

## U.S. Heavies Again Hammer Germany

### Tanks of 8th Battling for Italian Port

#### Seizure of Ortona Believed Imminent; Fifth Facing Bitter Nazi Resistance

Eighth Army Sherman tanks and German Mark IVs slugged it out street by street yesterday in a violent running battle for the tiny Adriatic port of Ortona, while Fifth Army troops across the Apennines smashed heavily at mountain pillboxes on the road to Rome with artillery and mortar fire.

Fall of Ortona, only port between Termoli and Pescara, was expected within a matter of hours, according to reports reaching Allied headquarters.

The disclosure that French troops were attacking with Americans along the mountainous northern sector of the Fifth Army front revealed for the first time the location of Gen. Henri Giraud's troops, whose presence in Italy became known last week.

#### French Battle for Pass

The French, struggling for three days and nights for possession of one important mountain pass, were reported to have taken the southern shoulder of the height while U.S. troops attacked the villages of Aquafondala, five miles west of Filignano, and Cardito, six miles northwest of Venafro.

The American drive was aimed at San Vittore on the road to Rome, and the Germans were using every house and every natural obstacle to hold back the advance.

The Germans fought grimly to hold Ortona as Gen. Montgomery's tanks sought to turn their left flank after having pushed them behind most of the Ortona-Orsogna road. Southwest of the port, the Eighth Army made slight advances after repulsing two desperate German counter-attacks and capturing some Nazi equipment.

German-controlled Rome radio said the British were using "a huge number of tanks" and "making an effort of grandiose proportions" in order to break through at Ortona, anchor of the Nazi winter line. If the enemy loses that key port he can defend few positions before Pescara.

Afloat and in the air, a British motor torpedo boat captured two German schooners near the Yugoslav coast, and American P40s and A36s attacked a munitions factory southeast of Rome.

Other American planes strafed a radio station in the Pontine Marshes south of Rome and a seaplane base at Lake Bracciano.

### New Carbine Receives First Test in Pacific

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—A new American carbine, weighing only five pounds, measuring only three feet long, was used for the first time in the New Georgia campaign in the South Pacific, the Marine Corps announced.

A lightweight slugger with a heavy-weight punch, the new piece was used as an individual defense weapon by officers, machine-gun and mortar ammunition carriers and others.

Cartridges weigh only half as much as Springfield or Garand ammunition.

### Deep in Heart of Italy, Texas Pride Is Shining

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy, Dec. 22 (AP)—A bold sign along the traffic-jammed road to the Italian front announcing "5,872 miles to Austin, Tex.," is clear evidence these days that the 36th Infantry's Texans somewhere near by haven't lost their pride in the Lone Star state.

Only a third of the 36th actually comes from Texas, but all of them have the Texas spirit, and the story goes that it takes only 48 hours for a newcomer to become "more Texan than the Texans."

On one occasion, a column of tanks thundered toward the front bearing such martial names as "Avenger," "Spitfire," "Destroyer" and "The Killer." Right in the middle of the column was an impudent little jeep marked on the front in big letters, "Texas, by God!"

### Mother and Son Meet in London



Pfc Laura Loveland, of Woodstown, N.J., greets her son, Pvt. Leslie Loveland, in London, where they met for the first time since they left the U.S. a year ago. Another son, Sgt. Freeman Loveland, is in North Ireland, where his mother will meet him today.

One of the nicest Christmas presents any GI ever here could ask for arrived yesterday for Pvt. Leslie Loveland, of Woodstown, N.J.

He walked into the American Red Cross Mostyn Club in London and saw, standing there waiting for him, his mother. Mom was in uniform and wearing one stripe on each arm, for she is Pfc Laura

Loveland of the WACs.

This morning, after spending all day yesterday with Leslie, Pfc Loveland took off in a plane for Ireland to meet a second son, Sgt. Freeman Loveland, who is stationed near Belfast. She will spend the rest of the seven-day furlough she has been given—including the Christmas holidays—with Freeman.

### Marshall's Visit In Pacific Bared

#### Chief of Staff Sees Nimitz And MacArthur After Middle East Parleys

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—A tour of the Pacific by Gen. George C. Marshall in which the Army chief of staff conferred with Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur, Allied commander in the Southwest Pacific, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific Fleet commander, and other high-ranking Allied officers was announced yesterday. Although Gen. Marshall met Gen. MacArthur on Dec. 15—the very moment when the U.S. Sixth Army was invading New Britain—no word of his trip leaked out until yesterday's official announcement, after Gen. Marshall had arrived in America after the last lap of a 35,000-mile trip since he left Washington Nov. 11.

The highest placed Allied officer to visit the Pacific area since the start of the war, Gen. Marshall was believed to have explained to Gen. MacArthur and Adm. Nimitz the blows planned for the destruction of Japan at the Middle East meeting of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

After leaving the conferences at Teheran and Cairo, Gen. Marshall flew to Karachi, Ceylon, northwestern Australia, New Guinea, the Solomons and Honolulu.

Gen. Marshall flew in a combat plane from New Guinea to the forward base from which Gen. MacArthur and Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger, commander of the Sixth Army, were directing the New Britain campaign.

### Suspect in Plot to Shoot FDR Indicted by U.S. Jury

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—Walter Best, of Pontiac, Mich., said to be mentally deranged, was indicted by a Federal grand jury yesterday on a charge of threatening to take a "pot shot" at President Roosevelt.

Best is said to have told G-Men: "I had electrodes running through my brain and they told me to get rid of Roosevelt." The ten days preceding his arrest Best spent loitering in a park across the street from the White House.

### Targets in Northwest Battered in Month's Seventh Big Assault

#### Mystery Prop 'Attacks' Lib and Then Vanishes

2/Lt. John B. Peyton, of Chicago, pilot of the Liberator El Lobo, told yesterday of a freak accident in which the entire tail turret, right elevator and right rudder of his ship were sheared off by a mystery propeller during Monday's raid on Bremen.

"We were flying in No. 3 position," Peyton said, "left wing of our element, with nothing behind us—we thought—when I felt a slight jar, and the interphone went dead."

"A few minutes later I received a note from the top turret gunner saying a large part of the tail had been sheared off by the prop of another plane which had disappeared as mysteriously as it had come."

Another crew suggested an anti-aircraft shell may have struck the engine of another bomber and knocked off its propeller, which went spinning through El Lobo's tail.

#### Raid Comes 48 Hrs. After 1,200-Ton Bremen Blow

Large formations of Eighth Air Force heavy bombers, striking a new blow in the area of Hitler's heavy industry and shipbuilding, attacked targets in northwestern Germany yesterday in the newest raid of a growing offensive estimated to have dumped nearly 6,000 tons of bombs on Germany and France in the last three days.

The heavies' assault, their sixth operation of the month and the sixth directed at the Reich itself, came 48 hours after Eighth Bomber Command Fortresses and Liberators loosed approximately 1,200 tons of high explosives and incendiaries on Bremen.

Reconnaissance photographs made within an hour after the bombers attacked showed numerous large fires burning in two port areas, and later pictures showed them still burning, with high columns of smoke.

#### Railway Yards Ablaze

The pictures showed fires and smoke clearly visible in the railway yards and direct hits on workshops and other installations in and around Bremen's main ship repair yard. Several buildings were completely destroyed in a warehouse area.

In eastern Bremen, the industrial sector was heavily hit by high explosives and incendiaries. Two of three major factories of an armored vehicle works could be seen afire.

Unofficial recapitulation of air attacks from British bases since Monday indicated the Anglo-American forces were in the midst of one of the greatest combined air operations carried out against any country since the war began.

Monday's USAAF hammering of Bremen, Germany's most important seaport, involved large fleets of Fortresses and Liberators and a record fighter escort. Monday night's RAF raid was a 2,200-ton attack on chemical plants at Frankfurt. U.S. Marauders followed this up in daylight Tuesday with attacks on military targets in northern France—possibly secret rocket guns. And RAF Mosquitoes ran the offensive into its third

(Continued on page 4)

### Nazis Threaten To Punish Fliers

By the United Press

The threat that British and American prisoners of war would be tried for what Berlin alleged were violations of International Law which so far had not been brought up against them, was made in an official statement yesterday from the German Foreign Office quoted by Berlin radio.

The statement was made as a reply to the trial and execution of two German officers and a corporal for mass atrocity murders of Kharkov civilians.

With the statement, the Germans broke the silence they have maintained since the trials began. Goebbels had not allowed a line of the Kharkov trials to be published in Germany up to today.

It is believed in Stockholm that the Germans, if they do take reprisals in this way, may try to prove that captured Allied airmen were guilty of breaches of International Law in bombing German towns and vent their spite on them.

### No Paper on Christmas

No editions of The Stars and Stripes will be published Christmas Day or Boxing Day, Dec. 27. An eight-page edition will be published Tuesday, Dec. 28, however, with accounts of the holiday weekend activities in the ETO.

American Forces Network will be on the air continuously from 11 AM to 11 PM Christmas Day. Six news broadcasts have been scheduled to assure coverage of world, home and sport news during the holiday.

### 6 Enemy Ships Smashed in Air Blows in Pacific

#### U.S. Planes Sweep Vast Area; 6th Army Bolsters Grip on New Britain

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Dec. 22—Fifth Air Force bombers and fighters, complete masters of the skies in this area, destroyed 18 Zeros, sank one ship and left five others in "sinking condition," and further devastated the invasion coast of western New Britain in widespread attacks over Jap-held islands yesterday, Gen. MacArthur's official communique said today.

Off Kavieng, New Ireland, patrol planes at night attacked an enemy convoy, loaded with much-needed supplies for the Jap garrisons on New Britain, and left three ships burning fiercely. At Rabaul medium bombers by daylight sank one ship, set two others on fire and shot down four Zeros.

U.S. fighters, escorting an empty convoy in enemy waters off New Guinea, drove off a weak Jap air fleet and shot down 14 fighters. Only minor damage was inflicted on the U.S. vessels.

Supporting Sixth Army troops, strengthening their foothold on New Britain, mediums and heavies struck the Cape Gloucester area with 180 tons of bombs, starting numerous fires and wrecking Jap communications.

Meanwhile, preliminary battles for Madang, the big New Guinea port, opened with an accelerated Australian advance in the northern Huon peninsula.

### Marshall's Visit Seeks to Speed Veterans' Aid

#### House Group Would Make Hines' Unit a War Agency To Rush Claims Action

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—The House Military Affairs Committee recommended yesterday that President Roosevelt classify the Veterans' Administration headed by Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines as "a war agency of the first order" to obviate delays in the handling of claims of war veterans discharged for physical disabilities.

The committee said that such a designation would enable the Veterans' Administration to retain the present personnel and hire additional help. The committee urged that an accumulated backlog of claims "should be cleared up in a reasonable period."

At the time of its last hearings, the committee said, the administration had more than 4,000 vacancies and funds to hire personnel to fill them but could not get employees to fill the jobs.

### Army Film Tells Newcomers About Pubs, Pence and Passes

A U.S. REPLACEMENT DEPOT, Dec. 22—A new orientation film, "Welcome to Britain," sponsored by the British War Office to give the American soldier coming to this country "a warmer approach to Great Britain," got a rousing welcome from new ETO troops at its first showing here yesterday.

Soldiers recently arrived from the United States saw the film in simultaneous premieres here and at another replacement depot.

As an ETO rookie of three weeks' standing, and a private, Capt. Burgess Meredith, the film's "star," goes through a succession of GI experiences in Britain.

In his GI portrayal, he drops in at a pub, visits an English home, tries figuring out how to pay a cab driver, drinks some tea, and takes a 48-hour pass.

He learns some of the customs and habits in England that differ from those in the United States. "In the hope that he'll see himself, be able to laugh at some

things about himself and maybe remember a couple of things," the film is addressed directly to each soldier, according to Meredith.

"Welcome to Britain" opens as American troops disembark from a transport, to the strains of "Over There" and watched by Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, ETO commander, and Gen. Sir Ronald F. Adam, adjutant general of the British Army.

"Next to winning the war, the most important thing is friendly relations with our allies," Gen. Devers says, and mentions some different British and American customs. Referring to the possibility of Americans not getting American coffee, Gen. Devers remarks, "We're apt to gripe."

The pub side of Anglo-American relations is shown in two ways. One ETO rookie enters a pub, built at the time the United States was founded, says, "Well, (Continued on page 4)



# Feature Section

Thursday, Dec. 23, 1943

## Ground Work Keeps 'Em Up There

'Bombs Away!' is the climax to hours of effort by men who do their work before the planes take off

By Charles Kiley  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

TO most people the U.S. Army Air Force means dashing, carefree fliers with Congressional Medals of Honor, Silver Stars, DFCs and Air Medals; handsome heroes in silk mufflers with a way with the women; young, nerveless Frank Merriwells who take part in spectacular air battles, fight through hordes of enemy fighters that "came in at nine o'clock and blew up after I gave him a burst at 500 yards."

True, that may be part of an exaggerated picture. But the Air Force also means something else.

To fliers, whose chances of safely completing an operational mission depend as much as anything on the men who service their ships, the Air Force means their unspectacular ground crews whose contributions to successful aerial combat are as unsung as an unwritten tune.

Still, it took another war to make even the fliers reopen their eyes to the fact that able ground crews go hand in glove with able airmen. Pick out a combat crew with a crack record and behind it you usually find a highly capable and efficient ground crew.

Peace-time condescension of the flier to the "paddlefoot" on the ground has disappeared because in war-time fliers soon learn how much grease-monkeys mean to them.

### Our Crew Was Best

How much five mechanics meant to one combat crew came to light one day last month when a long Fortress broke formation over England on its way back from a raid, took a short cut to its home base and brazenly buzzed the field before landing. In the control tower the Old Man silently swore, but he was glad to see that particular ship get back.

A few minutes later the big bomber trundled to a stop at its hardstand, where a score of well-wishers crowded around to pump the pilot's hand when he dropped from the nose hatch. He was the first of his Group to finish his tour of operations — Bremen — Kiel — Schweinfurt — Regensburg — Bordeaux — Munster — Hanover — Trondheim — Oschersleben — Wilhelmshaven — Marienburg — Kerlin-Bastard—all the tough ones and the milk runs as well. He finished up without an abortive mission and without a Purple Heart in his crew.

Reason: "We had the best ground crew in the business."

Not because he was a crack pilot or because he had an infallible navigator. Not because his gunners were more eagle-eyed than thousands of others. But

because his ground crew was the "best in the business."

That was Lt. Irving Frank, boss of the Raunchy Wolf and looked upon by fellow fliers as one of the top pilots of the Eighth Air Force, talking about and giving credit where it was due to M/Sgt. George Fleet and his four aides who, as far as Frank was concerned, contributed as much blood and sweat in getting the Wolf over enemy targets and safely back as any member of the combat crew.

The story of staunch friendship and faith between the combat and ground crews of the Raunchy Wolf may not be typical. It is better described as unusual because you will not often find a pilot who will disregard two dead engines and a leaky oxygen system to continue a mission rather than abort and spoil his ground crew's perfect record.

You won't often see combat and ground crews going on pass together, either, or all 15 in the Raunchy Wolf "family" attending church services—the pilot leading the Jews, the navigator shepherding the Catholics to Mass and the co-pilot with the Protestants taking up the chapel's front row—praying for the ship and crew to get through the tour OK.

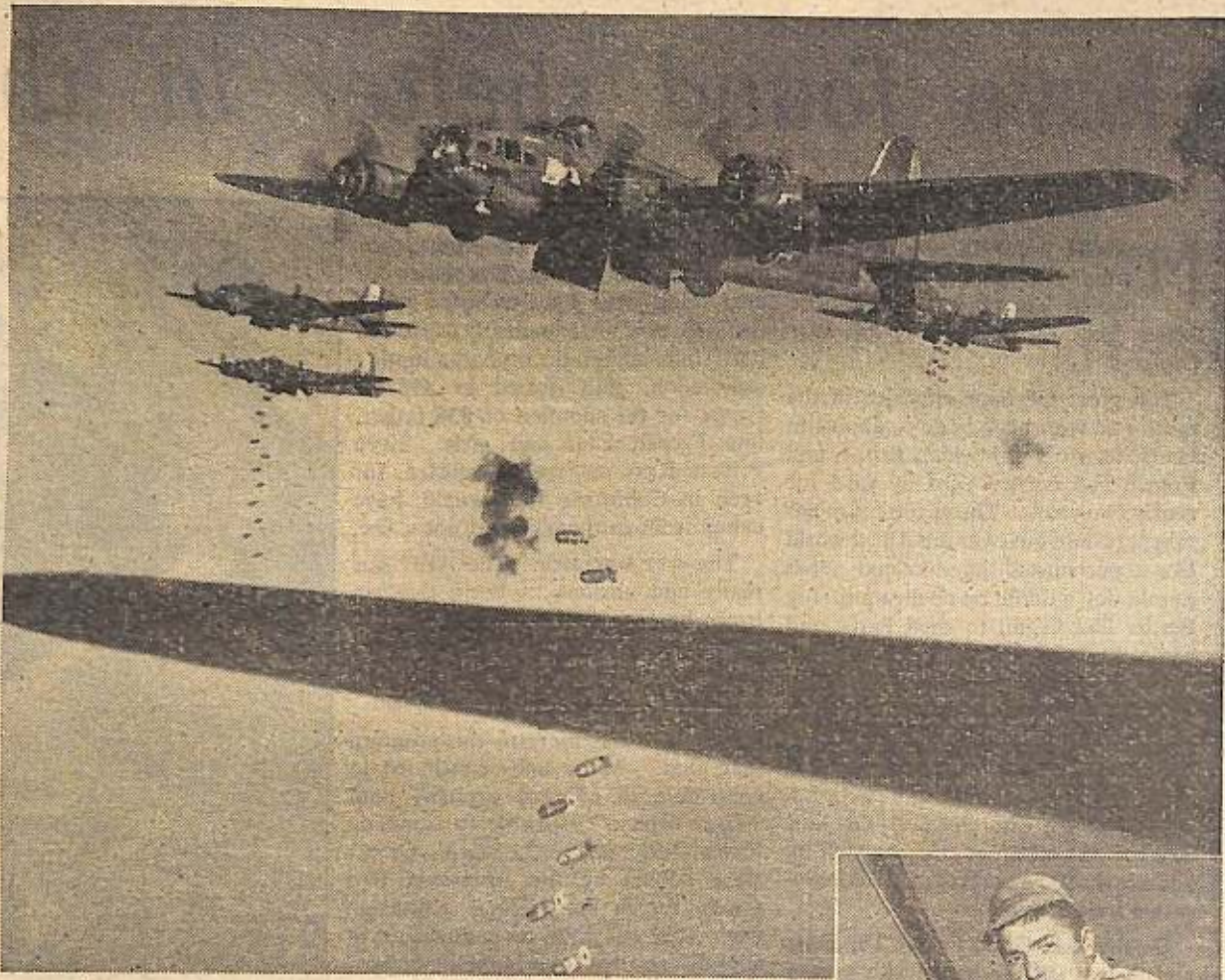
### Flying A Hangar Queen

The Raunchy Wolf's family life, however, does conform with the close alliance now existing between fliers and the men who keep them in the air.

Another bomber pilot whose faith in his five mechanics paid dividends is Lt. Avery Ink. A replacement pilot without a ship of his own, Ink was button-holed one day by a crew chief who literally begged him to take a nameless B17 that had been idle for months. The Fort in question was a "hangar queen," so badly shot-up before it was repaired that no pilot on the base wanted it.

Ink was warned by veteran fliers not to take it. Even if he got it off the ground, they told him, he wouldn't live to bring it back. But he was quick to see that the crew chief, M/Sgt. Donald Goble, was full of mechanical know-how and strung along with him. Ink promised he would take the "hangar queen" off the shelf if Goble and his men made certain modifications, including the major job of changing the entire oxygen system.

Overjoyed, the ground crew worked feverishly day and night for a week, and when the ship was ready Ink was so impressed he asked Goble and his crew to name the ship. They called her the Groundhog, and she not only had Ink take her off the ground and live to bring



The U.S. Army Air Force means fliers and bombers and ground crewmen like M/Sgt. Fabian Folmer, right, who with his mechanics serviced the B17, Hell's Angels, for 40 operational missions, sans abortives, to Germany and occupied territory.



ground crew will get results with any plane. He and his men serviced three different ships for a total of more than 20 missions without abortives.

### Men With Good Ideas

The work done by ground crews doesn't always stop with the servicing of planes according to the book. They are responsible for numerous improvements made on combat planes. It may only be a modified gun mount, but it will help the gunners do better shooting, and is a small but valuable contribution to the progress of their Air Force.

Ground crews may not be so handsome with complexions dry and red from long, cold, sleepless hours spent grooming planes. They may not be glamorous without wings on their greasy coveralls. But they are as much a part of the Air Force, entrusted with tremendously important jobs, as any flier in combat.

A faulty mechanism carelessly overlooked on the ground can send a Fortress, Liberator, Marauder, Thunderbolt or Lightning to its doom over enemy territory as surely as a battery of flak guns or 20mm. shells from Nazi pursuit ships. Ask the man who flies one.

her back but saw him finish his tour without a single abortive mission.

There is little reward for ground crews. Their tours of operation are for the duration plus like most of the American Sad Sacks. There is no glory in their work. Nobody hands out medals for guarding bombers by night and grooming them by day.

When their ships take off they don't

it plain that their mission would have flopped if it wasn't for the mechanics' "ingenuity," as he called it—but their must be a better word than that.

The Circus fliers flew their ground crews from Britain to Africa a year ago. It was to be a "ten-day mission," but it turned into a campaign of three months—hammering at Rommel's rear guards, paving the way for the Eighth Army's

"To put a force of 500 heavy bombers over an enemy target the joint efforts of 75,000 officers and men are required. Only a small percentage is made up by the men who actually fly them. The rest form the secondary army, like the corps of radio experts, armorers, refueling teams, ordnance and armament men and engineering officers, weather officers and truck drivers, cooks and clerks, parachute packers and turret experts, flight controllers and photographic technicians, chaplains and dentists and doctors, signal officers and interrogators, bomb-sight repairmen and public relations officers, trial judges and military police, security officers . . . and ground crews."—From "Target: Germany," history of the first year of Eighth Air Force Bomber Command operations.

even know where they are going. But they can tell how long the trip will be from the amount of gas in the tank.

From the time the combat crews are alerted, sometimes as much as 16 or 17 hours before takeoff, the groundings are with the ship getting everything in perfect order . . . changing spark plugs, checking superchargers, servicing hydraulic systems, carefully testing 225 feet of oxygen lines with soap and water for leaks, pre-flight engines . . . a hundred and one other things.

They line the runways during takeoff, staying to the last to be certain their "queens" got a flying start on the mission. Then, bereft, they turn towards their huts for a few hours until the ships are due back.

### They Served The Libs

You have to be part of a ground crew to know what it is to lose a ship. To some it merely means a different plane and a new crew—"too bad, they were nice guys." But to many the loss is greater than that. They may have worked on the bomber for months, since it came off the assembly line. It's reasonable to believe that men become attached to planes as well as dogs and women.

One of the biggest jobs done by ground crews in the war was that of the men who serviced the Liberators in Brig. Gen. Ted Timberlake's "Flying Circus" while it was in Africa. And the General made

gallop to Tunisia, then opening the door for the Sicilian invasion by attacking enemy airfields across the Mediterranean.

The ground crews had taken along only the equipment needed for the "ten-day mission" but somehow made it stretch for three months.

As far as medals go they are few and far between for ground crews. That is, unless they apply for and are accepted for combat duty and become gunners. Many of them have left the ground but you always find them with the old gang.

### Some Get Decorations

Some, like Fabian Folmer and Bill Futchik, are decorated for outstanding work as crew chiefs.

To earn the Legion of Merit all Folmer had to do was supervise the servicing of Hell's Angels through 40 missions without once having it turn back because of mechanical failure. For a bomber operating in the Big League, so called by fliers in comparing it with other theaters, Folmer's feat was incredible.

His reaction to the award was typical of the unspectacular ground crew. "I don't know why they gave me the medal," he said. "The boys who work with me did it all."

Futchik was decorated with the Legion of Merit for servicing a Fortress that took part in 25 raids without suffering mechanical difficulties.

M/Sgt. Bob Wilson proved a good



... Faulty superchargers can send a bomber down as surely as a battery of flak guns.



In wartime, fliers soon learn how much ground crews mean to them, like this ball turret gunner and the 'paddlefoot' who makes certain the turret will not fail him over enemy territory.

# Orphans of the 'Storm'

## of World War I and World War II

### have found shelter in the hearts of the AEF

By E. M. Llewellyn

MARCH 29, 1918, was the most miserable Good Friday the world has known, but a Red Letter Day in the history of War Orphans.

The great German offensive in the north had won back in days, almost in hours, territory for which British and French had battled yard by yard for nearly two years. The gigantic Amiens salient belled out over the Allied world like a portentous thundercloud about to rain down doom on civilization. Big Bertha had begun to shell Paris, and while the results were moderately ineffective except to whatever and whoever happened to be directly underneath, it was on that identical Good Friday that the Boche had the good or ill luck to land a fluke hit against a column in the Church of St. Gervais. The column collapsed, the roof fell in, and nearly 100 members of the congregation were killed.

On that bad Good Friday The Stars and Stripes led the paper with a two-column head which urged units of the AEF to "Take As Your Mascot a French War Orphan."

In the above words, Pvt. John T. Winterich, who served on the editorial staff of the original Stars and Stripes, describes the birth of the War Orphan program, re-born 24 years later in London.

Rules governing the original orphan program adroitly announced that "no restrictions are placed upon the methods by which the money may be raised. What more equitable method than a kitty out of crap, blackjack and poker pots?" Today the same rules apply, and orphan "collections" have equal opportunity to do a good job of work, whether they are collected by the hat-passing method or "company fines" voluntarily collected from those who talk shop at mess or swear within hearing of an alert Chaplain.

#### Campaign A Success

By the eve of the Battle of the Meuse-Argonne, adoptions in the AEF had reached 514 and the campaign was considered a huge success. But Pvt. Ross, now editor of the New Yorker, was dreaming big. In the issue of Sept. 27 The Stars and Stripes presented on page one a five-column box headed "Offered to the AEF 500 Christmas Gift War Orphans."

Seven days later, this appeal had hardly had time to make itself felt: "37 Christmas Orphans Taken; 42 a Week Needed for 500" a somewhat disconsolate heading announced. That was the last ever heard of the 42 average for next week's issue recorded a gain of 88 and won a headline "Best Week of Whole Campaign."

But the following week found it broken with 109 orphans sponsored and the next was greater still with 144. Then in the issue of November 1, 1918, the day on which American troops broke through the Kriemhilde Stellung and initiated the march that was to halt only with the Armistice, the paper led with the announcement "514 Christmas War Orphans Taken; Three Months' Goal in Five Weeks."

The lid was off. Adoptions would continue, although the gratifying total of 1,028 children had already been reached. The following week there were

an even hundred new adoptions, then 133, 115, 294. And on December 6th everything went by the board when the SOS, which had gradually organized itself into a gigantic orphan-adopting association, gaily tossed in 418,000 francs for the adoption of 836 fatherless French boys and girls. Even Private Ross was surlily satisfied, for even in California they would have called it an earthquake and not a fire.

The war was over. The AEF was ready and anxious to begin the trip back home; so it was decided to terminate the original campaign. In the final rush 462 new adoptions were recorded for a grand total of 3,444.

But there was more to the program than that. Many units continued to contribute to adopted orphans until "Their orphan" was able to stand on its own feet and face the world. Others were helped by the American Red Cross, for in the original campaign each child was given an endowment of slightly less than one hundred dollars, and this was assistance for a year at most. Under the circumstances, many helped, enjoyed the temporary lift; but felt with bitterness the loss of the assistance at the end of the year. Nearly half a million francs were therefore provided by the American Red Cross to continue the support of worthwhile cases.

#### New Plan Started

On Mar. 29, 1942, a member of the newly organized staff of The Stars and Stripes visited the American Red Cross Headquarters in London and suggested that the orphan program as operated in World War I be re-established in Great Britain with certain modifications to meet the new situation. The first issue of the soldier newspaper had not yet been published; but on that day seeds were sown which produced eventually the harvest of pounds, shillings and pence for Yankee sponsored Red Cross supervised war orphans.

Later, a written plan submitted to the Theater Commander, then General "Ike" Eisenhower, won his enthusiastic endorsement, and we quote:

I am delighted to hear that The Stars and Stripes is presenting to the American forces an opportunity of adopting orphan children of our Allies.

Such a plan was in successful operation during the last war, and its revival at this time is most appropriate.

You may be assured that the officers and men of my command are heartily in accord with this undertaking, and deeply appreciate the opportunity of expressing in a concrete manner, both our sympathy for these unfortunate children, and our determination to help right the wrongs perpetrated on such innocent and helpless victims of savage aggression.

Most sincerely,  
Dwight D. Eisenhower.

With his approval the plan was submitted to the board of directors of the American Red Cross sitting in New York. Their approval was important for they were asked to underwrite the entire administrative cost, so that every "penny" donated by GIs would go to the sponsored children. This the Red Cross agreed to do, when urged by the American Red Cross Commissioner to Great Britain, Harvey Gibson, who had helped administer the original program in France and who again in this war, as a Red Cross official, was interested in the project's success.



Before the orphan program was officially announced, tireless Red Cross investigators began the work of selecting the most needy cases for sponsorship from a long list available, whose tragic histories tell the story of suffering and death that comes with war.

#### They've Seen Tragedy

For example, there is Brian, a bright, intelligent little fellow. He was dug out (conscious) from a wrecked building after two days in darkness. He was the only one alive out of a family of ten. His mother, father and sister were all killed in the raid.

There is Doreen, whose father was killed in October, 1940, aboard the S.S. Sulaco and whose mother was killed in an air raid on March 16th, 1941, when the house in which she lived in Bristol received a direct hit: Doreen's brother and several other people were also killed at the same time. Doreen received injuries to her leg and arms and when she was discharged from the hospital she found one leg was still weak and even today she is apt to stumble and fall without warning. But Doreen has lovely reddish hair, grey-green eyes and thinks her new foster-uncles are grand.

And Gwenda F. was located by case workers. Gwenda is a fairly tall little girl of eight years with a lovely smile. Both her parents were killed in an air-

raid. Her father, an air-raid warden, disappeared when a bomb struck outside the family home and her mother lost her life inside the house. Gwenda and a sister Carol had beams across their bodies and the gas main was alight when rescue workers dragged them out of the demolished home. Neither child was injured.

And there is Tony, whose father, a ship's gunner, was drowned when the S.S. Dorina went down. Tony was under doctor's care for several weeks due to shock received when his home was destroyed during an air raid. His mother, injured in the same raid, has now recovered, but still suffers from nerves as a result of the experience.

#### Too Many Stories

Collin S. is another attractive youngster who has a new set of foster-uncles. Collin's father, a Sergeant in the Royal Artillery, was killed in Libya while serving with the Eighth Army. There are eight children in the family and two of these receive aid from your fund.

But with hundreds of case histories in the "Orphan Pool" it would be impossible to tell the story of each family. That each is worthy is guaranteed by the American Red Cross, whose workers are assisted by many trained and willing helpers.

Individuals and units who partici-

pate in the program know the background of their sponsored "Orphan" prior to acceptance, and GI Joe will tell you that his own "responsibility" is a "special case" and deserving beyond question of doubt.

#### The Cash Rolls In

To initiate the fund, The Stars and Stripes staff members decided to set the pace by adopting the first three children from the pool of orphans investigated and found worthy by the Red Cross. Two boys, Donald and Patrick, and a blonde blue-eyed Jean Kathleen were selected.

On Sept. 26, 1942, the front page of The Stars and Stripes was devoted to an explanation of the program. Three Stars and Stripes orphans were pictured and the troops invited to write to what The Stars and Stripes staff believes is the world's most worthwhile charity.

There was little delay. Money rolled in, first a trickle, then in an ever-growing stream.

With the campaign one week old, The Stars and Stripes was able to report "the traditional big heart of the American doughboy busted wide open to the week and men of the United States armed forces in the British Isles rushed to become foster uncles to war-orphaned children. Even the American military censors dropped their red and



"In two short weeks, however, we have had our faith in the generosity of the U.S. Armed forces vindicated, and we are now fully convinced that we cannot fail.

"In proof of this statement we give you herewith two very important reasons. One of the first communications received offering support for The Stars and Stripes War Orphan Fund was from a yeoman in the Navy and a private first class in the Marine Corps.

"They asked for the privilege of sponsoring one orphan each. In making their separate offers they asked if they might make their contributions on the instalment plan.

"Need we say their generous offer was accepted and we only hope that some day soon we will have the honor of meeting and shaking each of these men by the hand."

**The Rules Were Clear**

With new units continually arriving in the theater it was found necessary to reprint the simple rules. In the issue of October 17, 1942, under a two-column boxed head "How To Help An Orphan" these were given as follows: "Call a meeting of your group, whatever size it may be, get pledges from the members, collect and mail check or money order to The Stars and Stripes War Orphan Fund, Printing House Square, London, E.C.4.

"To provide extra care for a war-orphaned youngster, over and above that afforded by the regular agencies, requires £20 a year per child. The Stars and Stripes fund figures on providing those little extras that make life really worth living over a period of five years. So the minimum amount needed is £100 per child. That amount may be paid within a year. Lay it on the line all at once and you can pick the color of hair and eyes and the sex and type of youngster you and your unit wants to sponsor. We'll provide a picture of the youngster and regular reports of progress. If you can't subscribe the full amount, send in what you can. It will be placed with other fractional contributions towards caring for a child."

With a clear understanding of the program's operation GIs dug deep and often into purse and pocket. Those who accepted new responsibilities, however, were not satisfied with "giving" to a fund. To a man they wished to see the new protege. As a result, children sponsored under the program have on many occasions visited the adopting units as guests of the camp commander and his men. These visits have been supervised by the American Red Cross and hardly a day passes

without the recording of another "pilgrimage."

For example, there was Joan A who was brought all the way from Glasgow to visit her sponsoring unit in England at her "unit's" expense. She left dressed in a new "uniform" complete with 1st sergeant chevrons and loaded with gifts.

And there was Barbara B, now a lieutenant colonel of Engineers, who was met at the railway station and escorted by three motorcycles, a peep and a jeep into the nearby camp, riding proudly aboard one of Uncle Sam's armored cars. Received with ceremonies fit for a queen, she later stood with the staff of her regiment while it passed in review, then ate with the men at the regimental mess. Barbara has a promotion coming up soon, claim her "uncles", but in typical Army fashion they are making her "sweat it out."

Serving with a troop carrier squadron there's a new plane called the "Lady Moyra." It's nose was dusted a while back with a bottle of champagne, smashed in the approved fashion by the squadron sweetheart named... yes, you've guessed it... Moyra. Miss Moyra arrived at the field for the christening, dressed in kilts and accompanied by her mother. There she was presented with "wings" and later reviewed the entire squadron, who to a man have fallen in love with their five-year-old mascot, the adequate answer to their request for a Scottish child, picked to honor their own chief... a Scots-born commander.

And so it goes, children sponsored throughout the British Isles are honored by their units and who enjoys it most is often a question.

Under such circumstances it was natural that as Christmas approached in the year 1942 a new touch was

added. Santa appeared and gathered war orphans to his GI heart in a manner enthusiastic.

Early in December an armored unit decided to play host to a few dozen local orphans. They were gathered together with the help of British friends, stuffed with a man size meal, loaded with candy bars and taken for a trip of inspection round the American camp. While crossing the parade ground a General Grant Tank rumbled up to the group and out popped Father Christmas complete with whiskers, Santa suit and bags of toys. It was a happy group of youngsters who bid farewell to their hosts at the end of that day, for each was loaded with gifts and the knowledge that someone cared.

**Party Makes History**

That party in 1942 was the first GI event of its kind in ETO, the forerunner of hundreds to follow.

Not to be outdone, "Christmas Toys Inc." was organized by Lockheed Aircraft Technicians in Northern Ireland. Mass production methods were employed by Santa's assistants and \$10,000 worth of toys were made and distributed to needy children in a series of gigantic parties attended by some 4,000 boys and girls. From these Irish parties little visitors left with ducks, dogs and racing cars made of scrap material. Manufacture of the toys took not one single man-hour away from essential war work, and all work was done with the approval of U.S. Army officials.

Then on Saturday, December 19, 1942, more than a 100 children almost mobbed Pvt. "Red" Keary, of Baltimore, Md., who bounced into a public hall somewhere in England attired in a Santa soot-suit and using a jeep for a sleigh: "Red" arrived well heeled with gifts and candy bars for his many new friends who were enjoying, in many cases, their first real Christmas. But Pvt. Keary's performance was duplicated that day and on days to follow by other GIs from the Army, Navy and Marine Corps. The Red Cross assisted and The Stars and Stripes announced events so fast that columns of space were required just for the listings.

**Woolcott Makes Visit**

In 1918, as in 1943, it was the custom of foster-uncles to visit sponsored orphans. One such journey made prior to Christmas in 1918 was described as follows: "The task of making the pilgrimage was assigned to the most rotund sergeant on the staff because of his superb command of the French language. After a night spent in a crowded third class compartment he emerged bedecked with lumpy packages and his own personal travelling library, looking like Santa Claus but feeling like the devil. Yet he would have made the same journey every night of his life if, at the end, he could see such a wide-eyed welcoming smile as irradiated dismal and dingy Pommard when he encountered Marie-Louise.

"For word that one of Marie-Louise's parrains had come to town soon reached the little 'patronage' behind the church where the young Pommardiennes spend their Thursdays. And from that spot raced Marie-Louise to meet the visitor, and in the front room of her grandmother's little cafe bundles were opened amid such gusts and cries and explosions of excitement as made both Mme. Patriache and the fat sergeant so absurdly choky they could not talk at all for a while.

"And just before it came time for the burly sergeant to tear himself away there was a great tumult and shouting without, and in came trooping many children of the village, escorting a small and extremely solemn poulu of four who, with the look of one about to mount the scaffold, saluted the sergeant and sent a 'gros basier' to his own dear parrains. For Marcel Meney is the mascot of 1st Platoon, Co. F, 166th Infantry. If he were feeling any better he couldn't stand it, and if any member of Company F can slip away for a flying visit to Pommard, he will remember it always. Certainly the weighty sergeant will carry with him all his days the memory of Marie-Louise's arm around his neck and the sight of the two of them—the little girl and her gentle mother—as they stood in the doorway and waved him down the road to Beaune."

Alexander Woolcott, who passed on this year, leaving behind him a world reputation as author, actor, playwright and producer, was that burly sergeant. He never forgot his Marie-Louise, who lived to receive an excellent education provided by the self-styled rotund N.C.O.

In World War II, as in World War I, the orphan program has had its "big moments" and highlights, its ups and downs; but progress has been relatively steady.

On April 17, 1943, The Stars and Stripes was able to announce that \$80,000 have been collected. Then on July 12 the fund passed the \$100,000 mark, and on November 1 it reached \$125,000.

**Air Force Has Program**

With the arrival of new troops, orphans are now being sponsored almost daily and interest this Christmas season has reached an alltime high.

Parties held in London and Liverpool for 1,100 and 1,450 orphans respectively have already been surpassed by others organized by the Eighth Air Force and attended by some 2,000 children. And the Eighth Air Force, always strong for the program, has this year worked for months building toys by the thousands for Santa's sack. These are now being distributed throughout Britain at a series of Christmas parties which have grown bigger and better through experience gained at past entertainments.

But when it comes to doing things in a big way, even the best can be surpassed. This was proved on December 15, when a total of \$9,516.40 was contributed to the orphan fund in a single day. Leading all the rest was an Infantry Regiment that shook the cash register with its \$8,400 contribution.

In Dec. 20, 1918, issue of The Stars and Stripes the customary orphan story opened with this citation:

"The Stars and Stripes in the name of the war orphans of France has awarded the Distinguished Service Cross of the Real Christmas Spirit to the following organization for the act of extraordinary generosity described after its name:

"The A.E.F., France... For extraordinary generosity all over France between March 29, 1918, and December 16, 1918, while helping hold the Germans at bay in the first half of 1918, and in the latter part of July, and in August, September, October and the first 11 days of November, assisting the Allied Armies of the free nations of the world in driving back and defeating the German army in the hardest day-by-day fighting the world has ever known, and ever since in staying faithfully on the job to see that it wouldn't have to happen again. The A.E.F. found time and francs to adopt 3,444 French orphans of the war whose fathers had died fighting for the same cause for which its members proffered their lives. Throughout the entire war orphan campaign the A.E.F. showed the highest contempt for destitution and poverty which, in many instances, followed its generous giving, and the concomitant thirst, hunger and loss of physical enjoyment. At all times and under all circumstances it was cool and collected—but for the most part collected. Home Address U.S.A.—'and a little child shall lead them.'"

And what was good enough for the A.E.F. goes double for those in the ETO who have already proved that when it comes to battle courage and bigness of heart, they are worthy sons of victorious fathers.

Thanks, Joe.



WACs Also Lay It on the Line for Needy Orphans

# For Marianne . . .

By Hugh B. Cave

BY the time Burke Bradley had squirmed through the crowded aisle of the last day-coach his gray business suit (prewar, Park Avenue, still in excellent condition) had become inlaid with soot and train dust. He knew then that he was doomed to stand. Perhaps all the way to Jacksonville.

Confound you, Denny—you're to blame for this!

Burke grasped the back of a seat (occupied by three Camp Blanding boys in uniform) and spread his legs wide to ease the pain in his arches. Burke Bradley in a day-coach—standing! The nerve of that pipsqueak at the Pullman Booth!—"Sorry, sir. Not a chance of a reservation for days. The war, you know." As if the head of Bradley Machine Tools, Inc., didn't know there was a war!

Denny, my boy—Denny, my impetuous young fool—I'll wring your neck for this. Falling for the first pair of female eyes that comethithered you!—Marrying them! Denny, my imbecile son, I'll drag you from that scheming vixen's clutches if it takes every pound of pull I possess. And I possess plenty!

"Would you like to sit down a while, sir? You look bushed."

Burke gazed incredulously into the freckled face of the youngster; at the word airborne on the boy's sleeve. This kid, a paratrooper! Were they fighting the war with infants?

But of course they were. Denny—Lieutenant Dennis Bradley—was also an infant.

"Come on, sir." The youngster stood up, and the other two wiggled over a bit to allow for Burke's extra girth. "Go right ahead. Sit down."

Burke's sigh of thanks was genuine. Getting old, he thought. Feet are killing me. He was hungry, too. Denny's phooc call, at 11 PM, had been fiendishly timed to make his trip to the station a mad scramble. Now don't come rushing down here, Dad. First chance I get, I'll bring Anita to Washington. Just take my word for it—she's the most wonderful girl in the world, and you'll love her.

Denny, my boy, I'll meet her at my convenience, not yours! And I'll strangle you both!

He looked wearily at his watch. Four AM. Men in uniform slept in the aisle; some of those standing were asleep on their feet. Kids, mostly. Mere kids. Going back to camp after brief furloughs in Boston, New York, Washington, scores of little towns between. He watched them, something nagging at his memory. Why, damn it, he envied them!

This isn't new, Burke. You've been here before. Back in 1917 . . . remember? "Sandwich, sir?" The youngster beside him was holding out a waxed-paper envelope.

"Thanks, I don't believe I'm hungry. The diner—"

"Better take it. You'd be hours trying to squeeze through to the diner."

Burke mumbled his thanks and munched the sandwich. The kid was right; it helped. His feet and stomach had stopped aching when the car began to wake up at six o'clock. Rested, he tried to surrender his seat, but the boy beside him stood up instead and Freckles, who'd been standing, sat down. Others in the car were relinquishing their seats to standees. Someone began a song with slightly naughty verses.

"Dirty Gertie from Bizerte. . ."

Burke had to smile. Soldiers' songs don't change much, he thought. Back in 1917 we were doing the one about the mademoiselle from Armentières, God bless her. Impulsively he turned to one of his seat mates. "Son, how old are you?"

"Nineteen, sir, last month."

Nineteen. And how old were you, Burke, when you sang about the mademoiselle? How old were you when you fell in love? Why, Denny's older than that! A whole year older!

Freckles withdrew his head from the open window and let out a yell. "Coming into a live station, you guys! On your toes!" The train slowed, stopped with a lousy jerk. Both ends of the car disgorged a whooping gang of wild animals, who tore along the platform in search of food and drink.

In a moment they were back, handing sandwiches and soda pop in through the windows. Burke found himself waving his money, snatching as frantically as the others. Out of breath, he flopped into his seat—three sandwiches and a bottle of pop in his grasp.

By heaven, these kids were all right! They knew the ropes. No one was putting anything over on them!

Do you remember, Burke—the train, the crying girl . . . the letter never written?

The train was moving again. "Sir," said Freckles admiringly, "you're no buck private at this game. You've had experience!"

Burke grinned back, his mouth full. "Not lately, soldier. But in France, in the other war, I didn't go hungry too often."

"Boy! France! Were those French girls really what we've heard, sir?"

"Well—"

Go ahead, Burke. Tell them about France and the other war. Tell them about Sergeant Burke Bradley. They're good kids. They'll enjoy it. Tell them about the mademoiselles.

But you really don't know too much about the mademoiselles, do you? There was only one girl over there that mattered to Sgt. Bradley. You were blind to all the others.

Well . . . tell them about her. About Marianne. Her small, soft voice and her

quick little walk. The way she looked at you when you talked about the good old U.S.A. and the future. The way the tears drowned her brave little smile that last day, when she ran along the station platform clutching your hand as you leaned from the window. I'll write, Marianne. I'll send for you, darling! The very first thing!

Tell them about it, Burke. Tell them why you never wrote. Tell them about the other Burke Bradley, your father, and what he said: "My boy, don't be a headstrong fool. You're a mere infant. This girl, this French cutie—you were out of your mind. Forget her, I say. If you write her, I'll disown you!"

"But Dad, I tell you I love her. I want her."

"Nonsense! Forget her, I say! You'll get over this temporary infatuation."

"I—I suppose you knew best, Dad. I suppose you're right. . . ."

"Beg pardon, sir? Did you say something?"

"Just—just talking to myself."

Freckles looked at him queerly. "I guess all this—the crowded train and these guys yelling their heads off—brings back memories."

It does, soldier. Ah, it does. Memories of Burke Bradley at nineteen, headstrong, sure of himself. You fall in love like that only once, soldier. Heaven's in reach for just a heart-beat of time; then it's gone.

Oh, you get along without it. You live. You find a substitute, and grow older, and dull the ache with philosophy. Then—then you see some of the old, brave things cropping up in your son, and because they bring back the past—because they hurt—you fight them.

"Sir, you haven't said where you're going."

"Haven't I? I'm off to Jacksonville."

Clip Out for Reference

## AFN Radio Christmas Programs

Operated by Radio Branch, Special Service Division, SOS, ETO

Thursday, Dec. 23	Friday, Dec. 24	Saturday, Dec. 25	Sunday, Dec. 26	Monday, Dec. 27
1100—GI Jive. 1115—Personal Album—Gene Austin. 1130—Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards. 1200—Yank Swing Session. 1225—California Melodies. 1255—Quiet Moment. 1300—World News (BBC). 1310—Barracks Bag—A grab-bag of entertainment. 1400—Visiting Hour—Hospital Show. 430—Sign off until 1745 hours.	1100—GI Jive. 1115—Personal Album. 1130—Concert for Chowhounds. 1200—All Time Hit Parade (Ret. Eng.) 1230—Curtain Call. 1255—Quiet Moment. 1300—World News (BBC). 1310—Barracks Bag. 1400—Visiting Hour. 430—Sign off until 1745 hours.	1100—GI Jive. 1115—Personal Album. 1130—Happy Norman's Ranch House. 1200—Contented Hour. 1230—Christmas Package with Linda Darnell, Bob Hope, Fibber McGee and Molly, Lena Horne and special messages from the Army and Navy Chief Chaplains. 1300—World News. 1310—Novatime. 1330—Hello India—Special feature to the GIs in India. 1400—World Roundup (BBC). 1515—Broadway Bandbox—with Frank Sinatra. 1545—Pop Concert. 1615—Special Xmas Command Performance. 1745—Program Resume and Spotlight Band. 1800—World News (BBC). 1810—GI Supper Club. 1900—Sports. 1905—Music We Love. 1930—Hit Parade. 2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A. with Cpl. Ford Kennedy. 2010—Special Fred Waring Christmas Program. 2025—Miniature—a musical spot. 2030—Jubilee—Louis Armstrong, Ernie Whitman and many others. 2100—World News (BBC). 2110—Remember. 2120—Bandstand (BBC). 2200—Xavier Cugat. 2205—Dickens Christmas Carol—with Basil Rathbone. 2255—Final Edition. 2300—Sign off until 0800 hours, Sunday, Dec. 26.	0800—Program Resume—Organ Recital. 0815—Harry James. 0830—Major Bowes Amateur Program. 0900—World News (BBC). 0910—Melody Roundup. 0930—Sunday Serenade (BBC)—Scottish Variety Orchestra. 1015—Your Town—Radio News-Letter from three American Towns. 1030—Music While You Work (BBC). 1100—Weekly News Roundup—Presented by The Stars and Stripes. 1110—Vocal Varieties. 1130—Music from America. 1200—Henry Hall and his Orchestra. 1230—Program Resume. 1235—Bob Crosby Show. 1300—World News (BBC). 1310—Serenade. 1315—Jack Benny's Program—with Mary Livingstone, Dennis Day, Rochester and Phil Harris and his Orchestra. 1340—Sports Staff. 1345—Sound Off. 1400—National Barn Dance—Regular cast of the American musical feature.	1100—GI Jive. 1115—Personal Album—Martha Tilden. 1130—Band-Wagon. 1145—The Maritza Players (BBC). 1200—Village Store—with Joan Davis and Jack Haley. 1230—Half and Half. 1255—Quiet Moment. 1300—World News (BBC). 1310—Serenade. 1315—Salute to Rhythm. 1400—Sign off until 1745 hours.



All questions except 3, 6 and 7, are based on the coming issue of "Army Talks" entitled "The Soldier and His Mail," which will be the subject for discussion at meetings held between December 26 and January 1, 1944:

1. Why should soldiers' letters be made the topic for an issue of "Army Talks"?
  2. How could the EFM prepared cable messages be used by enemy agents to transmit military information?
  3. What is the rank of a British Army officer who wears a crown, a star and a crossed sword and baton?
  4. What kind of news from home do most men like to receive?
  5. What is the best way to get the people at home to write that kind of letter?
  6. To plan air age routes, experts consult a polar: (a) projection;
- 
- (b) refraction; (c) trajectory; (d) abstraction.
  7. Is a praying mantis a devout Indian tribesman, an insect, a member of an oriental religious sect.
  8. What do the folks at home want to know about most of all?
  9. What is there to discuss about letter-writing?
  10. What are two reasons for the return address on a soldier's letter?
  11. Why is it required that the ASN be used as a part of the soldier's return address?

### GI Joe Machine Gun

By Lt. Dave Breger

- #### Quizz Answers
- 1—Because a discussion of this topic helps us write and receive more and better letters, which in turn help us to be better soldiers.
  - 2—Messages sent by enemy agents could be a part of a pre-arranged code.
  - 3—A general.
  - 4—Soldiers want to know how the folks are getting along financially; how they are helping the war effort and to be told that they are being missed. Next to their immediate families they want to know intimate details about their friends.
  - 5—The people back home will answer promptly letters that are interesting, amusing and full of intimate details, supplying similar details.
  - 6—Projection.
  - 7—An insect.
  - 8—That you are well and happy and that you think of them.
  - 9—The importance to letters to the soldier, and to families. Also, the manner of writing interesting letters and why censorship rules are important.
  - 10—So the people at home will be reminded of your correct address. Also so the man who through ignorance or carelessness violates censorship security can quickly be located.
  - 11—If there is any question about the Unit or the APO the ASN is a final check on the identity and location of the addressee.

# Army and Navy Quintets Prop Game in South

## Kentucky, Georgia Tech Squads Seen as Strongest

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 22—A poll of colleges shows that the Army and the Navy have saved basketball in the South simply by furnishing opposition.

Only a few regular basketball powerhouses are continuing the sport on a peace-time basis, but a number of others will organize teams and play Army and Navy units in their immediate vicinities. Some schools have dropped the sport altogether and others are still undecided as to what to do.

The Southern Conference will have more teams on the court this winter than the Southeastern, which is usually the basketball stronghold in Dixie. But the Southeastern will probably provide the strongest quintets of all in Kentucky, an annual threat for the conference title, and Georgia Tech, which has a naval unit.

**Alabama a Possibility**

According to information available now, only Georgia Tech, Georgia, Kentucky, Tulane, Louisiana State, Vanderbilt and possibly Alabama will have teams in the Southeastern loop.

On the other hand, Duke, North Carolina, South Carolina, Clemson, Washington and Lee, VMI, Wake Forest, North Carolina State and possibly others will support teams in the Southern Conference. Duke, as usual, will be the outstanding member, principally because of help from naval trainees.

Coach Johnny Mauer has announced that Tennessee, which won the Southeastern Conference last year, will not have a team.

Georgia Tech should be a favorite in the Southeastern tournament with three regulars returning—Frank Broyles, Wes Paxson and Bill Johnson.

### Wildcats Topped Hoosiers

Kentucky, coached by the veteran Adolph Rupp, is the only Southern school already playing the game. To date the Wildcats have topped four opponents including Indiana and Ohio State. Rupp's team is made up of ten freshmen and two sophomores with 17-year-old Buddy Brannum as the leading scorer. The Cats have shown good scoring punch, topping Ft. Knox, 51-18; Berea, 54-40; Indiana, 66-41, and Ohio State, 40-28.

Alabama's cage plans are indefinite, but Coach Paul Burnum plans to organize a team after the first of the year provided there is enough material to play a limited schedule.

Elmer Lampe, Georgia mentor, has no idea what he will field in basketball uniforms, but says there will be some kind of a squad organized. The Bulldogs start practice after the Christmas holidays and plan their first game for Jan. 7.

### LSU Prospects Not Bright

Dale Morey, the youthful Louisiana State coach, says the prospects at Baton Rouge are not too bright, but that the Tigers will field a squad built around Dick Hoskins.

Florida, Mississippi, Mississippi State and Auburn definitely will not play basketball.

Vanderbilt plans an informal schedule and Tulane will play only service teams within the New Orleans area. The Green Wave has no indoor practice floor, the gymnasium having been turned over to the Navy and all games will be played away from home. Tulane will practice outdoors.

## Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, Printing House Sq., London, E.C.4.

- APOs Wanted**
- Lt. Nona Ruth Bench, ANC, Greenville, Tex.;
  - Cpl. Lyle W. Baker, Markato, Minn.;
  - Cpl. Budnick, Northampton, Pa.;
  - Lt. Edward L. Metio, Brooklyn, N.Y.;
  - Cpl. John Campbell, Alpena, Mich.;
  - Cpl. Bill L. Cannon, Dickens, S.C.;
  - Herman Cornelius, Cripple Creek, Ky.;
  - Sgt. William R. Davies, Huntsville, Ala.;
  - Capt. Jack Diffin, Philadelphia, Pa.;
  - Lt. Kay Edward Donahue, Lynchburg, Va.;
  - Pvt. Charles P. Engram, West Palm Beach, Cal.;
  - Vincent Grzelak, Edsall, Orangeburg, N.Y.;
  - Vernon A. Bright, Cleveland, Ohio;
  - William H. Hunter, New Brighton, Pa.;
  - Richard C. Hoerner, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.;
  - Lt. Richard D. Holly, Pvt. James Hamilton, Ft. Belknap, Wash.;
  - Chester SGT. David Kruse, Seattle, Wash.;
  - Herschel Knight, Kowalski, Albany, N.Y.;
  - Pvt. Robert Karner, Bill Pelton, Chicago.;
  - Pvt. DeBoer, South Knoxville, Tenn.;
  - Cpl. Dale C. Collins, Monroe, Witwaukee, Wis.;
  - Cpl. Duluth C. Collins, Monroe, Wis.;
  - WAC Sally McKee, John Madden, Philadelphia.;
  - Arthur J. Nitke, Pitsburgh, Pa.;
  - O'Brien, Brooklyn, N.Y.;
  - Lt. William Fort Cobb, Lowell, Mass.;
  - T/Sgt. Fred L. Ratliff, Fort Cobb, Okla.;
  - Pfc Matthew Smith, Cleveland, Ohio.;
  - Pvt. Dan Schroeder, Easton, Pa.;
  - Lt. Frank Stolarz, Santa Monica, Cal.;
  - Pvt. James Stanleton, Mobile, Ala.;
  - Capt. Lee Thompson, Baltimore, Md.;
  - Sgt. J. P. Walker, New Orleans, La.;
  - Lt. Philip M. Wamsley, New Orleans, La.;
  - Sgt. Jerry Weinberg, Brooklyn, N.Y.;
  - Sgt. Robert Karner, Bill Pelton, Chicago.;
  - Pvt. DeBoer, South Knoxville, Tenn.;
  - Cpl. Dale C. Collins, Monroe, Wis.;
  - WAC Sally McKee, John Madden, Philadelphia.;
  - Arthur J. Nitke, Pitsburgh, Pa.;
  - O'Brien, Brooklyn, N.Y.;
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  - Pvt. Dan Schroeder, Easton, Pa.;
  - Lt. Frank Stolarz, Santa Monica, Cal.;
  - Pvt. James Stanleton, Mobile, Ala.;
  - Capt. Lee Thompson, Baltimore, Md.;
  - Sgt. J. P. Walker, New Orleans, La.;
  - Lt. Philip M. Wamsley, New Orleans, La.;

**FRATERNITY Pin.** Delta Kappa Epsilon, gold with black border; Initials "W.J.B." on back; lost on Dec. 13 in West End of London. —Miss Frances Roughton, A.R.C., Chester Hotel, Ipswich.

**WALLET** containing £20, dog tags and various papers which are important to me, on Dec. 13 at Stratton Street annex of A.R.C. —Washington Club. I know it is too much to expect the return of the wallet, but I would appreciate the return of the wallet and the balance of its contents.

## Top Tossers

By Pap



## Baugh-Luckman Passing Duel Expected in Pro Grid Playoff

CHICAGO, Dec. 22—A red-hot pitchers' duel is in prospect next Sunday when the Washington Redskins meet up with the Chicago Bears here in the finale of the 1943 National Football League season.

The Redskins proved last Sunday in New York that they could bottle up the best ball carrier in the loop, and the Bears' line will not be pushed around by anyone. The championship seems definitely to depend on who has the better passing arm Sunday, Sammy Baugh or Sid Luckman.

## Chicago Boxer Dies After Bout

CHICAGO, Dec. 22—Al Reasoner, 23-year-old Negro lightweight, died in a hospital yesterday morning without regaining consciousness after collapsing in the tenth round of his fight with Freddy Dawson Monday night.

Dr. Joseph H. Brown, a spectator who worked over Reasoner with a respirator, for an hour in the dressing room, attributed his death to brain hemorrhage.

Referee Norm Garrity awarded the fight to Dawson on a TKO after Reasoner went down the third time in the tenth round.

Helped to his feet, Reasoner slipped and fell and was carried to his dressing room. Dr. Edward J. Buchan of the Chicago Boxing Commission said that Reasoner, former CYO lightweight champ, appeared in good condition before the fight.

An investigation of circumstances leading to Reasoner's death has been initiated by Chicago authorities.

## Crimmins, Noted Bowler, Faces Manslaughter Charge

DETROIT, Dec. 22—Johnny Crimmins, chosen by the Bowling Journal as the game's outstanding individual, has been arrested on the charge of involuntary manslaughter.

The police arrested Crimmins after the car he was driving allegedly struck and fatally injured Vincent Ereaux, 26-year-old pedestrian. A conviction of involuntary manslaughter carries a sentence of seven and one-half to 15 years.

## Armstrong's Retirement Same Old Ring Story

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22—Henry Armstrong's next comeback will extend farther than one fight as originally announced.

George Moore, Armstrong's manager, said that Aldo Spoldi will probably be Henry's first opponent early in January at Portland, Ore., and the second fight is likely to be in San Francisco with more following.

## Hockey League Standings

	W	L	T	Pts.
Montreal	13	2	3	29
Toronto	10	9	2	22
Boston	9	8	3	21
Chicago	9	9	0	18
Detroit	6	7	3	15
New York	2	14	1	5

## Chicago Boxer Dies After Bout

CHICAGO, Dec. 22—Al Reasoner, 23-year-old Negro lightweight, died in a hospital yesterday morning without regaining consciousness after collapsing in the tenth round of his fight with Freddy Dawson Monday night.

Dr. Joseph H. Brown, a spectator who worked over Reasoner with a respirator, for an hour in the dressing room, attributed his death to brain hemorrhage.

Referee Norm Garrity awarded the fight to Dawson on a TKO after Reasoner went down the third time in the tenth round.

Helped to his feet, Reasoner slipped and fell and was carried to his dressing room. Dr. Edward J. Buchan of the Chicago Boxing Commission said that Reasoner, former CYO lightweight champ, appeared in good condition before the fight.

An investigation of circumstances leading to Reasoner's death has been initiated by Chicago authorities.

## Crimmins, Noted Bowler, Faces Manslaughter Charge

DETROIT, Dec. 22—Johnny Crimmins, chosen by the Bowling Journal as the game's outstanding individual, has been arrested on the charge of involuntary manslaughter.

The police arrested Crimmins after the car he was driving allegedly struck and fatally injured Vincent Ereaux, 26-year-old pedestrian. A conviction of involuntary manslaughter carries a sentence of seven and one-half to 15 years.

## Armstrong's Retirement Same Old Ring Story

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22—Henry Armstrong's next comeback will extend farther than one fight as originally announced.

George Moore, Armstrong's manager, said that Aldo Spoldi will probably be Henry's first opponent early in January at Portland, Ore., and the second fight is likely to be in San Francisco with more following.

## Hockey League Standings

	W	L	T	Pts.
Montreal	13	2	3	29
Toronto	10	9	2	22
Boston	9	8	3	21
Chicago	9	9	0	18
Detroit	6	7	3	15
New York	2	14	1	5

# American League Batters Led by Appling With .328

## Connie Mack, 81 Today, Hopes for Another Flag

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22—Connie Mack will be 81 tomorrow and still envisions another American League flag for the Athletics before quitting.

The old man, idol of millions of fans, goes to his office every day carrying his lunch in a bag to plug away at the task of building powerhouses like the Athletics of 1910-14 and '29-31. Despite his years, Mack intends to continue travelling with the club and directing team play by waving the renowned score card.

"I still hope to win another pennant," he said. "If I didn't, I wouldn't be here."

## Team Crown to Detroit; Yankees Fail to Place Hitter Near Top

CHICAGO, Dec. 22—Pvt. Luke Appling, of Fort Sheridan, Ill., and formerly of the Chicago White Sox, learned officially yesterday what most people suspected since the last baseball season—he was the American League's best batter in 1943 with a .328 average.

Appling, one of four regulars surpassing .300, beat out Dick Wakefield, Detroit's rookie outfielder, by 12 points. The third slot went to Ralph Hodgin, Appling's team mate, and Roger Cramer, Tiger garden tender, just made the select circle with .300.

The New York Yankees managed to win the pennant without a single .300 hitter nor any leaders in other batting departments. The Yanks' top batsman was the veteran Bill Dickey who hit .351, but cannot be considered, having played only 85 games and batting fewer than the regulation 400 times.

Detroit, after finishing seventh in 1942, was first in team batting last season with .261.

Rudy York hit 17 homers in August to capture the League championship with 34, three more than Yankee Charlie Keller. Keller and York finished in a tie with batting averages of .271. York was the League's offensive kingpin with 118 runs batted in and 301 total bases.

Wally Moses, White Sox outfielder, and Johnny Lindell, Yankee outfielder and former pitcher, led the circuit in triples with 12 each.

Moses and George Washington Case, Senator fielder, indulged in a base-stealing contest all season, but Case's youth told in the final weeks, and he took the thievery crown for the fifth consecutive season with .61. Moses stole 56.

Tiger Rookie Joe Hoover led the loop in sacrifices with 28.



Rudy York

## Bruins Dump Toronto, 8-5

## Cowley Runs Point Total To 40 With 3 Goals And an Assist

BOSTON, Dec. 22—The Boston Bruins moved to within one point of second place in the National Hockey League by defeating the Toronto Maple Leafs, 8-5, before 9,000 at the Boston Garden last night.

The league-leading scorer, Bill Cowley, paced the Bruins with three goals and one assist, running his season's total to 40 points.

Boston started fast and had a 5-1 advantage at the end of the first period on scores by Dit Clapper, Don Gallinger, Bep Guidolin, Flash Hollett and Cowley. Jack Hamilton netted the lone Toronto goal while Cowley cooled his heels in the penalty box for roughing.

In the second stanza the Bruins slowed down considerably, with Cowley tallying their only goal on a 35-footer down the middle after Lorne Carr scored for Toronto.

The third period saw Guidolin and Cowley go in again for the Bruins, and Gordon Davidson, Bud Morris and Bill Boothman for the losers.

## Christmas Spirit Fails to Influence Beau's Manager

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—The proposed ten-rounder between Beau Jack and Bobby Ruffin Jan. 7 struck a snag here yesterday when Manager Chick Wergeles demanded 40 per cent of the gate for Beau.

Wergeles admits that revenge motivates the demand because when Jack and Ruffin met before Jack was unable to train properly due to a bad knee, and consequently came in over the weight stipulated in the contract. Before assenting to the bout, Ruffin's manager, Maurie Waxman, demanded two a half per cent of Beau Jack's purse. Ruffin won the fight and now Wergeles wants a hunk from Waxman.

In addition to 40 per cent, Wergeles demands a \$2,000 weight and appearance forfeit.

Since losing to Ruffin, Beau Jack regained the New York version of the lightweight championship from Bob Montgomery, and Wergeles is no Santa Claus, even around Christmas.

## Tropical Daily Double Pays \$1,117 to Ten Fans

CORAL GABLES, Fla., Dec. 22—Sungino was the winner of the first race at Tropical Park yesterday, paying \$172, and with Inundation winning the second race at \$29.40, paid a daily double of \$1,117.20 to ten lucky ticket holders.

Sungino broke 12th in a field of 12 in a six furlong race and Inundation broke tenth in a field of 12 for the same distance.

## Wins Four Varsity Letters

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22—Herbert Nelson, Pennsylvania University tackle, is the first man in 35 years to win four varsity football letters. Nelson played three years on varsity and was then returned as a Naval trainee.

## Yankees Named 'Team of Year'

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—For the 12th straight year the annual poll of the nation's sports writers conducted by the Associated Press turned up a baseball team as the "Team of the Year" with the world champion New York Yankees nosing out Notre Dame's football aggregation by two points.

The Bronx Bombers polled 168 votes and the Irish 166 with each team garnering 32 first-place ballots. Undoubtedly the Ramblers' loss in the final half-minute of the season to the Bluejackets of Great Lakes cost them the prize.

Once more the World Series courted most in the selection of the Yankees who bounced back to trounce the Cardinals, who won the Series and the award last year.

The Detroit Red Wings' hockey team, the Great Lakes basketballers and the College of Pacific eleven were tied for tenth.

Here is how the first ten teams lined up after the ballots were counted:

- Yankees, baseball; Notre Dame, football; Illinois University, basketball; Chicago Bears, football; Iowa Pre-Flight, football; Ohio State, swimming; Wyoming University, basketball; St. Louis Cardinals, baseball; Washington University, football; Detroit Red Wings, hockey; Great Lakes, basketball, and College of Pacific, football.

## Memphis Chicks Obtain Catcher Leslie McGarity

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 22—The Memphis Chicks, in the Southern Association, have plugged a hole in their 1944 lineup by obtaining Catcher Leslie McGarity from the Baltimore Orioles, an International League club.

The Chicks have sought a catcher since they traded Gilly Campbell to Portland in the Pacific Coast League for Infielder Walter Krueger.

## Lafayette Eleven Picks Magee

EASTON, Pa., Dec. 22—Lafayette College football team has selected Bill Magee, of Merchantville, N.J., as captain of next year's team.



# 25,000 Children Being Feted at GI Yule Parties

## Yuletide Season Nearing Climax, With Hundreds Of Events Being Held

The celebration of the Christmas season by American soldiers and sailors in Britain approached its climax yesterday as scores of units held parties for British children, many of them orphans, and many more prepared for similar parties today, tomorrow and Christmas Day.

A rough estimate placed the number of children to be entertained throughout the ETO at more than 25,000 and the number of parties well over 100. Many already have been held; others have been planned for as late as Jan. 8.

Probably the biggest undertaking is that of a large infantry unit which arranged a series of 40 parties to entertain upward of 10,000 children between Dec. 18 and Jan. 5. Another series of parties, sponsored by 21 units of Eastern Base Section under Col. Ewart G. Plank, got under way Sunday and will extend through Dec. 27.

### Toys and Candy Galore

Gifts for the children include candy donated from soldiers' weekly rations; toys made by men in off-duty hours; salvaged as well as new clothing; and tons of toys sent by people in America. One of the EBS parties today is being financed by money sent by a WAC detachment in Camp Shanks, N.Y.

Other EBS parties today include one for 50 orphans from the Berkhamsted Foundling Home; another for 125 orphans from Dr. Barnardo's Home; one for 100 orphans who will be guests of Engineer and HQ units; another for 150 evacuees from two towns who will be entertained by personnel of a general hospital.

A QM depot will be host tomorrow to 400 children whose fathers are overseas. Christmas to men of HQ, Eighth Air Force Composite Command will mean being hosts to 1,000 children in Northern Ireland. The parties for these children started Sunday and will end Saturday.

### Post-Christmas Party

One of the many units staging post-Christmas celebrations for children is an engineer regiment under Lt. Col. John R. Thompson, of Kansas City, Mo.

To collect clothing for children of London's East End, HQ, Eighth Air Force Service Command started a salvage campaign. The clothing, as well as other gifts, will be distributed at a party Jan. 8.

One of the parties held yesterday brought 400 children to the Paddington Town Hall to be entertained by 30 soldiers of Central Base Section.

For the entertainment of soldiers, Special Service Sections have arranged numerous hospitality visits with British families. American Red Cross clubs have announced special programs. At Rainbow Corner several American soldiers, their British wives, and in some cases their children, will be Christmas guests of honor.

The U.S. Naval Base at Londonderry will have as Yuletide guests 1,000 men of the British Army, Navy and Marines.

## Raids - - -

(Continued from page 1)

day with a new series of night raids on western Germany—again without loss.

Capt. Walker Mahurin, leading ETO fighter ace, destroyed his 13th and 14th German planes in yesterday's operations.

"I wasn't superstitious after I got my 13th," he said. "There was only about two minutes between the 13th and 14th, so there wasn't much time for any bad luck."

Mahurin got his first plane when his bullets hit an auxiliary gasoline tank, causing the enemy ship to blow up. The explosion threw debris and flames all over the sky, the P47 pilot said.

Mahurin veered to the right and found himself on the tail of a second Me109, but the German pulled into the sun. Mahurin fired blindly where he thought the Nazi was and a moment later the Messerschmitt came into view belching smoke and heading for the ground.

## From the Jap Frying Pan Into a Divorce Court Fire

CHICAGO, Dec. 22—Dr. Myron Gersh thought he was through with trouble when he arrived as a repatriate on the Swedish exchange liner Gripsholm.

Gersh's story of mistreatment at the hands of the Japs was splashed in newspapers all over the country. Too bad, because it was read by Mrs. Mary Gersh, and she immediately put private detectives on his trail.

They want him to post \$1,000 bail at Mrs. Gersh's divorce trial. She claims she married him in 1939, that he borrowed \$1,500 from her on the way to the church ceremony and \$200 more shortly after, then disappeared to the Far East.

### Condemn Poll Tax

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—Declaring that voting was a fundamental right, a majority report of the Senate Judiciary Committee condemned poll taxes in eight southern states. On Nov. 12, the committee recommended passage of the House-approved anti-poll tax bill.

# Little Mothers Meet Their Muriel

## WACs Coo at Sight Of Orphan Tike They Aided

By Philip H. Bucknell

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WACs whimpered and cooed prettily as their sponsored war orphan, Muriel, entered the Service Women's Club dressed in WAC uniform yesterday. Muriel, seven-year-old redhead, perfectly self-possessed and happy, was guest of honor at a Christmas party thrown by the American Red Cross and the WACs for children of the women volunteers at the club.

Her uniform was made for her in 24 hours by S/Sgt. Anne Gossler, of Cincinnati, to the design of Cpl. Mary Thatcher, of Indianapolis, and although a little tighter than regulations state, it was a good fit considering that they worked to hastily-taken measurements, not having seen the child.

Muriel has Pfc's stripes and two dimples; she didn't pull her rank, but the dimples had the WACs in a flurry of emotion. It was considered that she was sweet, had lovely hair, beautiful disposition and spoke nicely.

Muriel, interviewed by a swarm of the press, said she liked WACs, Americans, parties and the chow. She obviously liked the chow.

There were about 80 children at the party, which had more than the usual ration of fixings, candy and toys having been sent from the United States to give the children. S/Sgt. "Red" McKinney, of Churchville, Pa., played his accordion at tea and for games afterward.



Muriel, seven-year-old daughter of a British airman lost in action in North Africa, is being sponsored by several WACs. Yesterday she was guest of honor at a party in a London club.

## Reds 15 Miles From Vitebsk

### Press Big Winter Drive; Nazi Withdrawal Near Leningrad Reported

Russian forces rolled to within 15 miles of Vitebsk yesterday amid reports that the Germans were withdrawing their troops from the Leningrad sector in fear of a great Soviet breakthrough.

All along the front the Russians advanced in their winter drive, which was liberating more than 100 towns south of Nevel daily. Countless Nazi counterattacks were being repulsed with heavy losses.

Vitebsk, northernmost bastion of the German White Russia line, was threatened yesterday by two of Gen. Bagranyan's forces. One unit, after winning control of the Nevel-Vitebsk section of the Leningrad-Odessa railroad, swept on toward Vitebsk from the north. Another force approached from the northeast.

As German military commentators painted gloomy pictures of the war in the east, yet optimistically declared that the Red offensive would bog down, the Stockholm newspaper Socialdemokraten said the Germans had begun a withdrawal at Leningrad.

Yesterday's German communique admitted the Russians were on the offensive at many points along the 2,000-mile front. The Russians were said to be attacking in the Kiev salient, northeast of Zhitomir, at the Nikopol bridgehead, in the Dnieper Bend, southwest of Dnepropetrovsk.

## Willow Run Strike Cuts B24 Production by 50%

DETROIT, Dec. 23 (UP)—Production at the Ford plant at Willow Run, the biggest aircraft factory in the world, has been cut by 40 to 50 per cent by a strike of foremen.

The strike, which involves 900 of the plant's 1,100 foremen, entered its second day today. The foremen demand that the foremen's association and their union, should be accepted as a bargaining agent. The factory builds B24 bombers.

## Doris Duke Wins Divorce From Cromwell at Reno

RENO, Nevada, Dec. 22—Tobacco heiress Doris Duke Cromwell was granted a divorce yesterday from her husband, James H. R. Cromwell. The court, stating she was a resident of Nevada, overruled a New Jersey Chancery Court injunction prohibiting her from suing in Nevada.

## London ARC Clubs Schedule Christmas Parties for Children

Parties for children are featured in the Christmas programs of most of the American Red Cross Service clubs in London. The first is scheduled at the Eagle Club today at 3 PM, when 60 will be guests at a tea.

A midnight candlelight service will be held at the Mostyn Christmas Eve.

Rainbow Corner will hold an open house at 5 PM Christmas Day for GIs and their wives. A special broadcast to the U.S. is scheduled at 6:45 PM from the same club.

Programs for clubs outside the London area will appear in Tuesday's paper. Those for the London clubs follow:

### Rainbow Corner

Thursday—Dance, 7:30 PM; American Eagle broadcast to States, 3 PM. Friday—Dance, 7:30 PM; carols and tree trimming, 11 PM. Saturday—Christmas party for 60 children, 11:30 AM; Punch and Judy show, 2 PM; tea for children, 3:30 PM; dance, 3 PM; open house for GIs and their wives, 5 PM; movies, 6:30 PM; broadcast to America, 6:45 PM; games and entertainment, 8 PM. Sunday—Movies, 3 PM; dance, 7:30 PM. Monday—Dance, 7:30 PM. Tuesday—Dance, 3 PM and 7:30 PM; boxing, 7:30 PM.

### Washington

Thursday—Archery, 2:30 PM; German class, 7 PM. Friday—Christmas eve ball, 8 PM; fireside party, 12 midnight. Saturday—Dinner, 12 noon; variety show, 1 PM; movies, 8:30 PM. Sunday—Tea dance, 3 PM. Monday—Archery, 2:30 PM; French class, 7 PM. Spanish class, 9 PM. Tuesday—Dancing instruction, 2:30 PM; dance, 8:15 PM. Wednesday—Ping pong match, 8 PM.

### Eagle

Thursday—Tea party for 60 children. Tuesday—Movies, 3 PM.

### Milestone

Thursday—Conversational German group, 8 PM; recorded concert, 9:30 PM. Friday—Dancing class, 7 PM; dance, 8 PM. Saturday—Christmas party for children, 12:30 PM. Sunday—Tour of London, 10 AM; open house, dancing, 7 PM. Monday—Movies, 8:30 PM. Tuesday—Games night, 8 PM. Wednesday—Dancing class, 7 PM; dance, 8 PM.

### Women Officers

Thursday—Christmas party cabaret, 7 PM. Friday—Cabaret, 9 PM. Saturday—Fortune-teller, 7 PM. Sunday—Classical recordings, 2:30 PM; buffet dance, 7 PM. Tuesday—Movies, 7:30 PM.

### Women's Service Club

Thursday—Delaware state night, 8:30 PM. Sunday—Movies, 6 PM. Tuesday—Arkansas state night, 8:30 PM.

### Mostyn

Thursday—Basketball practice, 7 PM; square dance, 8 PM. Friday—Caroling at London hospitals, 6:30 PM; candlelight service, 12 midnight. Saturday—Children's party, 2 PM; caroling at hospital, 3:45 PM; Christmas party, 8:30 PM. Sunday—Tea dance, 3 PM; symphonic recordings, 8:30 PM. Monday—Dance, 8 PM. Tuesday—Basketball practice, 7 PM; cercle francais, 7 PM. Wednesday—Dancing lessons, 6 PM; glee club rehearsal, 8 PM. Thursday—Basketball practice, 7 PM; square dance, 8 PM.

### Columbia

Thursday—Dramatic classes, 6:30 PM; dancing classes, 8:30 PM. Friday—GI Christmas party for children, 3 PM; carol singing, 8:30 PM. Saturday—Informal party, 3 PM; Christmas party, 7:30 PM. Sunday—Ping pong tournament, 2:30 PM.

## Terry and the Pirates



By Milton Caniff

## NEWS FROM HOME Congress Asked To Make Public A List of Cartels

### Methodist Bishop, Head Of People's Lobby, Sees International Threat

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—Congressional leaders have been asked by the People's Lobby, headed by Francis J. McConnell, a Methodist bishop, to sponsor a resolution asking the Office of War Information or the FBI to publish a list of international cartels with the names of Americans and citizens of the Allies involved in them.

"It is obvious," the lobby said, "that great financial interests, which know no geographical boundaries, are planning the exploitation of all consumers through cartel covenants secretly arrived at which may prove more effective than the declarations of Moscow, Cairo or Teheran."

Calling the threatened increase in the price of oil a straw in the wind, the lobby demanded the cartels be stopped now.

### Pseudohermaphroditis

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—Identical twins a year old are puzzling medical experts who cannot determine their sex. The babies were thought to be girls when born. Later, however, a hospital examination showed the babies were pseudohermaphroditis. Pseudohermaphroditism is a condition in which the sex of a person is in doubt.

### A Shot of Christmas Cheer

BALTIMORE, Dec. 22—Certificates calling for a dividend of 27 gallons of whisky on each share of stock in the company were issued by the Tom Moore Distillery here.

### Strangled in Washer

SOMERVILLE, Mass., Dec. 22—Mrs. Mildred Conlon, 19, mother of two children, was doing the family wash. Her dress caught in the wringer of the washing machine and she was strangled to death.

### Munitions Workers Indicted

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22 (UP)—Ten employees and former employees of the U.S. Cartridge Co. here were indicted yesterday by a Federal grand jury on a charge of passing faulty ammunition.

### Oldest EM Injured

LONG BEACH, Cal., Dec. 22—The oldest enlisted man in the Army, 75-year-old Sgt. John W. Westervelt, stationed with an Air Transport Command ferrying group here, suffered a broken leg when hit by a taxi.

## Movie - - -

(Continued from page 1)

England, here I am," slaps everyone on the back, and tells some shove-a-penny cronies that they're playing a girl's game.

Another GI doesn't offend the English customers, but acts on Meredith's direct advice to the soldier audience, "Take it easy, give 'em time and you'll make some damn good friends."

British food rationing is shown first in an English home, where the GI spreads on a piece of bread one ounce of the family's two-ounce weekly ration of butter. Later he learns something when he orders an American-sized meal at a restaurant, and the waitress says, "No steak. They have one in the museum."

Bob Hope takes over one scene. The GI, baffled by British coins, asks Hope to help him give a cab driver the correct change. Hope picks over the GIs handful of coins, and begins helping the GI by throwing one coin away. "That's heavy," Hope says, "that'll make you lopsided."

A tribute to the Eighth Air Force is included in "Welcome to Britain." The ETO rookie watches as Capt. Joe Pellagrini, of Philadelphia, who was lead bombardier on the Schweinfurt raid, is congratulated for his part in that raid by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, USAAF commander in the ETO.

Produced by the British Ministry of Information, in cooperation with ETOUSA and the OWI, "Welcome to Britain" was planned as a complement to the War Department booklet, "Guide to Great Britain."

Prints of "Welcome to Britain" will be distributed within two weeks to all base sections and Air Force headquarters, so that eventually all U.S. Army units may arrange to show the movie, according to an official of the film section of the Special Service Division.

## Army Cuts Red Tape For Soldier's Discharge

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—The Army is cutting down on the red tape a soldier has to go through before he can be discharged to civilian life.

Instead of the seven forms and five letters that a discharged soldier formerly had to have, the Army has adopted a single form, executed in sextuplicate.

The soldier gets one copy. Others go to the Veterans Administration, the State Director of Selective Service for the information of the local draft board, the re-employment committee of the local board, the U.S. Employment Service, and the Adjutant General's office.

### 1,500 GIs at Briton's Show

Fifteen hundred American soldiers last night were guests of producer Emile Littler at a preview performance of "Humpty Dumpty," British folklore pantomime show, at London's Coliseum Theatre.

"I wanted to return a favor to the Americans for some of the many courtesies they extended to me when I was in the U.S.," Littler told his audience in a speech.

### Filed in the Futures Book

CINCINNATI, Dec. 22—Convinced that the war will end soon, a prisoner of war in Germany, Cpl. Carl Bosse, has applied for a post-war job in this city's police department.