

Heaviest U.S. Air Blow On 16 Hours

Mail-Order Firm Seized By the Army

Montgomery Ward Chief Ejected Forcibly; Move by U.S. Stirs Controversy

CHICAGO, Apr. 27—The Government took over Montgomery Ward and Co. today but after Sewell Avery, 70-year-old president of the \$75,000,000 mail-order firm, had been carried kicking and squirming from his office by a bulky Army major who acted when Avery refused to relinquish control or give up the company's books.

Attorney General Francis Biddle, who came to Chicago to direct the seizure, announced that Avery "had been forcibly ejected after putting up quite a fight." Biddle assumed personal control of the plant.

Soon afterward, attorneys for the company said they would seek a federal injunction to restrain the government from taking over the firm.

Three truckloads of armed MPs were summoned following failure of nine U.S. marshals to take over the company on orders of President Roosevelt after the firm had refused to comply with a WLB order to extend an expired contract with a CIO trade union, whose members had been on strike for two weeks.

In a message to the President, the company said: "Congress has not given power to the President to seize the non-war business of Montgomery Ward. Any seizure of Ward's plant or business would be in complete disregard of the Constitution."

Biddle, in a prepared opinion, said the President's authority for the seizure order included power conferred by the War Labor Disputes Act, "aggregate of powers" derived from the Constitution and various laws enacted for the purpose of carrying on the war.

Congressional opinion was divided. Rep. Howard W. Smith (D.-Va.), co-author of the War Labor Disputes Act, said "no one in Congress contemplated the act would be used as a vehicle to take over non-war stores." Rep. Adolph J. Sabath (D.-Ill.), chairman of the House Rules Committee, called the seizure necessary. "We must realize no concern is bigger than the U.S.," he declared.

Explaining the altercation with the firm's president, Biddle said: "When Mr. Avery arrived at the office he told us he was boss and would continue to do things his way or not at all. He refused to advise his staff to co-operate, saying he would instruct them to do just the opposite."

The Undersecretary of Commerce Wayne C. Taylor, on Biddle's advice, then instructed a major in charge of the Army detail to "conduct Mr. Avery out of the building." Biddle added: "When he is ready to co-operate with the U.S. Government we will be glad to have him back."

Strong German Forces Moving Up to Italy Fronts

Though fighting on the Italian front was limited to small-scale actions and artillery duels yesterday, long convoys of German reinforcements were reported moving up to the battle area along the highways near Rome, and large numbers of them were said to have already reached the Anzio beachhead.

The War Today

Air War—More than 3,000 warplanes deliver heaviest U.S. aerial blow of the war; heavies make first big double attack in day, attacking multiple targets in France; unending Channel shuttle of mediums, lights, dive-bombers and fighters carries onslaught against Hitler's Atlantic Wall through 13th day.

Russia—Russians capture outer trench system at Sebastopol, shell and bomb port; Moscow silent on German report of new Red Army offensive north of Jassy in Bessarabia and on reported attacks in Tiraspol sector of lower Dniester.

Pacific—Australians capture Madang, Jap base 300 miles southeast of new landings in New Guinea; vast stores seized; Americans seize two of Hollandia's airdromes, reach edge of third; enemy resistance in Aitape sector ends.

Even a Jeep May Sport a Swastika



The swastika on this jeep doesn't, naturally, signify one enemy aircraft destroyed. It does, however, stand for the parachuting German aviator whom MP S/Sgt. Walton Reed, of Boise, Idaho, and his jeep captured when a Ju88 fell in flames near his Ninth Air Force Marauder base.

Ban on Travel 'Canteen' Work Seals Off U.K. To Start Today

Jittery Nazi Invasion Talk Goes On; Sabotage Flares Up

Britain became literally a moated fortress at midnight last night as strict regulations went into effect forbidding any civilian to leave this island unless on a government mission.

And as the U.K. became isolated as it had not been for hundreds of years, German invasion nerves became even more taut as the Nazis sweated out the most frenzied guessing game the world has ever known.

From the Allied side of the Channel there was only thunderous silence, but the Nazis talked on and on. Paris radio military commentator Jean Paquis suggested, hopefully perhaps, that simultaneous Allied offensives in the west, east and south would be impractical because of "rapidly changing weather," and declared Berlin doubted the Allies would invade the Balkans from eastern Italy, although fresh landings in Italy were expected.

Meanwhile, more sabotage plagued the Germans. Attacks by French patriots on trains and war factories were reported by Algiers radio. A troop train was derailed near Clermont Ferrand, in southern France. A munitions train was blown up in Marseilles. Two bridges were destroyed on the Lyon-Turin railway near Modane. Thirty patriots damaged seriously with explosives a factory in Courbevoie, a Paris suburb.

The situation in Denmark, while confused, followed the jitters pattern closely. A Danish News Service report in Stockholm, as quoted by the United Press, said more than 100 acts of sabotage had occurred since Saturday, half of them in Copenhagen.

At the same time, extensive German troop movements were reported in Denmark, where travel restrictions had been lifted for German nationals alone. Some sources believed an official German warning of death for acts of sabotage was a feint to cloak military moves in preparation for a possible invasion.

Steamers Collide in Erie; Ten Are Feared Drowned

CLEVELAND, Apr. 27—Ten persons were believed drowned today when the American steamer James H. Reed and the Canadian steamer Ashcroft collided in a heavy fog on Lake Erie.

The Reed, carrying a cargo of iron ore, sank 42 miles west of Long Point Island. The Ashcroft, heavily damaged, was taken in tow.

'Canteen' Work To Start Today

GIs Are Asked to Assist In Reaching New London Recreation Center

Work on construction of the Stage Door Canteen, London's version of New York's famous recreation center, will get under way this morning, and last night a call went out to all British and American GIs in London on pass or off duty to lend a hand.

Most of the work on the Canteen, financed by the American Theater Wing for War Service, will be done by Allied forces stationed in or near London, under the supervision of civilian foremen. The building, now used as a warehouse, was a restaurant until damaged in the 1941 blitz.

More than 200 of Britain's top-flight stage and screen stars have expressed their willingness to co-operate in the project, and approximately 700 women already have been selected to serve as hostesses, waitresses, receptionists and check-room girls.

Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, Deputy ETO Commander, is permitting volunteer work by American servicemen, and those who want to help were requested to report at 201 Piccadilly any time after 9 AM today and any day in the next few weeks.

KPs Can't Keep Track of Him

Plane-Hopping Hash Boss Runs Mess Halls in England, Ireland

AN EIGHTH COMPOSITE COMMAND BASE, North Ireland, Apr. 27—M/Sgt. George Chakrian is a mess sergeant with KPs in two countries. With the help of the Air Force the international GI restaurateur supervises a mess hall in England and one in Ireland.

Several times a week Chakrian shuttles back and forth in a C47 from this base to another composite command station "somewhere in England," checking menus, cooks, mess sanitation and, of course, KPs. He also maintains telephonic communications with the two mess halls.

When Col. Robert W. Crisp, of Little Rock, Ark., the former commander here, was transferred to the base in England, he wanted to take Chakrian with him, but his successor, Col. Charles W. Bickling, of Chicago, balked.

The colonels discussed the situation and came out with this solution: By the grace of Air Transport Command they would share their 225-pound mess sergeant.

1st Big Double Stab Made by Forts, Libs; Invasion Belt Blasted

3,000 Planes in Record Channel Shuttle; 13th Day of Massive Onslaught on Atlantic Wall Follows RAF Smash

By Bud Hutton
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

American air forces in Britain struck their heaviest blow of the war yesterday. For the first time in history, two major fleets of heavy bombers went out from ETO bases to Nazi targets on the Continent, two big forces of Marauders and Havocs lashed at objectives in France and Belgium, and all through the day of unending blitz fighters and dive-bombers by the hundreds thundered against Hitler's Atlantic Wall.

For 16 hours—from first light until after dark—the Allied invasion command threw virtually every type of aircraft it has against objectives from the Pas de Calais to Germany's southwestern border.

Madang Seized By Australians In New Guinea

Vast Booty Is Captured; Troops Reach the Main Hollandia Airfield

Madang, less than 300 miles southeast of the new Allied landings in New Guinea, has fallen to Australian troops after months of ground attack and relentless aerial softening up.

Announcement of this success, made even more noteworthy by seizure of Madang of the biggest haul of booty of the Pacific war, was coupled last night with word that American forces had seized two of Hollandia's airfields in Dutch New Guinea, were on the edges of the third and principal airdrome, and that all Japanese resistance in the Aitape sector of British New Guinea had ended.

The Aussie units which pushed northward from the Ramu Valley to take Madang were pushing on toward Alexishafen, a few miles from Madang, and the fall of this enemy base also was believed near.

Huge quantities of stores and material were found at Madang, although the main Jap garrison pulled out of the base a month ago. Loss of Madang, added to the strong wedge driven into the north New Guinea coast by Gen. MacArthur's men to the west, strengthened the Allied pincers closing against an estimated 60,000 Japs between the two areas.

Allied planes were assisting ground forces in the Guinea attacks, as well as blasting Jap bases in the area. Other bombers continued their pounding of Rabaul while targets in the Truk area and in the Marshalls also were attacked.

The Navy Department announced meanwhile that American bombers had raided the Kuriles in the far north again. Targets were Shimushu and Paramushiro, the enemy naval base, and Matsuwa, which is only 500 miles from the Japanese home islands.

Endlessly in daylight the formations arose from bases in Britain, struck at the points from which the Nazis must try to fight off invasion, and flew home while new relays took up the assault.

3,000 Planes Are Used

More than 3,000 warplanes—heavies, mediums, light bombers, dive-bombers and fighters—carried more than 15,000 fighting men into the record-breaking daylight assault.

The offensive—there have been 13 straight days and almost as many consecutive nights of it—was carrying on and even boosting the pace of the night before, when the RAF sent out more than 1,000 bombers to strike three targets in Paris to Schweinfurt.

German defenses in and behind the Atlantic Wall took the brunt of the day attack, and other targets from the Pas de Calais to Belgium and deep into France as far as the area along the southwestern border of the Reich took the rest.

Early in the morning the first fleet of some 600 Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by about 500 fighters, was sent out in a major phase of the offensive against the military installations in northern France.

They came home through bitter flak, and then, as the sunny afternoon turned to dusk over the Continent, some 500 more B17s and 24s, with even more fighters, flew across France to bomb airfields at Nancy and Toul and railway stations at Blainville and Chalons-sur-Marr.

Unending Channel Shuttle

Co-ordinated with their heavy blows was a series of solid smashes by task forces from a fleet of Marauder mediums which blasted other military objectives, and then Allied medium and light forces, too, joined the trans-Channel shuttle.

Fighter-bombers of the Eighth and Ninth Air Forces added their high-pitched screams to the thunder of the bomber engines as they peeled off over enemy airfields and railway points in France and Belgium, while hundreds of other fighters went foraging far beyond the smoke and debris of the bomber attacks to strafe everything German which showed itself.

From Dover and other points along the English coastline, where observers have been watching bomber fleets—enemy and Allied—pass over the Channel for four years, came reports that never in history had the skyways leading to the Continent been so jam-packed with warplanes. At one time a stream of planes 90 minutes long flew out without a break in mass or sound, and no sooner had the first of them disappeared beyond the sunny horizon of the Straits of Dover than the rolling thunder of giant explosions began to come back, shaking houses all along England's coast.

First reports of the Fortress and Liberator attack on northern France told of concentrated bombing despite flak which

(Continued on page 4)

Post-War Allied Cohesion Is His Hope, Dewey Says

NEW YORK, Apr. 27—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, in a speech widely heralded as an important exposition of his views on foreign policy, called tonight for "utter defeat and complete disarmament" of Germany and Japan and, after the war a "durable cohesion between Britain and ourselves and together, I hope, with Russia and China."

"To deal effectively with our enemies and solve the many other post-war problems require solid relations among the U.S., Britain, Russia and China," Dewey said. He added that "our political dissimilarities with Russia need not be a source of friction."

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Printed at The Times Publishing Company, Ltd., for U.S. Armed forces, under auspices of the Special Service Division ETOUSA. Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors; subscription 25 shillings per year plus postage.

The Nazi System

In a war of this magnitude it is often the news behind the news that carries the greatest significance. For example, we have learned that the King of Italy's famous \$400,000 stamp collection seized by the Nazis when they entered Rome is apparently lost to him forever.

The collection has been broken up and sections of it have been sold in several neutral countries. The sale, as in all cases where the Nazis dispose of such things, is to provide foreign currency.

In tragic times like these, when lives, cities, institutions and even nations are snuffed out overnight, the loss of a stamp collection may sound trivial indeed. But the case at hand is important because it clearly pictures the whole diabolical Nazi system of doing things and hints at the problems that will face us when the issues on the battlefields are settled.

Let's examine the case. The Nazis looked around for something of value that someone else had spent years to build up and accumulate. Finding such an item, they moved in, took it over lock, stock and barrel and disposed of it for their own personal profit, without regard to sentimental value.

And now comes the most vicious part of the scheme—their method of disposing of each treasure in such a manner that there is little hope of the original owner ever regaining his possession.

The process depicted in this story of the stamp collection has been told a thousand times over, but with much higher stakes. Vast populations have been uprooted, families separated and transplanted. A nation's art treasures have been seized and divided. And, most important of all, the economic systems of the occupied countries have been so changed that the task of post-war readjustment will require wisdom and mental energy comparable to the strategy and physical energy required to win the war itself.

Suffering at Home

Our spy on the home front has just filed his latest report, which covers in detail the suffering of those at home.

To put some meat into this report we'll begin with steaks. It may be hard for you to realize that in some cases (rather isolated, our spy admits) when the butcher runs short of steaks and tries to sell pork roasts and legs of lamb, John Q. Citizen is often forced to take his family to a restaurant or go without. In such cases it is often impossible to use the family car. Sometimes they must (we know you won't believe this) take a bus to the restaurant.

And gasoline! Ah, there you have the problem that tries men's souls. Only two gallons a week for the family Model T. We have well authenticated instances of men, yes, even women, having missed the bus, who have been compelled to walk nearly a mile to work. Only the infantry can fully appreciate the extent of this inconvenience; but a few million other GIs will have a sneaking suspicion of the suffering endured.

And the income tax this month! Many war workers who formerly made as much as a hundred dollars a month now only make a hundred a week and have to stand in line for as long as an hour to pay their tax. This is such a harrowing thing to contemplate that we'll hurry on for GIs in this theater cannot fully realize what it means to have to stand in line (queue up) to get things. Why sometimes people at home wait as long as ten minutes to secure tickets to some cheap five dollar show.

And the ladies, bless their sweet little hearts, how they suffer. It is a common sight to see an attractive young woman of 20 affectionately pushing her fiancé through the streets in a wheel chair, his beautiful white beard flying in the wind—just like Santa's.

Well this should give you a clear-cut idea of the situation at home for these are the things more delicate souls fail to mention in the mail; but you can be sure that those who carry on have accepted the burden without a murmur (well a little bit then). Some have gone so far as to offer to eat hamburger instead of steak, walk if the bus is too crowded and get along on less if it will help the war effort.

But purposely we've saved the worst for the last. On top of the horrors of war some sections are having floods (no foolen). It seems there is no end to it all, for in an election year almost anything can happen and often does; so shed a tear in your beer for those you've left behind and should anyone take this report seriously remember we've only been kidding... honest... yes, honestly.

Hash Marks

Lt. Herb Caen puts a new twist on a classic bit of verse: "Oh to be in the USA—now that April's there!"

You can't fool the younger generation. Dr. E. M. Jellinek is director of the section on Alcohol Studies of the Yale University Laboratory of Applied Physiology.



but when a friend asked his eight-year-old daughter what her Daddy did for a living, she replied, "He teaches the boys at Yale how to drink."

Lots of GI Joes and Janes tell us they are spending sleepless hours trying to figure out how Li'l Abner is going to get out of the Gypsy tea room. Pvt. Charles May even has penned a poem that our stalwart hero may be reciting to himself as he washes his mountains of dishes and wonders if he will ever get out.

Tell me quick Befo' Ah faint, Is Ah'm is O' is Ah ain't?

Signs of the Times. Our spy on the Home Front reports that a handsome looking guy dashed breathlessly into his draft board office screaming, "I want to give myself up—I'm tired of dodging women." (Oh, yeah!)

Fun on the British Home Front. A woman filling in a form at a food office gave her infant daughter's name as Nadine. "That's an unusual name," said the assistant. "Is it French or Russian?" "Dunno, mum, I'm sure," was the reply. "I got it off a jeep."

Boy, sometimes it sounds like rationing at home is really tough! Arraigned on a charge of not paying train fare, a



guy explained to the judge that he unintentionally destroyed his ticket by idly eating it while riding along.

The Nazis may be losing the war but they still think they rule the universe—or should we say, the roost. Luxembourg farmers have been told by the Germans that egg production of "60 a year from each cockerel is essential." J. C. W.

CLIP THIS ARTICLE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

The Soldier's Vote:

2-Postcard Forms for Balloting

To vote in primary, special or general elections a soldier must follow the voting laws of his own state. These laws are not universal, although the differences should not confuse the voter if he follows the simple procedure of asking his state, as early as possible before election day, to send him a "State absentee ballot."

Remember, ballots are not sent to soldiers automatically. You have to ASK for one. That is the proscribed law for absentee voters in ALL states that have absentee voting systems. To assist you in applying for ballots, the Army furnishes postcards to be filled out and mailed by you to the proper state agency, usually the Secretary of State at your home state capital.

If you are not registered as a voter in your state, and wish to do so, the Army also has postcards for that purpose.

There are two forms of postcards (texts of which are printed below for those who are unable to get cards and who may apply for ballots by letter.) Check with circulars, which should be in your orderly room, as to which card you should use for requesting a ballot in your home state.

To receive ballots and execute them according to the laws of most states the procedure involves only five steps.

1-Ask your CO, through another officer or non-com, if necessary, for a postcard.

2-Fill in the card and have your signature certified by an officer or non-com not below the rank of buck sergeant. (One form states it must be certified by an officer, the other by an officer or sergeant.) Be sure to print your name, in addition to your usual signature, and your serial number. If you are applying for a primary ballot make certain your party affiliation (Democrat, Republican, etc.) is clearly printed on the card. The state cannot send a primary ballot to you unless they know your party.

3-Mail the postcard (air mail postage free), or letter if a card is not available, to the Secretary of State at the state capital, or other proper agency.

4-When you receive the ballot execute it immediately in accordance with the instructions received with it and have your voter's oath attested by an officer, warrant officer or sergeant.

5-Mail the ballot in the envelope you will receive with the ballot, air mail postage free.

The steps listed above are enough to get a ballot in most states. Some, however, require additional steps. Before sending a ballot these states must have a special state application form which they will mail to you after receiving the Army postcard.

Then, there are other states that require poll or other taxes. If there is any question of your registration of eligibility to vote write to the secretary of your state. Your CO is not authorized to determine who is eligible to vote by State absentee ballot in any election.

Following are the two forms of postcards used to apply for State absentee ballots. On Form "B" make certain you write in yourself that it is an "application for a State absentee ballot" and state your party affiliation. Those two things are not necessary on Form "A" since they have lines to be filled out for those purposes.

Form "A"

Secretary of State or other appropriate official within the State of

I am in the armed forces () ; in the merchant marine () ; or in the American Red Cross (), the Society of Friends (), the Women's Auxiliary Service Pilots (), or the United Service Organizations (), and attached to or serving with the armed forces. I hereby request an absentee ballot to vote in the coming

1-I am a citizen of the United States.

2-The date of my birth was

3-For

4-For

5-My voting district to the best of my knowledge is

6-My choice of party PRIMARY ballot is

(Fill in only in case of primary ballot)

Please send the ballot to me at the following address:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

Form "B"

Secretary of State of

Being on active duty in the armed forces of the United States and desiring to vote in the coming election, I hereby apply for an official war ballot.

My home address is

in the city, town or village of

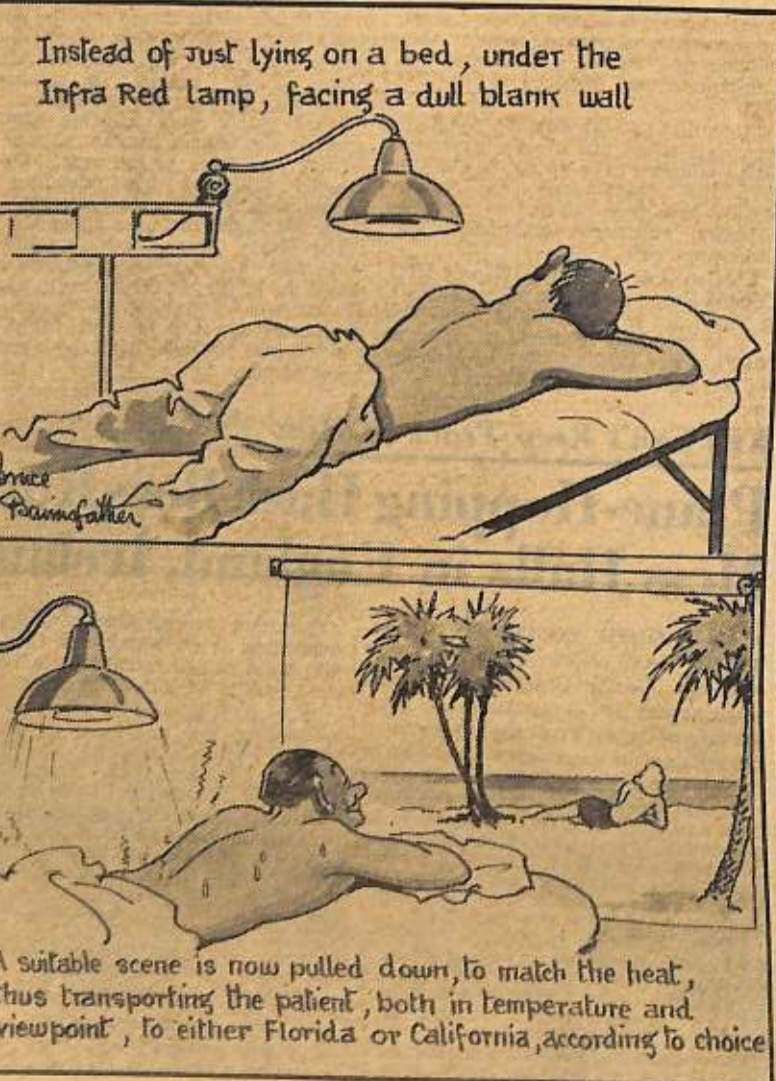
in the State of

and my voting district or precinct to the best of my knowledge is

I desire that the ballot be sent to me at the following address

Signature certified by:

(To be signed by any commissioned officer.)



A suitable scene is now pulled down, to match the heat, thus transporting the patient, both in temperature and viewpoint, to either Florida or California, according to choice

Enormous advance in Medical Science.

Notes from the Air Force

RAF Spitfires now are able to fly to Germany, too. Fitted with long-range tanks, a formation of the famed fighters strafed enemy airdromes and a railway train in their first penetration of the Reich Wednesday afternoon when they flew to the area between Aachen and Cologne, in western Germany.

The P47 group commanded by Col. James J. Stone, of Westfield, N.J., celebrated its first anniversary in the ETO recently by shooting down three German aircraft.

Lt. Charles M. Peale, of Nashville, Tenn., a pilot on the initial mission who was making his 99th operational hop that day, accounted for one of the Germans.

THE flight surgeons serving under Maj. Williston Bunting, of Kansas City, Kan., will be qualified veterinarians when this war is won.

In addition to treating every kind of human ailment common to a Fortress station they have cured local airmen's canines of everything from mange to broken legs.

T/Sgt. Herbert A. Fagley, of Chester, Pa., Fortress gunner who was always looking around for war souvenirs, got one on his 25th mission—delivered by a German ack-ack gunner.

It was on a recent trip to Augsburg, Fagley, like a lot of other gunners, was firing away at attacking fighters when a hefty burst of flak temporarily made him stop and examine the situation. He found the souvenir in his back pocket—a big chunk of flak which came to rest there after tearing through his clothes without touching his body.

1/LT. John L. Navarro, a native of Lima, Peru, who as flying-control officer at a Lightning base is almost always on the air directing aerial traffic around his field, made a different kind of broadcast recently. It was a Spanish-language address over BBC and beamed to Latin-America.

The public-relations officer of Col. Robert H. Terril's Liberator group was looking around for an all-American crew.

After a thorough search of "extractions" he came up with one bunch which had an Austrian pilot, Scotch-Dutch co-pilot, Finnish bombardier, Polish navigator and engineer, Italian radio operator, and four gunners, of whom two are German, one Irish and one French.

SGT. Edward R. Cosmos, of Cranford, N.J., is one of those lucky gunners who was given another chance to fly after being grounded.

He started in Forts, got sick at altitude and was grounded. A transfer was arranged to mediums, and today Cosmos' record reads: Distinguished Flying Cross plus Air Medal with several clusters.

This Is The Army

A CQ who awakens each man individually—T/4 Stanley Stowic—has been nominated by his cavalry outfit as the most conscientious, most considerate CQ in any army in the world. (Oboy, the letters are gonna flood us on this one.)

On Sundays, when most of the men catch up on lost sleep, Stowic, a radio maintenance man, tiptoes into the barracks and gently awakens each man.

"Oh, Jones, do you want to eat breakfast?" he asks. And so he goes, all the way down the barracks and from building to building, speaking to every man in the outfit.

On weekdays, when he's CQ, he gets up and calls the men two minutes earlier than the specified time so they will have time to get their leggings on without rushing.

His outfit claims that before he was given an alarm clock he'd remain awake all through the night for fear of forgetting to get the cooks up at 4 AM.

"That isn't quite cricket," Cpl. Harold Gillingham, of Franklin, Pa., remarked while visiting a British supply depot. "Do you Yanks use that expression of ours?" an amazed British soldier said. "Why, in America I always thought they said, 'That isn't quite baseball.'"

NOW on duty in a headquarters in Britain, Capt. Warren Pershing, son of the AEF commander in World War I, is, in his own estimate, just a "small potato" in this war.

Refusing to trade on his name, Pershing told an AP reporter that "I'm just one of thousands over here. Anything I say now would be pre-season talk," he said. "Wait until we get over there and do something. And if I have something to do with it, come around then."

When reminded by the AP reporter of his crack at the time of his graduation from OCS that he was no bargain as a corporal, Pershing grinned and said: "That still goes."

Probably the most unusual mascot in a theater full of unusual mascots is owned by Sgt. Carmelo L. Rotello, of the Bronx. Carmelo keeps a pet owl in a nest in an office at an ordnance ammunition depot where he keeps storage records. The owl has been named "J.L." Rotello doesn't know why.

A PIECE of vital hospital equipment was made from scrap material by Capt. Stanley F. Erpf, of San Francisco, dental officer in a general hospital here, who was awarded the Legion of Merit for his invention. Without previous experience in surgery or instrument-making, he constructed a manual suction pump which was used successfully in several surgical operations.



Salute to the Engineers

Now it's all very fair to fly through the air, Or to humor a heavy gun, or to ride in tanks Through the ranks of the crushed and battered Huns, And it's nice to think when the U-boats sink Of the glory that outlives years, But whoever heard one vaunting word For the Muddy Old Engineers?

Now you mustn't feel when you read this spiel That the engineer is a jealous knave, That he joined the ranks for a vote of thanks In search of a hero's grave. No, your mechanized cavalry's quite all right And your Doughboy has few peers, But where in hell would the lot of them be If it weren't for the Engineers?

Oh, they look like tramps, but they build your camps, And they sometimes lead the advance, And they sweat red blood to bridge the flood To give you a fighting chance. Who stays behind when it gets too hot To blow up the roads in your rear? Just tell your wife that you owe your life To some Muddy Old Engineers.

Why "Honi soit qui mal y pense" is a gruesome sort of phrase, But their modest claim to immortal fame Has probably reached your ears, The first to arrive and last to leave Are the Muddy Old Engineers. Johnnie.

British Ringmen Best USTAAF Blockbusters, 4-2

Williams Upset; Gallie Defeats Wright Easily

Wzykiewicz, Matricianni Notch American Victories

British Army boxers, who have been waiting to catch up with GI mittens, since that June night in London's Albert Hall last year when they dropped a 6-5 team verdict, squared accounts at Teddington last night by punching their way to a 4-2 victory over the American Blockbuster gloves representing the USTAAF.

It was sweet revenge for two of the British boys—Sgts. Ernie Schackleton and Cyril Gallie—who had been among those present when their team failed to smack down the Americans at the Albert Hall.

Sapper A. E. Butler, the lone Canadian wearing British colours for the evening, absorbed plenty of punishment but was still standing on his feet when the judges voted unanimously for Pfc Ray Wzykiewicz, diminutive 126-pounder from Buffalo, N.Y., in the opening team contest.

Sends Americans Ahead

Wzykiewicz, sending the Americans ahead, started with a flurry of hard lefts and rights which rocked Butler in the first round, after which the GI showed his ability to take the additional round in stride without tiring. In fact, his fourth round was the brightest, a stanza in which he almost put Butler asleep. The Canadian, although unable to fathom his foe's style, was durable enough to weather the barrage, but there was no question as to the winner when the New Yorker began to flay leather.

The Blockbuster suffered an unexpected setback when Pfc Herbie Williams, hard-hitting 137-pounder from New Orleans, came out on the short end of his match with Cpl. Claude Dennington, British Army lightweight champion.

Dennington, taking Herbie's Sunday best and coming back for more, recovered after suffering a bloody nose in the first to catch the American consistently in the frequent infighting exchanges.

The fliers fell behind in the third match when Pvt. William Wright, Negro 147-pounder from Youngstown, Ohio, showed his ability to take it, but offered little in rebuttal to Gallie.

Gallie opened with a brisk flurry of rights and lefts which fooled the evasive Wright, and the American was thoroughly mystified by his foe's attack. Wright was game and willing, but he didn't have enough weapons to win.

Taylor Rallies to Win

After suffering a bad opening round, Cpl. John Taylor, middleweight from the Duke of Wellington regiment, made the count 3-1, when he rallied in the last two rounds to outpoint Pvt. Frank Brescovicz, 155-pounder from Trenton, N.J.

The first two stanzas were lethargic, although Frank opened an old cut above Taylor's left eye. Then Taylor unveiled his bag of tricks and flayed plenty of lefts and rights to pull away.

It was Shackleton, former British amateur light-heavy king, who clinched the verdict by outpointing Cpl. Hal Raskin, 172-pounder from Chicago, in the semi-windup.

Raskin was willing to take what Shackleton had to offer, but he was unable to perfect his timing and was easy game for the experienced British puncher.

Cpl. Leo Matricianni, burly heavy-weight from Baltimore, Md., returned the Americans to the winning path when he jabbed his way to a decision over Sgt. Will Walters of the Royal Engineers in the evening's finale.

Matricianni was on the defensive during the first two rounds, but he unloaded his lethal power in the third.

Help Wanted AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, 37 Upper Brook St., London, W.1. Telephone, ET0USA, Ext. 2131. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, direct all correspondence c/o Help Wanted.

APOs Wanted

PVT. Teddy REMIS, Michael KOVAL, Albert LEGURSKI; James ADELSON, Walter GRAY, III; Marvin FREEMAN, Flossmoor, Ill.; Sgt. Ralph C. ERTZ, Zand and Robert MORGAN, Bradford, Pa.; Arthur MARGEF, Boston, Mass.; Edward DISLER, Harold SKOLNICK, Winthrop, Mass.; Murray BUNDRICK, Robert PORTER, West Columbia, S.C.; Pvt. Richard F. O'LEARY, Peabody, Mass.; Pvt. Floyd CAD- O'LEARY, New York City; S/Sgt. James LAUSMAN, DELL, New York City; S/Sgt. Neil E. Pfc. Gravin MARTIN, Louisville, Ky.; Lt. CLARK, Air Corps; Ralph FARLOW, Broad William REIS, A.C.; Pfc. John BASTLE, Broad Channel, L.I.; Lt. Peter CADLEY, Sgt. Robert CHADLEY, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pvt. Salvatore J. PASO, Ft. John J. CHORAK, Pvt. Stanford E. LINDY; Sgt. Russell RHOADES, Sgt. CAR- MEN, Sgt. Joseph BEDNORSKI.

Lost ADDRESS book in telephone booth in center of town at Bury St. Edmunds—T/Sgt. Howard K. Kinney. 18065090.

FIELD bag, canvas, marked SMITH, 6-460256.— Lt. William J. Vallazza, 0-155079. WALLET belonging to F/O James A. Sayers, T-120561 of the Troop Carrier Wing. Lt. Malcolm A. Bell. WALLET belonging to Lt. Daniel J. Matheu.— Lt. Harold Steinmetz, U.S. RIO, Liverpool St. Station, London.

AAU Champ



Patricia Sinclair, of New York, took first place in the 100-yard breast stroke at the National AAU women's indoor meet at the Athens Club, Oakland, Cal.

Tabor Go Tops 8th AF Finals

CAMBRIDGE, Apr. 27—Fourteen ringmen will battle it out for seven titles in the finals of the Eighth Air Force boxing tournament at the Drill Hall here tomorrow night. The show starts at 7.

Top session of the show is the middle-weight contest between Pfc Wilton "King Tut" Tabor, Oakland, Cal., puncher, and Cpl. Herbert Volk, of Portland, Ore. Tabor, representing Eighth Service Command, is a protégé of Capt. Steve Hamas, former contender for the world heavy-weight title. King Tut, unbeaten in ETO competition, will be seeking his 12th straight triumph. During the past Rainbow Corner season in London he racked up three decision victories.

Two other boys familiar to Rainbow Corner followers are bracketed in the lightweight class with Pvt. Jesse Puente, favored over Cpl. Keith Voorhees. Puente, a native of Azusa, Cal., was San Francisco Diamond Belt titlist in 1941. Voorhees, who fails to pack a punch comparable to Puente's, will be relying on the defensive skill which brought him two victories in two London starts. He is from a Liberator Division, Puente from Eighth Composite Command.

Minor League Results

International League			
Rochester 1, Jersey City 0			
Buffalo 9, Newark 3			
Montreal 11, Baltimore 8			
Toronto at Syracuse, postponed.			
W L Pct.			
Toronto .. 2 0 1.000	Montreal .. 2 2 500		
Buffalo .. 2 1 750	Newark .. 1 2 333		
Baltimore .. 2 2 500	Syracuse .. 1 2 333		
Rochester .. 2 2 500	Jersey City .. 1 3 250		
American Association			
Milwaukee 1, St. Paul 0			
Kansas City 1, Minneapolis 0			
Toledo 4, Indianapolis 1			
Columbus 4, Louisville 3			
W L Pct.			
Milwaukee 5 0 1.000	Kansas City 1 1 500		
Toledo .. 2 1 667	Indianapolis 1 2 333		
Louisville .. 2 2 500	Minneapolis 1 4 200		
Columbus .. 2 2 500	St. Paul .. 0 2 000		
Pacific Coast League			
San Diego 5, Portland 3 (15 innings)			
Seattle 9, Sacramento 0			
Other games postponed.			
W L Pct.			
L. Angeles 11 5 688	Portland .. 8 9 471		
S. Francisco 12 6 667	Hollywood .. 8 10 444		
San Diego 11 7 611	Oakland .. 6 12 333		
Seattle .. 9 9 500	Sacramento 4 11 267		

Yankees Stop Athletics, 6-2; Cards Beaten

Redbirds Drop 13-Inning Affair to Cincinnati, 1-0; Nats Shade Bosox

NEW YORK, Apr. 27—The St. Louis Browns, still riding along as the only unbeaten team in the majors, yesterday tied the American League record for successive victories at the start of a season by winning their seventh straight.

The amazing Brownies need two more wins to tie the big league mark of nine in a row—this record pertains to streaks beginning on opening day only and has nothing to do with winning streaks at other times during the season—held jointly by the 1918 New York Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers of '40.

The high-flying Browns hoisted No. 7 yesterday with a 5-2 victory over the Cleveland Indians in St. Louis as Steve Sundra kept ten Tribe blows well scattered to register his second success of the campaign. Sundra was deprived of a shutout in the eighth inning when Jeff Heath drove in two runs with a sharp single. The Brownies reached Allie Reynolds, the losing twirler, and Rookie Harold Kleine for only six hits, but clustered four of them for four runs in the sixth.

Second Victory for Borowy Nick Eiten's bat and three double plays helped Hank Borowy to his second victory of the season as the New York Yankees slugged the Philadelphia Athletics, 6-2, in the Yankee Stadium. Eiten raised his batting average to .524 with a home run, double and single, the four-bagger, his second of the year, coming in the first inning with one on.

The A's averted a whitewash in the fifth when Jojo White homered over the right field fence with a mate aboard. Borowy allowed 11 hits while the Yanks made the most of eight off loser Luman Harris and Jess Flores. Borowy now has won ten straight, including seven last year and one in the World Series.

Early Wynn, aided by one of Clark Griffith's south-of-the-border imports, chalked up his second triumph of the current whirl as the Washington Senators shaded the Boston Red Sox, 2-1, at Washington. Wynn stopped the Bosox with seven hits, while Gilberto Torres drove in both runs. Yank Terry, who traveled the distance for Boston, gave six hits.

Torres tied the score in the sixth when he doubled to chase home Joe Kuhel, who had tripled. His eighth inning single drove in Roberto Ortiz, another of Griff's foreign chattels, with the winning run.

Tigers, Chisox Rained Out Rain in Chicago stopped the Detroit Tigers and White Sox for the second consecutive day.

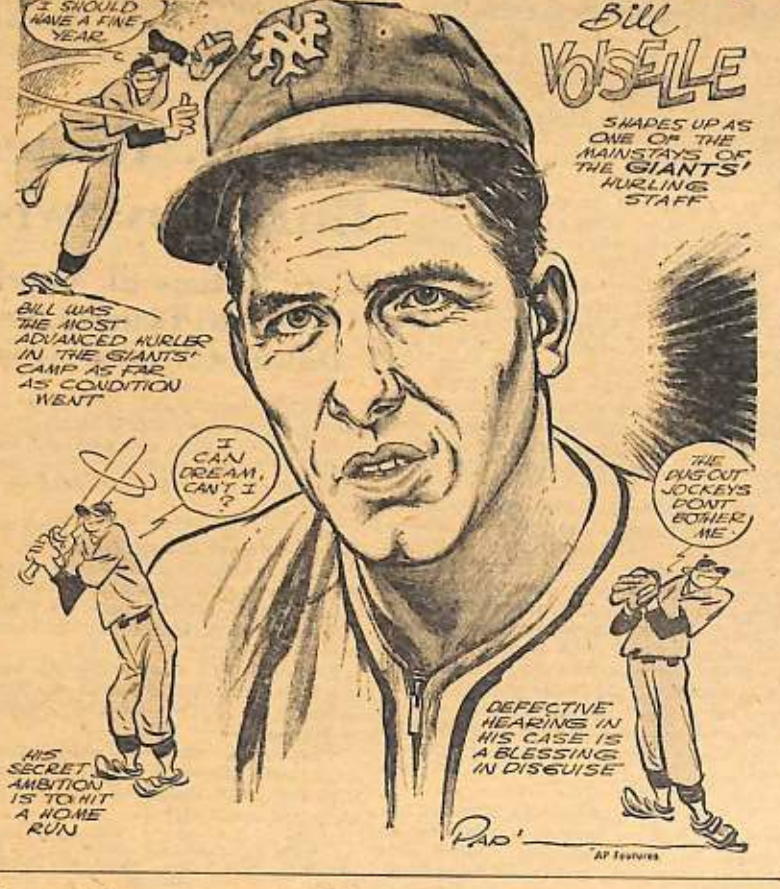
First Baseman Frank McCormick's 13th-inning homer broke up the ball game and handed the Cincinnati Reds a 1-0 verdict over the St. Louis Cardinals. Bucky Walters and Alvin Jurisich engaged in a tight pitching duel with each allowing seven hits until McCormick got the fat one off Jurisich in the 13th.

The Chicago Cubs lost their sixth straight when the Pittsburgh Pirates broke loose with a five-run barrage in the sixth inning for a 6-1 victory. The outburst was headed by Vince DiMaggio, who swatted a four-bagger with two men on.

In all, the Bucs collected 12 hits off Les Fleming, tagged with the defeat, Hank Wyse and Ed Hanyzewski. Elwin "Preacher" Roe turned back the Bruins with seven hits.

The Dodgers and Braves were washed out in Boston, while the Giants and Phillies were not scheduled.

Filling the Bill



Bill was the most advanced hurler in the Giants' camp as far as condition went. I can dream, can't I? The dug-out jockeys root for me!

Servicemen Swell Entry Lists For 51st Annual Penn Relays

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 27—If there's a talented trackman in the States who hasn't received a bid to compete in the 51st annual Penn Relays at Franklin Field here tomorrow and Saturday, it isn't the fault of the sponsoring officials.

Apparently none of the nation's track stars has been overlooked. There will be servicemen from 30 camps and more than 2,000 collegians in the bulky field. Prep schools also will be represented and for the first time in eight years there will be elementary, parochial and junior high schools participating.

Servicemen from such far-off places as Florida and Nevada have filed entries, while the collegiate array includes teams from Michigan, Chicago, Virginia, Duke, Army, NYU, Cornell, Columbia, Dartmouth, Princeton, Villanova, Temple, Tufts, Penn State, CNY, Colgate, Rochester, Howard, Lincoln and West Virginia, just to mention a few.

The spotlight this year will be focused on Bill Hulse, NYU ace who ran the fastest mile ever recorded by an American when he finished second to Gunder Haegg last summer. Hulse's time that day being :04.6. Entered in the mile, Hulse also will attempt to break the three-quarter mile record of 3:58.7, established by Paul Moore at Palo Alto, Cal., in 1940.

Other likely winners include Bob Ufer and the Hume twins from Michigan; Barney Ewell, Camp Lee sprinter; Dallas Dupre, NCAA broad jump champion in 1942 now a student at the pre-shipment school at Asbury Park; Lt. Ollie Hunter, former Notre Dame two-mile artist now with the Navy at Columbia, and Don Burnham, Dartmouth's steady miler.

Major League Results

American League					
New York 6, Philadelphia 2					
Washington 2, Boston 1					
St. Louis 5, Cleveland 2					
Detroit at Chicago postponed					
W L Pct.					
St. Louis .. 7 0 1.000	Washington .. 2 3 400				
Philadelphia .. 3 2 600	Detroit .. 2 4 333				
New York .. 3 3 500	Chicago .. 1 3 250				
Boston .. 3 3 500	Cleveland .. 1 4 200				
Philadelphia at New York					
Boston at Washington					
Cleveland at St. Louis					
Detroit at Chicago					
Leading Hitters					
G AB R H Pct.					
Eiten, New York ..	6	21	6	11	524
Hall, Philadelphia ..	5	17	3	8	471
G. Moore, St. Louis ..	5	19	0	8	421
Levy, New York ..	5	12	2	5	417
Boudreau, Cleveland ..	5	22	4	9	409
Home Run Hitters					
Eiten, New York; Lindell, New York, Kree- vich, St. Louis, 2.					

National League					
Pittsburgh 6, Chicago 1					
Cincinnati 1, St. Louis 0 (13 innings)					
Only games played.					
W L Pct.					
New York .. 5 1 833	Brooklyn .. 3 3 500				
Cincinnati .. 5 1 833	Pittsburgh .. 1 3 250				
St. Louis .. 5 2 714	Chicago .. 1 6 143				
Philadelphia .. 4 3 571	Boston .. 1 6 143				
New York at Philadelphia					
Brooklyn at Boston					
Chicago at Pittsburgh					
St. Louis at Cincinnati					
Leading Hitters					
G AB R H Pct.					
Finley, Philadelphia ..	3	10	0	5	500
Musial, St. Louis ..	7	23	4	11	478
Cieslak, Philadelphia ..	4	15	2	7	467
Meador, New York ..	6	24	4	11	458
Lombardi, New York ..	6	20	1	9	450
Home Run Hitters					
Ott, New York, and Adams, Philadelphia, 2.					

Li'l Abner



By Courtesy of United Features



By Al Capp



Berlin Reports A Second New Thrust by Reds

Moscow Silent on Jassy Attacks; Trench System Seized at Sebastopol

While the Red Army inched forward into Sebastopol yesterday, capturing the trench system on which the Russians based their defense of the port in 1942, the Germans asserted that a second Soviet attack had been launched north of the Bessarabian rail town of Jassy, a hundred miles northwest of the lower Dniester area where the Axis reported strong infantry and tank forces went over to the offensive Tuesday.

The official German News Agency said strong Russian forces, with tank and fighter-bomber support, made four assaults north of Jassy Wednesday. The usual claim that only minor penetrations were made and these later sealed off was amended last night by Col. Ernst von Hammer, the agency's military commentator. Hammer's non-committal version was that fighting was "still going on."

As usual, Moscow said nothing about the reported attacks, waiting for successes to announce. The only news, therefore, of the now three-day-old offensive in the Tiraspol-Fighina area along the lower Dniester was Berlin's report that the Russians were continuing their "break-through attempts" with many divisions.

At Sebastopol, where the Russians held positions along the crests of hills ringing the port, Soviet artillery poured a concentrated fire into the city and the Red Air Force crossed and recrossed the port, meeting some of the fiercest ack ack seen on the Eastern Front.

The Russian communique reported the sinking of five German and Rumanian troop transports totaling 13,000 tons within 24 hours in the Black Sea off the port. A barge and two patrol ships also were sunk.

Swedes Protest U.S. Plane Runs

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27—Sweden has protested to the U.S. over the passage of a large number of American planes over Swedish territory Apr. 15.

The protest was lodged late yesterday by Swedish Minister Wolmar Philip Bosstrom. The State Department announced shortly afterward it was investigating the incident.

There appeared to be no connection between the newest diplomatic exchange and Sweden's rejection earlier in the week of a U.S. request that she halt shipments of ball bearings to Germany.

Swedish newspapers commented sharply on the U.S. demand, expressing fears that the Allies might refuse ships safe-conduct to Swedish ports. Although authoritative circles in Stockholm looked for a new Allied move to check the ball-bearing traffic, they said there had been no sign "so far" that safe conducts would be withdrawn and the nation blockaded.

First Silver Star Given A PRU Flier in the ETO

A PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE BASE, England, Apr. 27 (AP)—Maj. Walter L. Weitner, 24, of Yonkers, N.Y., has been decorated with the Silver Star—the first photo reconnaissance pilot in the ETO to win that award.

His commanding officer, Col. Elliott Roosevelt, pinned on both the star and an oak leaf cluster to the Air Medal.

The citation accompanying the award told how Weitner outmaneuvered three German fighter planes Mar. 6 to make aerial pictures showing damage to Berlin in the first raid on the German capital by American heavies.

But the Melody Lingers On

WILKESBORO, N.C., Apr. 27—Glenn Williams says phoony on the popular song about little lambs eating ivy. Six of his did recently—and died.

AFN Radio Program

- On Your Dial
 1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.
 218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.
- Friday, Apr. 28
- 1100—Spotlight Band.
 - 1115—Personal Album.
 - 1130—Curtain Call.
 - 1150—French Lesson.
 - 1200—Noon Edition.
 - 1205—Barracks Bag.
 - 1300—World News (BBC).
 - 1310—Melody Roundup.
 - 1330—Rhapsody in Kluck.
 - 1400—News Headlines—Albert Sandler Trio.
 - 1430—Visiting Hour.
 - 1500—Music While You Work.
 - 1530—Off the Record.
 - 1630—Music from America—Don Vorhee's Orchestra and Guests.
 - 1700—South American Way and Program Resume.
 - 1730—Southern Serenade.
 - 1755—Quiet Moment.
 - 1800—World News (BBC).
 - 1810—GI Supper Club.
 - 1900—Seven O'Clock Sports.
 - 1905—Continued Operation.
 - 1930—Burns and Allen.
 - 2030—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A.
 - 2010—Fred Waring Program.
 - 2025—This is The Army.
 - 2030—Kate Smith.
 - 2100—World News (BBC).
 - 2115—Serenade.
 - 2120—American Commentary—Raymond Gram Swing.
 - 2125—Charlie McCarthy Show—with Edgar Bergen, Dale Evans and Ray Noble's Orchestra.
 - 2200—One Night Stand.
 - 2225—Suspense.
 - 2250—Final Edition.
 - 2300—Sign off until 1100 hours Saturday, Apr. 29.

Vets Won't Have to Sell Apples, Somervell Says

CLEVELAND, Apr. 27—A promise that World War II veterans would not have to sell apples for a livelihood was made here by Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell, chief of the Army Service Forces (SOS).

"There aren't going to be any wounded soldiers sleeping in parks or lodged in jails," he said. "The best we can do for these men isn't enough, but we will do our best."

12 U.S. Airmen Buried by Swiss

Were Victims of Attacks On Reich; Planes Came Down in Neutral Area

BERNE, Switzerland, Apr. 27 (AP)—Funeral services were held today for 12 of 16 American fliers who died as a result of attacks on Germany and whose planes landed or crashed in Switzerland in the last two days.

Four bodies still lie at the bottom of Lake Greifensee east of Zurich. The 12 Americans will be buried at Munsingen, where American authorities have acquired a plot to serve as a burial ground for American airmen in Switzerland.

Eventually, 17 other bodies of American fliers—the first of whom was buried at Ragaz Oct. 5, 1943—will be transferred to Munsingen.

Ten of the men for whom services were held today died when their bomber exploded over Baltenswil. They were identified tentatively as

Lt. Myron P. Snapp, Sgt. William H. Lowery, Sgt. Raymond H. Hardy, Ned E. Lewis, U. J. Laperriere, Winchendon, Mass., Lt. Martin J. Thomas, Stillwater, Okla., Sgt. Felix J. Seefonas, Glen Cove, L.I., Sgt. P. A. Calabrese, West New York, N.J., Lt. James E. King, Memphis, Tenn., and Russell Harris, Dallas, Tex.

The other two were from the plane at the bottom of Lake Greifensee: Lt. Everett Bailey and Sgt. Anthony T. Melassi.

Dewey Swamps All His Rivals

NEW YORK, Apr. 27 (Reuter)—With virtually all precincts in yesterday's Pennsylvania presidential primary in, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York today had spreadeagled the field. Dewey received 125,000 votes to 7,500 for Gen. Douglas MacArthur, 2,700 for Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio and 2,000 for Lt. Comdr. Harold E. Stassen, former governor of Minnesota.

One thousand votes were cast for Wendell Wilkie despite his withdrawal after a crushing defeat earlier by Dewey in Wisconsin. More than 5,000 Republicans voted for President Roosevelt.

The result does not commit Pennsylvania's 70 delegates to the Republican National Convention, but undoubtedly will not be ignored. The state's 72 delegates to the Democratic National Convention were pledged to President Roosevelt without opposition.

ETO Chief of WACs Gets A Lieutenant Colonelcy

Promotion of the ETO WAC director, Anna W. Wilson, of Studio City, Cal., to the rank of lieutenant colonel was announced at a ceremony in which the silver leaves were pinned on by Brig. Gen. Royal B. Lord, Deputy ETO Chief of Staff.

Lt. Col. Wilson arrived in the ETO Apr. 18, 1943, as a captain to prepare for the arrival of the WACs. She now has nearly 4,000 WACs in her command.

The rank of lieutenant colonel is the highest possible for a WAC to attain, with the exception of the director, Col. Oliveta Culp Hobby. At 34, Col. Wilson is probably the youngest of her rank in the service.

Japs Bombarding Yanks With 'Surrender Passes'

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27 (AP)—The optimistic Japanese have been bombarding Allied troops with "surrender passes" embellished with pornographic pictures and marked "one pass good for any number of soldiers."

Copies of the passes were released by the Office of War Information.

Examining the 'Doodlebug'—a Failure



An American sergeant in Italy looks over one of several miniature "Goliath" tanks used unsuccessfully by the Germans first at Anzio, later against the Allies southeast of Cisterna. Remotely controlled by cable, the tank, known to Allied troops as the "Doodlebug," is 25 inches high, 59 inches long, holds 250 pounds of explosive, and is propelled by an electric motor. They have been knocked out with machine guns.

War's Heaviest U.S. Air Blow

(Continued from page 1)
ranged from moderate to intense. There was no immediate announcement of losses, although unofficial preliminary reports indicated they were exceedingly light.

The Marauders' morning foray took them through bitter flak to more military installations scattered over a wide area behind the French coast, and they dumped some 350 tons of explosives for the loss of two B26s.

The afternoon attack saw the B26s aided by A20 Havocs, and they rained down another 400 tons, making 750 for the day, on railway targets at Cambrai and Arras and on more of the unspecified military installations. Once more neither they nor the escorting Spitfires found any enemy fighters, but one B26 was lost to heavy flak.

The RAF's medium and light forces were out, as well as their fighters, which had joined in supporting the American bombers during the day. B25 Mitchells, A20 Bostons and Mosquitoes of the Second Tactical Air Force struck rail targets at Serqueux and Bethune, and more fighters from RAF, Allied and Dominions units escorted them and strafed ahead and to the sides of the bombers' path.

Part of the Luftwaffe's failure to resist the early bombers may have been due to the neutralizing attacks on their air-dromes as Eighth Air Force P38 Lightnings, P47 Thunderbolts and P51 Mustangs carried out strafing and dive-bombing missions against Nazi fields in France and Ninth Air Force Thunderbolts dive-bombed five targets in Belgium, including the railway yards at Haine St. Pierre.

One drawback to the time-table bombing of installations in strategically vital northern France was reported by airmen who said that for once there was so much dust and debris rising into the sunny French skies that it was almost impossible at some points to observe bomb hits.

The American air forces here frequently have staged two separate missions in the same day—a major force to one target, and earlier or later a small formation to another point, usually the Pas de Calais. Marauders and A20s have gone out dozens of times on two-a-day hauls. But never before have big formations of heavy bombers—500 or 600 at a time—taken the air against the Luftwaffe in a single span of daylight.

The bombers and fighters went back to the assault with a record which showed that some 60,000 tons of high explosives and incendiaries have been heaped onto Nazi targets across the Continent in April by the Britain- and Italy-based Allied air fleets.

For the U.S. heavy bombers, yesterday's morning attack marked the 18th time this month they have gone out, and the Marauders, in their first raid of the day, were making their 14th attack in ten

days which have seen the perimedial area of northern France achieve the dubious distinction of probably being the most heavily bombed area in the world.

For the RAF's part, aerially decisive April has seen the Mosquito bombers make 16 missions, the Lancasters and Halifaxes ten, including five night attacks of more than 1,000-bomber strength each.

As the rain of bombs on Germany and its satellites began to exceed adjectives and reach the stage where only figures of tons and missions could begin to give an idea of its weight, the Nazis obviously were coming close to desperation to find some way of explaining it to their people.

Although they had been caught off base in reporting "bitter air battles" over Brunswick Wednesday, when American airmen were flying there and back without losing a single bomber and almost without sighting a single enemy plane, they repeated assertions of interceptor victories over an RAF armada Wednesday night, yet only 29 RAF bombers were reported missing.

As the massive assault on Hitler's outer defenses crashed and blasted to a new peak of fury late yesterday afternoon, the German radio warning system flashed an alert that strong bomber formations were approaching the southwestern Reich, but it seemed probable that it was a nervous reference to the dusk raiders of the Eighth Air Force which actually were hitting targets near the border, just short of southwestern Germany itself.

Late in the evening, Paris radio suddenly went off the air in the middle of a news bulletin, and less than half an hour later—at 9:37 PM—Budapest radio at the extreme other end of Europe said that, too, was going off the air for an indefinite period. The attack seemed likely to be reaching the stage where it was around-the-Continent as well as around-the-clock.

The RAF's 1,000-bomber raid, which swamped defenders in the half light of the new moon, followed the Allied pattern of recent weeks—possible only with major strength air fleets—in stretching the Nazi defenses over as wide an area as possible and then pounding home one or two concentrated attacks.

Down on scarred and blackened Essen, in western Germany, home of the vast Krupp's armament works which were battered out of operation in the Battle of the Ruhr last spring, went hundreds of tons of bombs to disrupt repairs to the vital works and do new damage.

While one force was heading for Essen, another flew to southwestern Germany and pounded Schweinfurt again to prevent the Nazis from getting the main plants of their ball-bearing industry, hard hit by the heavy U.S. raids there in the last six months, back into production.

The entire night's force was large enough to split the night air defenses with a heavy assault at Villeneuve St. Georges, near Paris, in a continuation of the joint USAAF-RAF drive to knock out the Nazis' railroad system

NEWS FROM HOME Churchill Stand On Bases Deal Irks Committee

House Naval Group Raps Rejection of Proposal For Cession to U.S.

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27—Members of a sub-committee of the House Naval Committee which recommended outright acquisition of the Western Hemisphere bases leased from Great Britain for 99 years today described Prime Minister Churchill's rejection of the proposal in Commons yesterday as "rather more than disappointing."

Rep. William E. Hess (R., Ohio) declared it "would not be fair that Britain should eventually gain possession of strong bases that were made strong by American money."

Rep. F. Edward Hebert (D., La.), chairman of the sub-committee, inquired, "What is the matter with the idea? If it was all right for Britain to come to us when it needed 50 destroyers—and needed them badly—what is wrong with our sitting down and talking with them right now about perpetual possession of these bases?"

The U.S. leased the eight bases from Britain in 1940 in exchange for 50 overage destroyers needed for the Battle of Britain.

Gloria Topping to Wed General

PALM BEACH, Fla., Apr. 27—The engagement of Gloria Baker Topping, society heiress, and Brig. Gen. Edward H. A. Alexander, commander of the Caribbean Wing, Air Transport Command, was announced by her mother, Mrs. Margaret Emerson. Mrs. Topping's first marriage to Henry J. Topping Jr., tinsmith heir now in the Navy, ended in divorce last year.

Full Accord, Curtin Says

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27 (AP)—Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia said in a broadcast last night that he and President Roosevelt had found themselves in "complete harmony" in reviewing the war and post-war problems in the Pacific. He disclosed that nearly a third of Australia's adult males were in the fighting forces.

More Butter and Oleo

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27—OPA today increased the butter and margarine ration because of improved supplies. Administrator Chester Bowles announced that the point value of butter would be reduced from 16 to 12, and of margarine from six to four. Points values of lamb and mutton were reduced by half.

Lindbergh in Hawaii

HONOLULU, Apr. 27 (AP)—Col. Charles A. Lindbergh has arrived in Hawaii as a civilian technical representative of an aircraft manufacturer to obtain information on performance of aircraft in the Pacific Theater, it was disclosed today.

Washout

INDIANAPOLIS, Apr. 27—The program of the Water Works Association meeting called for three Indiana water-company officials to relate their experiences in the 1943 floods. The program was canceled, however—Wabash River floodwaters kept the speakers at home.

3 Officers' Ouster Asked

CINCINNATI, Apr. 27—A military court yesterday convicted three Army Air Force officers of neglect of duty in an inspection at a plant of the Wright Aeronautical Corps, and recommended their dismissal from the service.

Cochran Awarded DSO; Kohima Battle Looming

Col. Philip (Flip) Corkin Cochran, of Erie, Pa., who helped plan the glider landings of the late Maj. Gen. Orde Wingate's force behind the Burma front, has been awarded the British DSO, along with Brig. Gen. William D. Old, who commanded the troop-carrier planes which took part in the operation.

The decorations were announced in dispatches from the Burma front yesterday as both sides lined up for the decisive battle of Kohima, the Allied base 60 miles north of Imphal in the Assam-Burma border section. Dive-bombers and fighter-bombers began heavy attacks on Japanese communications and supply lines leading to the town and sporadic fighting was reported on its outskirts.

Terry and the Pirates



By Courtesy of News Syndicate



By Milton Caniff

