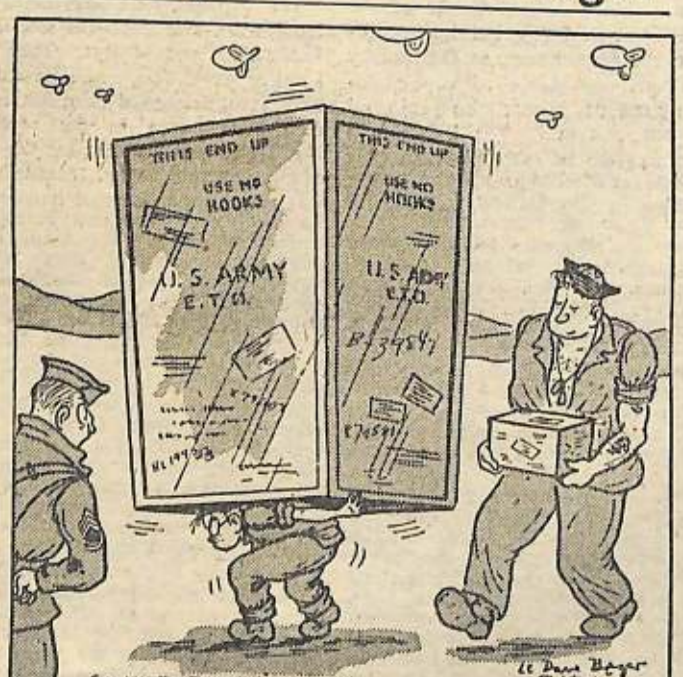
by Lt. Dave Breger



"Boy, talk about a wolf in sheepskin clothing!"



"What a guy—just GOT to have his bath salts!"



"Stop complainin'! You know he's limited service!"

# her Holds Down Attendance at Opener's

## Ceremony and Action as Diamond Season Opened



Exclusive Radio Photos to The Stars and Stripes

It's "Play ball" as Vice President Henry A. Wallace (left) throws out the first ball before the Washington-Philadelphia game got under way to open the American League season Tuesday, the A's winning, 3-2, in 12 innings. Ossie Bluege, Nat manager, is on Wallace's right, while Senator Tom Connally, of Texas, is seated. At right, Napoleon Reyes, of Giants, slides safely into home plate in seventh inning of the Giant-Brave contest at the Polo Grounds. Phil Weintraub also scored on this play—Hal Luby's long double started it—and the Giants won, 2-1.

## Lanier Gives Up 2 Hits as Cards Blank Bucs, 2-0

### Bruins Whitewash Reds, 3-0; Giants, Phillies Also Triumph

NEW YORK, Apr. 19—Pitchers showed little ill effects from their frigid spring training period north of the "Eastman-Landis" line yesterday as the National League knocked the lid from its 1944 season, the nation's fans being conspicuously among the missing when the umpires yelled "Play ball."

The hitters, however, apparently haven't had time to sharpen their aim because two of the four inaugurals were shutouts, while losing teams in the other two games each salvaged only one run. The day's highest production was turned in by the Philadelphia Phillies, who stopped the Brooklyn Dodgers, 4-1.

In other openers, the St. Louis Cardinals launched their title defense with an impressive 2-0 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates; the Chicago Cubs blanked the Cincinnati Reds, 3-0, and the New York Giants shaded the Boston Braves, 2-1.



Max Lanier

Lefty Max Lanier, pitching on borrowed time until his draft board gives the signal, was the hero of yesterday's Cardinal victory, handcuffing the Pirates with two hits before a meager crowd of 4,030 cash customers and 2,200 servicemen in St. Louis. It was the best pitching exhibition of the day, including the American League.

The Cards shoved across single runs in the sixth and eighth innings off Elwin "Preacher" Roe, Pirate rookie southpaw, who allowed seven hits while going the route. A walk, Johnny Hopp's double and a single by Stan Musial accounted for the first Redbird run, while Musial scored the other, clubbing a single, going to second on Frank Gustine's bobble and scoring on Whitey Kurowski's single.

Gustine and Roe marred Lanier's bid for a no-hitter, each getting a one-bagger.

#### Walters Drops Heart-Breaker

Bucky Walters lost a heart-breaker before 30,154 fans in Cincinnati, the nation's largest crowd of the day, checking the Cubs with three hits, while his Cincinnati mates touched Hank Wyse for five. But Bucky slipped in the fourth and the Cubs tallied twice on a walk, singles by Don Johnson and Bill Nicholson and a long fly.

The Cubs registered their third run in the ninth when Phil Cavarretta crashed out a triple, then raced home on Nicholson's fly.

Freshman Infielder Hal Luby's seventh inning double scored Phil Weintraub and Napoleon Reyes to pull the Giants from behind before 13,400 partisans in the Polo Grounds. Bill Voiselle, Giant right-hander, became the second rookie ever to turn in an opening day triumph, Hub Perdue notching the only other one in 1912 while hurling for the Braves.

#### Voiselle Shackles Braves

The Braves scored their lone run in the fourth when Roland Gladu, third baseman recently given a medical discharge from the Canadian Army, tripled and crossed the plate on a long outfield fly. Voiselle held the Braves to six hits, the Giants getting eight from Al Javery.

The Phils delighted 10,128 hometown fans by trouncing Leo Durocher's Dodgers behind the six-hit pitching of Dick Barrett, while the winners slapped Hal Gregg, Les Webber and Tom Warren for nine blows. Gregg was charged with the defeat.

Lagging, 1-0, the Phils peppered Gregg for two runs in the fourth, clustering Coaker Triplett's walk with Andy Seminick's triple and a single by Butch Cieslak. They added their superfluous runs off Webber in the fifth and sixth. The Dodgers erred once, the Phils twice.

## Albert TKOs Kozak in First

### ETO Heavyweight Titlist's Defeat Marks Second Round of Tourney

By Ray Lee

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

BRISTOL, Apr. 19—The second round of the Ground Forces boxing tourney was climaxed with what probably will be the biggest upset of the meet when Pvt. George Albert, of Waynesburg, Pa., toppled Pfc Vince Kozak, ETO heavyweight king, TKOing him in 1:58 of the first round.

Vince, definitely off his customary form and apparently suffering from lack of proper training, came out fast, opening with a sharp left to the head, but didn't bother Albert. Midway through the frame, Albert, unbeaten in 12 Army starts, out never having laced on a glove as a civilian, took the offensive and caught the Hazelton, Pa., scrapper on the ropes, flogging him with a flurry of hard lefts and rights to the head.

#### Same Medicine, Same Results

Still groggy at the count of three, Vince limbed back to his feet but hit the canvas almost immediately after another dose of the same medicine. He came up before the count for more punishment and was padded for the canvas again when Referee John Renda called a halt.

Another TKO came at one minute of the first when Pfc John Mulhern, 155-pounder from Philadelphia, stopped Pvt. Bernie Derhos, of South Bend, Ind., 154, for a count of nine with a left to the jaw early in the round, and again seconds later with a right. The referee stopped after the second knockdown, although Derhos, despite a cut eye, protested violently.

In another heavy scrap that picked momentum as it went along, Pvt. Pete Morelli, Stockton, Cal., 186-pounder, felled Lewis E. Raines, Charleston, S. Va., 183-pound private, at 1:26 of the third with a left and right to the head.

#### In other bouts:

- Pvt. Jimmy Plemons, Birmingham, Ala., 120, outpointed Pfc Frank Bua, Vineland, N.J., 117.
- Pvt. Ernest Navarro, Devine, Tex., 120, TKOed Albert McEuen, Phoenix, Ariz., 119, in 1:47 of the second.
- Pvt. Paul Pinkston, Portland, Ore., 124, outpointed Pfc Fergie Villamil, New York, 120.
- Pvt. Melvin Permansu, Walters, Okla., 126, outpointed Glenn Kemble, St. Paul, 125.
- Pvt. Henry Huerta, Peoria, Ill., 136, outpointed Pfc Henry Tippets, Brunswick, Ga., 136.
- Pvt. William Meisel, Chester, Pa., 137, outpointed Pfc Freddie Hermann, Elizabethtown, N.J., 144.
- Pvt. Stanley Stockins, Chicago, 144, outpointed Monty Saccone, Brooklyn, 145.
- Pvt. Marvin Van Buskirk, Seattle, 143, outpointed Pvt. Benjamin Murell, Hudson, N.Y., 143.
- Pvt. Jesus Flores, Los Angeles, 155, outpointed Eddie Brickner, Philadelphia, 154.
- Pvt. Albert Schoeck, Chicago, 165, outpointed Mike Mastandrea, Brooklyn, 162.
- Pvt. James Scott, Philadelphia, 165, outpointed Pfc James Fort Worth, Tex., 164.
- Pvt. John Flores, Fort Worth, Tex., 164, outpointed Pfc Andy Sfrisi, Philadelphia, 172.
- Pvt. Phillip O'Mara, New York, 175, outpointed Pfc...

## Moreno Upsets Champ Molina In 8th Air Force Ring Semis

AN EIGHTH AF STATION, Apr. 19—Sgt. Primitivo Molina, ETO bantamweight champion from Concord, Cal., was the victim of a startling upset here last night as he fell from the Eighth AF boxing tourney during the semi-finals, bowing to Pfc Howard Moreno, 117-pounder from Santa Barbara, Cal., in the headline bout.

Molina, who decisioned Moreno in an earlier meeting this season, opened with his usual heavy punching and cut his foe's eye in the first round, winning the session by a wide margin. But Moreno spurted sharply in the second and third heats to rap out a lead on points which he protected until the final bell.

In another quick finish, Cpl. Bobby Volk, 161-pounder from Portland, Ore., swarmed all over Sgt. Bill Brady and put the Kingston, Pa., 162-pounder to sleep in 1:31 of the second. Volk caught Brady several times in the first heat to soften him for the kill, catching him with a shower of hard rights and lefts to the head early in the second and the Pennsylvanian finally wilted under the assault.

#### In other bouts:

- Pfc Ernie Iannucci, Los Angeles, 126, outpointed Pvt. Jesse Stivey, Houston, Tex., 124.
- Cpl. Keith Voorhees, Ventura, Cal., 133, outpointed Pvt. Frank Hernandez, San Leandro, Cal., 140.
- Pvt. Joe Lucignano, Hoboken, N.J., 145, outpointed Sgt. Tony Tenore, Newark, N.J., 145.
- Pfc Charles Bryan, Indianapolis, 154, outpointed Sgt. Nathan Abraham, Allentown, Pa., 155.
- Cpl. Harold Gary, Oklahoma City, Okla., 193, outpointed Pvt. Pete Sinuk, Bronx, N.Y., 182.

## Brewers Picked To Cop AA Flag

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Apr. 19—The same eight clubs which played when the League was formed 43 seasons ago start play in the American Association today, hoping to weather the hardships of wartime player shortages and cold spring training with the Milwaukee Brewers favored to repeat as pennant winners.

"The spirit of optimism that prevails among our club owners is remarkable," League President George Trautman said. "One might expect a certain amount of doubt over the ability of the Association to complete its season in view of present conditions, but I discovered none at our meeting last week."

St. Paul opens at Milwaukee in the only daylight tilt on today's slate. Tonight Toledo plays at Indianapolis, Columbus travels to Louisville and Kansas City entertains Minneapolis under the mazdas.

## Minor League Results

Pacific Coast League							
San Francisco	2	Oakland	1				
Los Angeles	9	Hollywood	0				
Seattle	3	San Diego	2				
Portland	10	Sacramento	4				
	W	L	Pct.				
Los Angeles	7	2	.778	Seattle	5	6	.455
San Francisco	7	4	.636	Portland	5	6	.455
San Diego	7	4	.636	Oakland	3	8	.273
Hollywood	6	5	.545	Sacramento	2	7	.222



#### American League

W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.	
New York	3	0	Detroit	0	1	.000
St. Louis	2	0	Washington	0	1	.000
Philadelphia	3	0	Cleveland	0	0	.000
Cleveland	0	1	Chicago	0	0	.000

#### National League

W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.	
Chicago	3	0	Cincinnati	0	1	.000
St. Louis	2	0	Pittsburgh	0	1	.000
New York	2	0	Boston	0	1	.000
Philadelphia	4	0	Brooklyn	0	1	.000

## International Loop Opens Its 1944 Season Today

NEW YORK, Apr. 19—The International League, only minor circuit to play right through the last war, opens its 1944 baseball season tomorrow and President Frank Shaughnessy says "If any League finishes this season, it will be the International."

Saughnessy, a former major leaguer, is optimistic over the caliber of play. "We have enough 4-Fs, discharges and youngsters to put on a good show," he said.

The inaugural schedule is as follows: Buffalo at Baltimore, Montreal at Newark, Rochester at Syracuse and Toronto at Jersey City.

## Quaker Footballers Start Spring Practice Sessions

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 19—Penn had its first spring football practice in two years on River Field, with about 50 Naval trainees and sub-draft age civilians answering Coach George Munger's initial call.

Richard Ambrogi and John Small, backs, and Ray Stengel and Walter Stichel, guards, are the only holdovers.

## Li'l Abner



By Al Capp

By Courtesy of United Features

# Bombers Rip Jap Positions In N. Guinea

## Attack as Aussies Prepare Final Madang Assault; Rabaul, Hollandia Hit

Allied bombers blasted Rabaul, an airfield near Truk and other Japanese island bases in the Pacific yesterday, while other planes by the hundreds pounded enemy positions behind Madang, New Guinea, where Australian troops are now preparing for the final assault.

A 300-ton raid on Hollandia, the Japanese air base just over the border in Dutch New Guinea, brought the total weight of bombs dropped on this base in the last week to nearly 2,000 tons.

Other developments in the Pacific:

The Navy Department announced in Washington that U.S. submarines had sunk 15 more Japanese ships, bringing their total war bag to 682.

Adm. Thomas C. Hart completed his taking of testimony from naval personnel who saw the attack on Pearl Harbor. Hart's investigation is being conducted in connection with the trial, to be held probably after the war, of Adm. Husband E. Kimmel. Kimmel and Lt. Gen. Walter C. Short, who were the ranking officers at Pearl Harbor, were charged with dereliction of duty by a presidential investigating committee.

# De Valera Plea On Rome Bared

Prime Minister Eamon De Valera of neutral Eire has appealed to the warring nations for the preservation of Rome, it was disclosed yesterday. In a message Mar. 20, De Valera said it was "evident that should the city be militarily defended by one side and militarily attacked by the other, its destruction would be inevitable."

President Roosevelt, replying Apr. 3, declared flatly that the fate of the Holy City rested with the Nazis, and said that "if the German forces were not entrenched in Rome no question would arise concerning the city's preservation."

The Reich, replying Apr. 18, claimed that the billeting within Rome of any troops or supply installations had been prohibited for a long time, and that the rail network of the area was serving the civilian population exclusively and was not being used by the German Army.

## Chance Reading Brings Reunion

HOLLYWOOD, Apr. 19—A magazine article has reunited actress Faye Emerson with her half-sister Virginia, whom she had not seen since her father and stepmother separated 14 years ago. The article mentioned that Faye had lost track of Virginia. The latter read it and got in touch.

## Census of Civilian Goods

DETROIT, Apr. 19—A special wartime census will be taken in Wayne, Macomb, Oakland and Washtenaw counties to help allocate goods and services for essential civilian requirements. Similar projects have been completed in San Diego, Cal., Charleston, S.C., and Mobile, Ala.

# 2 to Broadcast Of Air Umbrella

The support which ground soldiers may expect from an air umbrella when the Second Front is opened will be explained to ETO troops over the American Forces Network tomorrow from 4.30 to 4.45 by two members of the Allied Expeditionary Air Force—Col. John Ulricson, of Monterey, Cal., Ninth Mustang group commander, and RAF Group Capt. Richard Atcherley.

A similar program was broadcast to America over the weekend. It was the first public explanation of the role to be played in the European invasion by the air arm of Gen. Eisenhower's supreme command.

- 1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.
  - 218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.
- Thursday, Apr. 20
- 1100—Spotlight
  - 1115—Personal Album
  - 1130—King's Royal Rifle Corps
  - 1150—French Lesson
  - 1200—Noon Edition
  - 1205—Barracks Bag
  - 1300—World News (BBC)
  - 1310—Melody Roundup
  - 1330—Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street
  - 1400—News Headlines—In a Sentimental Mood
  - 1430—Visiting Hour—Hospital Theater
  - 1450—Music While You Work
  - 1530—Off the Record
  - 1650—National Barn Dance
  - 1700—Hit Parade and Program Resume
  - 1730—Albert Sandler and the Palm Court Orchestra
  - 1755—Quiet Moment
  - 1800—World News (BBC)
  - 1810—GI Supper Club
  - 1900—Seven O'Clock Sports—Latest sports news by Col. Johnny Vrotsos
  - 1905—Symphony Hall
  - 2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A.
  - 2010—Fred Waring Program
  - 2025—This Week in Science
  - 2050—Bing Crosby Music Hall
  - 2100—World News (BBC)
  - 2115—Mail Call
  - 2185—USO in the ETO
  - 2200—Truth or Consequence
  - 2225—One Night Stand with Joe Reichman
  - 2255—Final Edition
  - 2300—Sign off until 1100 hours Friday, Apr. 21.

## ETO MP Who Inherited Fortune Weds in U.S.

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Apr. 19—Pfc Ben Violette, of South Bend, who woke up one morning last February while on MP duty in London and discovered he had inherited between \$50,000 and \$200,000 from an aunt, was married Saturday in St. Patrick's rectory here to Miss Jo Ann Reeder.

Violette, 27, shared in the estate of Mrs. Mary Martin, of Oakville, Ont., who died in December. Mrs. Martin, who acquired her fortune from her husband, a former prospector, sold her holdings to the late mining magnate Sir Harry Oakes, who was slain in Nassau, Bahamas, last year.

# 8,500 Tons Hit Nazis in 30 Hrs.

## U.S. Day Blows Follow 4,400-Ton RAF Raid on French Rail Targets

(Continued from page 1)  
visually, obtaining what was described as "good results." The field and buildings, including the main hangar, were hit. Flak was light and not a German fighter was seen in the air.

At Eschwege, airmen said no German planes challenged them but that flak was fairly heavy over the target and also over the enemy coast. Crews reported they saw only one enemy plane in the air—a twin-engine craft which sped between two Fortress formations without firing a shot.

Yesterday's operations followed a night in which the RAF Bomber Command sent out more than 1,000 aircraft, most of which attacked the French railway targets at Noisy-le-Sec and Juvisy, on the outskirts of Paris, and at Rouen and Tergnier.

Vichy Radio reported that one Paris suburb was being completely evacuated following the attack, which it called "one of the most violent the French capital has ever experienced."

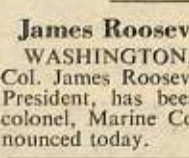
The night was just one long nightmare," said Philippe Henriot, Vichy propaganda minister, who reported that large fires were still raging yesterday, with delayed-action bombs exploding continuously.

Four hundred dead have been identified thus far, Paris Radio said, adding that 300 persons had been seriously injured.

In addition to blasting the railway targets, the RAF carried out a large mine-laying program and Mosquitoes attacked Berlin and objectives in western Germany.

Pilots who attacked the railroad yards and workshops outside Paris reported clear skies, with little cloud and targets accurately identified. "So accurate was the attack that the bombs were putting some of the markers out," a Lancaster pilot related.

## Flanigan, Stark's Deputy, Promoted to Commodore



Capt. Howard A. Flanigan, deputy chief of staff to Adm. Harold R. Stark, USN, has been promoted to the rank of commodore, it was announced yesterday.

The rank of commodore, corresponding to brigadier general in the Army, is rarely given to naval officers not holding their own commands.

Commodore Flanigan, who served in the ETO in World War I, retired in 1936 and became executive vice president of the New York World's Fair.

In 1941 he became chairman of the board of the New York Dock Co.

Six months before Pearl Harbor, Commodore Flanigan was recalled to active duty as a commander on the staff of the Commander, U.S. Naval Forces in Europe. He was promoted to captain in February, 1942.

# Enlisted Men Pilots Get Their Bars



T/Sgts. John Ferguson (center) and Daniel L. Richards (right), who held the distinction of being among the few enlisted men piloting fighter planes in combat, are just ordinary shavetails now. Col. James H. Howard (left), Mustang ace and former Flying Tiger, is shown swearing them in.

NINTH FIGHTER COMMAND HQ, Apr. 19—Two technical sergeants, among the few enlisted men flying fighter planes in combat in the ETO, were commissioned Mustang fighter pilots here, Ninth Air Force headquarters announced today.

T/Sgts. John Ferguson, 22, of Long Island, N.Y., and Daniel L. Richards, 23, of Long Beach, Cal., took the oath from their commanding officer, Col. James H. Howard, a former Flying Tiger. Both flight officers received their wings after training with the Royal Canadian Air Force and transferred into the USAAF last December.

Richards, a former Lockheed aircraft worker, has flown his Mustang on eight missions over Europe, two of them to Berlin, with Col. Howard's group.

Ferguson has been on three missions over enemy-held territory, two of which were to Augsburg. He was sent to England after training in Spitfires in Canada, and has just completed his final combat training course, when he transferred into the USAAF.

# Fliers Tell of Hilarious Week With Denmark's Underground

STOCKHOLM, Apr. 19 (AP)—They wore shabby civilian clothes, one in continental plus fours, when they reached Sweden, and they had amazing stories about one hilarious week as guests of underground agents who shepherded them to safety under the very noses of the Nazis.

They were three American fliers—the pilot from Hampden, N.D., the co-pilot from Clarkston, Wash., and the radio operator from Brooklyn, N.Y.—the only three survivors of a shot-up Liberator which went down over enemy territory Easter Sunday in the American raid on Brunswick.

"Two of our gunners were killed by the cannon of attacking Me109s," said the pilot. "The rest of us bailed out, but one—we aren't sure which one—opened his chute too late, and we learned later that four others were captured by the Germans."

The co-pilot, radioman and pilot landed near one another and got away into the woods.

Patriots contacted the three and then began a week's odyssey under the guidance of the underground—"men who risked their own necks to help us."

First they were outfitted in civilian clothes—the Sunday best of the local villagers.

"I swear it was like something out a gangster movie," said one of the men. "Here we were staying in a nice home, eating and drinking the best, yet always on the alert for the Germans."

"We'd sit around the table playing poker and our hosts would put their guns

on the table. Every time there was a knock on the door they'd grab their weapons and peek out to see who was there before opening the door."

The co-pilot chimed in, "One day one of the fellows asked me if I wanted to see some German soldiers. I said 'Sure,' and away we went to the local restaurant, where we sat at a table within ten feet of a group of submarine sailors and Luftwaffe men."

The pilot told of riding a bicycle around a small town for about two hours all by himself.

They could have gone to the movies, but as only German pictures were shown they declined.

The three ate in several restaurants, never speaking English aloud when they might be heard, and always in the company of the underground. Whenever they wanted to get from one place to another, "a taxi appeared as if by magic."

# NEWS FROM HOME

# G-Men Capture Last Defendant In Fascist Trial

## Smythe Is Arrested Near Canadian Border; Loses \$1,000 Bail

WASHINGTON, Apr. 19—The last of 30 pro-Fascists facing trial on indictments charging conspiracy to overthrow the government was hurried back to Washington today from Ausable Forks, N.Y., where FBI agents seized him less than 40 miles from the Canadian border.

The fugitive, James Edward Smythe, of New York, was arrested a few hours after Federal Judge Eicher adjourned the second day's session of the trial because of his absence. Smythe forfeited \$1,000 bail.

Yesterday's short session was marked by Attorney Ben Lindsa's theatrical declaration to the packed courtroom that he disclaimed "any connection with any defendant who will leave this courtroom and give the Nazi salute in the streets."

Lindsa, counsel for George Sylvester Viereck, who is now serving a prison term for failing to register as a foreign agent, declined to elaborate but Mrs. Lois de Lafayette Washburn declared she had given the Nazi salute when she left the courthouse Monday solely for the "scandal scavengers" who, she said, had sought to block her way.

The defendants include Mrs. Washburn, Viereck, Silver Shirt leader William Dudley Pelley, German-American Bund leader Gerhard Wilhelm Kunze, Robert Noble and Ellis O. Jones, of Los Angeles, organizers of the "Friends of Progress"; Prescott Bennett, George E. Deatherage, Joseph E. McWilliams, Gerald B. Winrod and Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling, author of the anti-Communist book, "The Red Network."

They are charged with conspiring to set up a Nazi state and incite disloyalty in the armed forces.

## Placed in Institution

COVINGTON, Ky., Apr. 19—Joan Kiger, pretty 16-year-old schoolgirl accused of killing her father and brother, was committed to a mental institution after three physicians testified that she was of unsound mind. Her father, Carl C. Kiger, and her brother Jerry, six, were shot and killed at their home last August, and her mother was wounded. Joan's counsel contended that if Joan did the shooting it was done during a nightmare.

## Rome Stands, Pants Fall

CUMBERLAND, Md., Apr. 19—Two months ago Howard L. Mignot made a bet which called for him to drive through town naked if Rome did not fall by Apr. 15. It didn't, Mignot did. The cops picked him up clad only in shoes and spectacles, but Police Judge Frank A. Perdue suspended sentence when told of the wager.

## 4 Children Die in Fire

O'NEILL, Neb., Apr. 19—Four children of Mr. and Mrs. Max Warnke were burned to death when a gasoline-heated iron exploded and destroyed their family farm home.

# Invasion - - -

(Continued from page 1)  
German infantry, armored units, artillery and motorized reserves between Narvik (northern Norway) and the Channel coast as far as Hendaye (southern France) had been put on immediate stand-by orders.)

Meanwhile, the Swedish radio, quoting a Copenhagen report, said that the German military authorities at Varde "have issued a proclamation that access to the shore and adjacent territory all along the west coast of Jutland and the coast to the north of the Lim Fjord is prohibited to all civilians and Danish civil servants."

## 'Don't-Talk' Drive in Algiers

ALGIERS, Apr. 19 (AP)—Closely following on the stringent security measures adopted by Britain, the French defense commissariat today opened a drive to spread "security-consciousness" among the French armed forces and population.

"Keep quiet and make your friends keep quiet," was the warning in all Algiers papers. "No indiscretion can be tolerated. These involve the lives of thousands of French and Allied soldiers. The security measures will be applied with extreme rigor."

# A20 Havoc - - -

(Continued from page 1)  
California with a French officer aboard, and some, then-isolationist senators wanted to know what foreigners were doing in our secret planes.

France ordered some and when the Germans marched through that country Britain took up those orders and added to them.

To date A20s have been flown by American, British and Russian airmen in practically every war theater, and in various models have been used as everything from night fighters and intruders to bombers.

## Chaplin Appeals Joan's Suit

LOS ANGELES, Apr. 19—Charlie Chaplin has filed a petition with the State Supreme Court asking it to quash Joan Barry's civil suit naming him as the father of her six-months-old baby.

## Army Premiere Tonight For New Crosby Musical

ETO soldiers at 16 simultaneous screenings at base-section and air-forces stations tonight will see the world premiere of Paramount's Bing Crosby musical, "Going My Way," the Cinema Section, Special Service Division, announced yesterday.

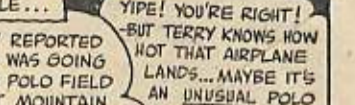
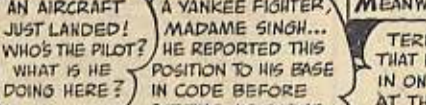
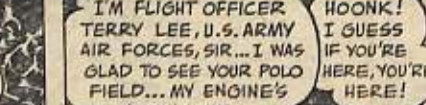
Prints also have been shipped to Army movie circuits in other theaters of operation for showings tonight.

## Art Exhibit to Open

TAUNTON, Apr. 19—An art exhibition will open at the enlisted men's Red Cross club here Saturday at 8.30 P.M. Entries must reach the program director Friday morning, bearing name, military address and home address.

Judges will be A. J. Munnings, president of the Royal Academy of Art; Harold Bowler, American Red Cross, and Sgt. Dick Wingert, Stars and Stripes cartoonist.

## Terry and The Pirates



I THOUGHT I WAS GLAD TO BE STUCK AWAY IN THIS WHISTLE STOP WHERE THE BRITISH COPS CAN'T FIND ME—BUT AN AMERICAN AIRPLANE JUST LANDED ON THE POLO FIELD... AND BURMA GETS RED, WHITE AND BLUE GOOSE BUMPS!

I'M FLIGHT OFFICER TERRY LEE, U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES, SIR... I WAS GLAD TO SEE YOUR POLO FIELD... MY ENGINE'S ACTING UP...

HOONK! I GUESS IF YOU'RE HERE, YOU'RE HERE!

AN AIRCRAFT JUST LANDED! WHO'S THE PILOT? WHAT IS HE DOING HERE?

A YANKEE FIGHTER, MADAME SINGH... HE REPORTED THIS POSITION TO HIS BASE IN CODE BEFORE CUTTING HIS ENGINE TO SIMULATE TROUBLE!

MEANWHILE...

YIP! YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT TERRY KNOWS NOW THAT HE WAS GOING IN ON A POLO FIELD IN THAT MOUNTAIN TOWN... A POLO FIELD IS ONLY 300 YARDS LONG... A P-51B WOULD OVERSHOOT IT...

By Milton Caniff