

## Day Raid Follows Big Blow at Stuttgart

### Yanks Gain In Drive in Admiralties

#### Beat Off Japanese Attacks; Enemy Carrier Blasted By British Subs

First Division Cavalrymen penetrated three miles inland on Los Negros Island in the Admiralty group yesterday after beating off a "sharp" Japanese counter-attack against their newly seized airfield—prize goal on the island—Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced at his South Pacific headquarters last night.

The announcement came a few hours after the British told of successes by Royal Naval subs which torpedoed and probably sank two Jap warships, including a 7,000-ton aircraft carrier, off the Malayan coast.

Using heavy field artillery and armored equipment to stem the "suicidal" Jap thrust, American troops were reported to have slain hundreds of the Jap garrison on the island—believed to number less than 2,000—before pushing the remnants back toward swamps in the northern sector.

Tokyo radio admitted the Americans had established the beachhead at one point on the island after the first wave of U.S. invaders had been repulsed.

Yesterday's official communique said the captured Momote airfield "will shortly be in full use" by the Allies and that "operations were going well."

In the Malaya naval action, British submarines sighted the enemy aircraft carrier, escorted by five submarine chasers, steaming toward the northern approaches to Malacca Straits.

A salvo of torpedoes was fired but no hits were scored and an immediate depth charge counter-attack began. Later the second torpedo attack was made and the carrier was seen to be hit and lying stopped. Another torpedo then struck amidships and caused a violent explosion. The carrier heeled over and is believed to have been sunk, the Admiralty communique said.

A Jap cruiser was attacked in the same area by other submarines. Counter-measures by the enemy prevented observation of full results.

In air activity in the Southwest Pacific Solomons-based air units continued their assault on the enemy base, dropping 153 tons of bombs of Vunapore, Rabaul township and Rapodo airdrome. Damage to installations was heavy with numerous fires started. One enemy bomber was destroyed on the ground. There was no interception.

Night air and naval patrols destroyed or damaged seven barges off Puriana River in Bougainville and attacked targets in Choiseul Bay. By day U.S. air units attacked targets northeast of Torokina perimeter at Monoiu mission and Bonis airdrome.

### Japs 'Playing Possum' With Fleet—Vandegrift

WASHINGTON, March 2 (AP)—The Japanese are "playing possum" in an attempt to lull the U.S. into unwarranted optimism, in the opinion of Lt. Gen. Alexander Vandegrift, Marine commandant. The enemy hopes, he said, to create what the Jap premier described as a "golden opportunity to destroy the American fleet at a single master stroke."

"Speaking as a Marine," Vandegrift said, "we have no intention of being lured into letting down our guard."

### Counsel for Joan Says Blood Tests Aren't Conclusive

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 2—A motion to dismiss Joan Barry's paternity suit against Charlie Chaplin was taken under advisement today by Judge Stanley Mosk after counsel for the 22-year-old actress, opposing dismissal, attacked the validity of blood tests which cleared the comedian two weeks ago.

"I have an affidavit from the University of Minnesota medical school stating that a child must be 18 months old before blood tests can possibly mean anything," Atty. Joseph Scott told the court. Miss Barry's baby was born last October.

Chaplin's lawyer, Charles E. Millikan, reminded the court that both parties to the suit had agreed in a stipulation that it would be dismissed if the tests, by three doctors, "showed Mr. Chaplin was not the father of Miss Barry's child."

### Captured Nazis Viewed by Yanks in Beachhead Foxholes



A captured party of German soldiers passes by fox holes of American infantrymen preparing to advance on German positions in the Carroceto area.

### 860,000 in 2A Facing Callup

#### Hershey Says Rejectees Alone Total Size of U.S. Forces in Last War

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—Of 2,600,000 men now classified 2-A (deferred because of essential occupations), 860,000 soon will be reclassified 1-A and drafted by July 1, Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service chief, told a Biloxi (Miss.) group here today.

Revealing that the Army had rejected more than the entire number of men who served in the last war and had taken three times as many as required then, he said: "Nearly 12,000,000 men have been put into service and 1,200,000 have been discharged at the rate of 100,000 a month."

In Washington, President Roosevelt sent Congress the report of a special medical commission recommending that rigid draft physical standards be maintained. The commission said: "Men required by the Army as replacements from now on should be of the best physical caliber, since they will all be potentially front-line troops."

Hershey previously had announced that a total of 1,200,000 would be drafted by July 1.

### Legion Head Sees Invasion Costing 800,000 Casualties

NEW YORK, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—Warren H. Atherton, national commander of the American Legion, said that "at the present rate of going it will cost 800,000 killed and wounded American youth to reach Berlin and 3,000,000 Japanese-battered victims to take Tokyo."

### Paper Gets a Death-House Scoop

## Lepke, About to Die, Blurts Out Sensational 'High Intrigue' Tale

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—Only hours before his scheduled execution tonight at Sing Sing, Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, boss of Murder, Inc., and New York public enemy No. 1, came back onto the front pages today when the tabloid Daily News reported he had made a sensational 11th-hour death-house statement described by the paper as an "astounding" tale of political intrigue.

Lepke's statement, disclosed a few hours after a court had rejected his plea for postponement of the execution, was termed by the News so amazing "that its repercussions threaten to tear open the most sensational scandal since the notorious Becker case of 1912."

The paper said Lepke involved at least three names known throughout America, but "because of the personal importance of the individuals concerned and out of respect for the high places they occupy today" it was refraining from mentioning their names "at this time."

It added, however, that the statement had been sent to Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's legal counsel.

### 20 Men and Girls Arrested by Vice Raiders in N.Y.

NEW YORK, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—A force of 65 detectives and 25 police-women swooped on hotels, bars and boarding houses throughout New York last night and early today in a series of raids aimed at curbing juvenile delinquency.

Special attention was given the Times Square area. The raids followed a broadcast by Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia last Sunday warning juveniles they no longer would be tolerated in dance halls.

Before dawn this morning, more than 20 men and girls had been arrested. They included a man known as "Blue Pete" and two Broadway theatrical booking agents, alleged to have supplied beautiful young girls for indecent shows.

"Blue Pete" was charged in court with raping a 15-year-old girl who, police said, declared that he had intimidated her by boasting he was "the tail end of the Lepke mob."

The booking agents were charged with procuring girls for prostitution after police officers posing as "tired business men" had watched what they described as indecent exhibitions in two mid-town hotels.

### Hymns With K-Rations To Cheer Fighting Men

WASHINGTON, March 2 (AP)—"Hymns From Home," a small folder containing 12 hymns and the 23rd Psalm, will be wrapped around K-rations sent to war fronts.

Among the hymns are "God Will Take Care of You," "Faith of Our Fathers," "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory," and "Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past."

### Shifts to GOP Loom in House

#### Special Elections May Keep Democrats From Getting Absolute Majority

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (AP)—Deaths and special elections may prevent the Democrats from regaining an absolute majority, 218 out of 435 seats, in the House of Representatives this session, and reduce their membership to the lowest in ten years.

The division now stands at: Democrats, 216; Republicans, 209; Minority-Party members, four; vacancies, six.

The Democrats started the present session of Congress with 222 seats, the Republicans with 209.

Eleven House members died since and four resigned. Six special elections remain. In these, the chairman of the Republican National Committee, Charles Halleck, concedes only one to the Democrats—Alabama.

### New York Democrat Wins

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—James Torrens, Democratic district leader, defeated his Republican opponent, William Bennett, for the 21st Congressional District's seat in the House, 11,717—10,178.

The American Labor Party supported Torrens. The contest was regarded as a test of President Roosevelt's popularity.

### Allied Aid Cut, Turks Declare

Reports that the U.S. and Britain had suspended shipments of war supplies to Turkey circulated in Ankara yesterday, although not confirmed officially in Allied capitals.

Pointing out that war goods had not arrived in quantity in four weeks, Turkish circles declared that the Allies were waging a "war of nerves" to force Turkey into the war on British terms.

Following the departure from Ankara of the British military mission after five weeks of fruitless discussions on Turkey's role in the war, relations between the Allies and neutral Turkey became badly strained, it was said.

Allied circles in Ankara pointed out that the Allies might have diverted war goods intended for Turkey to other fronts if convinced Turkey did not intend to play a more active part in the war against Germany.

### Judge Debating Appeal For Lonergan Mistrial

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—Judge John J. Freschi adjourned the Lonergan murder trial today until tomorrow to determine whether he has the legal authority to declare a mistrial.

The adjournment came after Assistant District Attorney Jacob Grumet demanded that the panel of jurors be discharged and a mistrial declared because of the conduct of the defense counsel, Edward V. Broderick, in preliminaries to the trial of Wayne Lonergan on charges he slew his wife Patricia.

### SW Reich Is Struck by Forts, Libs

#### 1,900 Tons Are Dropped By RAF; Marauders Hit Points in France

Fortresses and Liberators bombed targets in southwest Germany yesterday, the 16th major Allied blow at the Reich in 13 days. First official announcement of the attack did not disclose specific targets or losses.

The daylight blow came after the RAF had dropped an estimated 1,900 tons of bombs during the night on Stuttgart, deep in southwestern Germany, for the phenomenally low loss of four aircraft, a percentage almost as striking as the single U.S. casualty in the Brunswick raid which on Tuesday closed out record-breaking February.

While the heavy bombers were striking into Germany, Marauder mediums flew more than 400 sorties in a morning attack on Nazi installations along the French coast and an afternoon foray against the Amiens freight yards and other targets.

#### One Marauder Missing

One Marauder was reported missing in the morning, none in the afternoon.

Some of yesterday's heavy-bomber formations struck a major industrial target in the southwestern Reich through ten-tenths cloud. First crews back said they met only scattered units of Nazi interceptors and that these were unable to press attacks past the fighter escort.

The RAF raid on Stuttgart, carried out by an estimated 600 planes, kept up the hammering which started Feb. 21, when the RAF dropped more than 2,000 tons there. The USSTAF hit Stuttgart four days later in strength, and reports from neutral sources have described damage throughout the big Daimler-Benz aircraft-engine factories. Bosch engine accessories and airplane-ignition systems also are built in Stuttgart.

German radio stations yesterday ascribed to "unfavorable weather conditions" the failure of night defenses to stop the bombers. The official Nazi version claimed only three bombers destroyed. Mosquitoes also hit Munich, the Air Ministry announced.

Mosquito bombers also hit Stuttgart after the Lancasters and Halifaxes had returned with reports that German defenses obviously were unable to control huge fires spreading across the target area.

As Allied air chiefs surveyed the almost fantastically low rate of losses in the last four days, it was unofficially but authoritatively pointed out that the loss of only four RAF bombers over Stuttgart—less than seven-tenths of one per cent of the force involved—should not be taken as a normal rate.

While the continued hammering of German fighter production and decimation of Luftwaffe operational units undoubtedly have helped to cut bomber losses, such exceedingly low figures are due largely to a combination of weather and tactical conditions. Observers pointed to the loss figure of 79 for the RAF operations against Leipzig Feb. 19 which opened the sustained drive to annihilate the Luftwaffe.

Almost at the same time the RAF was over Stuttgart approximately 100 German bombers struck at London and southeast England, causing damage and casualties. Five enemy planes were destroyed, according to preliminary reports.

### 'National Service' Needed to Insure Production—Knox

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2—Enactment of a national-service law as a safeguard against production slumps "which might seriously imperil our forces in the Pacific" was urged today by Navy Secretary Frank Knox.

Although emphasizing that he had no fault to find with the 1943 output of war materials, Knox told the Senate Military Affairs Committee that this year's mighty battles in every quarter of the world would necessitate an uninterrupted, unprecedented production of munitions.

In support of his argument that the defeat of Germany would not make a national-service law unnecessary, he cited the wave of absenteeism which swept industry last August and September when the collapse of Italy gave the nation "the illusion of early victory."



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Hitler's Tactics

Hitler in the past has won victories by creating disunity and a lack of determination to fight amongst his opponents. He now hopes to gain additional victories by creating dissension among the Allies. He is licked in the air and on the sea, and with Finland seeking peace and with Bulgaria making unofficial inquiries toward the same end, he knows that without political disunity among the Allied Nations his hopes of winning the war are gone.

Recently in a broadcast Hitler stated: "One thing is certain, there will be only one victor in this war and that will be either Germany or Russia. A German victory will mean the maintenance of Europe; a Russian victory will mean Europe's annihilation."

Hitler has chosen the present as a favorable moment for driving a wedge into the grand alliance of Great Britain, Russia and the United States. He realizes that he has little or no prospects of winning a war in which Russian, British and American land, sea and air power supported by tremendously expanded war industries are combined against him.

Germany will be defeated in this war; but Russia alone will not be the sole victor, as he suggests. As the Teheran declaration states, it will be a victory of all the United Nations, "against tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance," a victory that will give to all nations freedom from fear and want and freedom to speak and worship as they see fit.

Japanese Losses

It is hard to remember the number of times Japan has announced the complete annihilation of American naval power; but, despite these announcements, our navy still seems able to come back for more. Recent figures released by Colonel Knox add 14 more Japanese ships to the total sunk by U.S. submarines, making their tally now 611.

And a total of 189 Japanese ships have been sunk, probably sunk or damaged since Feb. 1, 1944, by all types of American action.

Colonel Knox's figures for February, added to those in official communiques covering November to January, show that in the last four months 550 Japanese ships have been sunk, probably sunk or damaged by U.S. air and sea assault.

So, when the facts are examined, it is Japan's fleet, not America's, that is being annihilated. The Nipponese would do well indeed if her shipyards could rebuild her fleet with the ease with which her propagandists destroy ours.

Experience Teaches

Back from the world's battlefronts come GIs and generals with valuable lessons learned in combat. These are passed on to troops still in training and properly absorbed save lives which otherwise would be lost.

For example, from both Atu and India comes word that standard Japanese infiltration tactics can be offset by a system of "anti-termite" patrols organized behind the lines. Whenever the troops know that friendly patrols are behind them, rifle fire in their rear will only mean that the patrols are exterminating stray Japs. This feeling was expressed by the Civil War leader Gen. Nathan Forrest when one of his officers approached him in great excitement and said: "General, the enemy is in our rear." Forrest calmly replied: "If they're in our'n, we must be in their'n."

Another trick found practical is the buddy system used by the Rangers. The men work in pairs, live in pairs, eat in pairs, do guard in pairs. Confidence in each other is developed.

The serving of hot meals during fighting is often impracticable; but a drink of hot soup serves the same purpose and is much more within the realm of possibility.

In patrolling, shine from the smallest metal object, such as a belt buckle or watch, must be avoided, and the rattle of dog tags can prove dangerous.

From Italy an infantry colonel says that fear of being afraid is the greatest obstacle for new men in battle to overcome. There is no reason for shame in being afraid, he reports. Men who have had excellent battle records freely admit that they are scared stiff in battle. The important thing is that every soldier should be taught all he needs to know so well that battlefield thinking is reduced to a minimum.

And men experienced in battle all send back word that our weapons are good. The M1 rifle is the best all-round weapon possessed by our troops, the fragmentation grenade is useful in destroying booby traps, the 60mm. mortar unquestionably contributes to the early demoralization of the enemy and its accuracy is excellent, and given even odds American troops will win every time.

Hash Marks

This Week's Short, Short, Short Story. The public relations office at a Flying Fortress division headquarters received a story from a field public relations officer about a bombardier, 20 years old. The story was marked for release to the bombardier's home town and Chicago, where his fiance lives. The story was marked, "Omit the lieutenant's age in release to Chicago."

Conversation in the ETO. A Major (at a hdq. office): "Lieutenant, what's the meaning of this? Someone just called up and said you couldn't come to work today because you were sick."



The Lieutenant: "Sorry, sir, the joke's on him—he wasn't supposed to call until tomorrow!"

New Awards Dept. Officers of a certain Nissen Hut called "Sloppy Joes—Where the Elite Meet and Eat" have awarded the DSM (Distinguished Sack Medal) to two of their captains who insist on eating their rations after retiring. Their fellow inmates are feverishly working on an invention for a "noiseless candy wrapper" so they can get some sleep before the Second Front.

Our spy on the home front says this happened at a camp back there. Could be! An officer approached a young man clad in a neatly fitting uniform and asked, "What's the eighth general order?" "I don't know," the fellow admitted. "Have you ever been on guard duty?" the officer asked. "Nope," said the young man. At this point the officer lost his temper and snapped, "You don't ever know enough to say, 'sir.' What outfit are you in?" Came the unexpected answer, "I'm the Coca-Cola man!"

Once upon a time we wrote about some guys getting a ribbon for "completing 100 cups of coffee in the ETO." Cpls. Dan Antosia and Joe Butero claim that if that's all it takes to get the ribbon, they're entitled to a suit made of the same material with socks and tie to match!

O, fickle fate! Ed Wittmeir, a Tacoma garage mechanic, was a happy man—he had finally built himself a nice, shiny



new mail box. Next day he impatiently waited for the postman to arrive. When he saw the postman smile and drop the first letter in the box, Wittmeir dashed out to get his mail—it was a notice from his draft board to report for induction.

Signs of the Times (or jolting the Ivy League). A war correspondent walked into an office one day and spied a corporal busily sweeping. The corporal stopped, leaned on his broom, looked toward the correspondent wistfully and murmured, "Princeton, 1937."

J. C. W.

ATG Will Fly Anything, Anytime in U.K., and Does

By Andrew A. Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Dropping people at LaGuardia 30 minutes from a steak dinner is the only thing a civilian airline in the States has done that the Air Transport Group operating over the British Isles hasn't done more of in the last year.

The group is an aerial carry-all which does the transport work in England, Scotland and Ireland. It carries mail, ferries combat planes, hauls cargo and passengers (VIP, the ATG men call them, meaning Very Important People).

When pilots talk about jobs they've done they can tell you about Mrs. Roosevelt, whom they carried all over the British Isles, or about the 5,000 pounds of bomb fuses they rushed to half a dozen bomber fields the night before a mission. A major supply was held up en route here, and when the fuses arrived many bomber bases were so short that a rush call was put out. The transport group delivered.

Another time 27 VIP were about ready to board a C47 in Northern Ireland. A lieutenant ran out with a slip of paper in his hand.

"Three of you will have to come off the loading list," he said curtly and read off the names of the lowest-priority passengers.

The lieutenant gave no explanation, but in a few minutes two privates and a corporal walked out carrying several foot-square boxes, blood plasma badly needed at a station hospital. The plasma ranked two majors and a captain.

The Air Transport Group operates with seven C47s, a fleet of Lockheed Hudsons, three revamped Fortresses and a flock of Cessnas, Fairchilds and Piper Cubs. They count among their VIP, aside from Mrs. R, Gens. Eisenhower, Arnold, Devers, Andrews, Eaker and every other general who ever worked in the ETO.

In the ranks of civilians they have flown are officials like Henry L. Stimson, Frank Knox, writers such as John Steinbeck and Raymond Clapper, and for glamor, Carole Landis, Yvette and Francis Langford.

Since last August ATG has carried 16,747 VIP almost four million passenger miles—passenger miles being an airline figure meaning miles traveled times passengers carried. The outfit has hauled four million pounds of freight, and the fliers are among the few people here who get enough mail to weigh instead of count. They have carted 273,522 pounds of mail, much of it V-mail, around the British Isles since last summer.

Aerial Freight Trains

Units of the command are spread all over the United Kingdom, and the group is split into several squadrons, each of which performs a specialized job. It is the function of one squadron to carry all passengers and freight. They operate with planes the Army calls C47s or C53s. A regular shuttle service is scheduled between five points in the United Kingdom and, weather permitting, they fly daily.

The transport's passenger lists and freight pile up so fast that pilots can hardly afford to miss a day's run; consequently, they fly in weather that keeps combat planes on the ground. The printed motto tacked up in the through-the-ports spot in one transport field office reads: "If there is weather, we fly."

A second of the group's squadrons has a large pool of pilots from which it draws for ferrying work. The official title of the group has been changed from "Ferry and Transport" to simply "Air Transport," and one of its main functions is still to get combat planes from points of entry in the British Isles to operational bases.

"Say you got 50 P47s up here somewhere," one of them explained. "They pile 50 of us into a Ford called Slap Happy we got fixed up to carry that many—it's illegal—and take us up there."

"We fly the P47s back down here to this modification center and another 50 planes we brought down maybe the week before are ready to go. We get out of the first 50 planes, jump into the 50 waiting for us and take them to the combat

This Is The Army

NO dental attention is required by four out of five SOS soldiers in the ETO, according to a recent survey of thousands of SOS troops in one base section area. Improved techniques in dentistry, superior dental equipment and frequent Dental Corps inspection of troops are three reasons given.

Requirements that necessary dental treatment be given each man before he is sent overseas, and an adequate dental service in this theater, are other reasons cited by Col. Richard F. Thompson, of Washington, chief dental surgeon of the base section, for the fact that the ETO dental situation as a whole is "very satisfactory."

A simple sawdust-burning stove which "will burn all day and throw plenty of heat" has been devised by Lt. Charles F. Fowler, of Lincoln, Neb., of an ETO engineer regiment. A hole is cut near the bottom of a ten-gallon can to provide a draft. Then a stick is placed in the opening and another is inserted in the top, the ends of the two sticks touching. The can is packed tight with sawdust to within a few inches of the top, and the sticks are carefully removed, leaving an air channel through the center. Then the sawdust at the bottom of the air passage is lit. A small section of stovepipe eliminates the smoke.

Pvt. Robert Ouellette, of Methuen, Mass., now in the ETO after combat duty in the Mediterranean theater, got somewhat off course when he started out for the invasion of Italy—he ended up in a movie theater on Pantellaria Island.

Engine trouble developed on the transport plane flying him and other soldiers toward the invasion scene; the plane was forced to land on Pantellaria; there was no chance of another plane until the next day, so Ouellette and buddies retired to the nearest movie theater. It was showing "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

An American in Britain, Bernard W. Tyre, had to return to the U.S. to join the Army. Unable to enlist over here, Tyre went back on a troopship, joined the Army in Boston, and is back in Britain—the ETO to him now.

While en route to America, Tyre was operated on for appendicitis, but he was in 1-A condition when the draft board looked him over.

Notes from the Air Force

THOSE who proscribe the belief that a Fortress can't do an inside loop can argue the point with T/Sgt. Arthur M. Connor, of Syracuse, N.Y., engineer of the B17 Paper Doll. Connor came back from a raid on German targets with the wild tale of a damaged Fort doing an inside loop before it disappeared in the undercast. He was told to "sleep it off" until a few weeks later, when he was talking shop with another gunner in a London Red Cross Club. The gunner, it seems, saw the Fort do the same stunt on the same mission.

If anybody has served with more armies or branches of service than 1/Lt. Virgil L. Wilcox has in the last 12 years—please keep it a secret. A B17 pilot from Marlette, Mich., Wilcox, since 1930, has served with the Marine Reserve, Navy, RCAF and USAAF.

IN the officers' club of a P47 squadron is the following advice, passed on by Maj. John C. Meyer, of New York: "Fighter pilots should be patient and not fall into any silly traps. Your chance will come soon enough and you will get back home to eat more spam. Don't rush it. They are still making Me109s and FW190s in Germany, so there will always be plenty to go around."

Col. Edgar M. Wittan, of Newport News, Va., 33-year-old Fortress group leader, has been awarded the DFC for leading his then "green" outfit on the historic Aug. 17 shuttle raid to Regensburg and Africa. Wittan's unit made its first combat mission just five days before Regensburg, to Bonn, Aug. 12.

COL. Joe L. Mason, 28, Thunderbolt fighter group commander from Columbus, Ohio, got an Me109 Thursday by following it all the way from 24,000 feet down to 50 feet over the main street of a German town. He followed the Nazi right up the street, spattering bullets into the pavement and scattering onlookers right and left.

Mason's Gena, This Is It was right on the tail of the Me when it skidded into the dirt to a 400-mile-per-hour stop and blew up. "I probably got a lot more Nazis today than will fit in any one German fighter plane," said Mason, who wears the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters and the DSC.

Maj. Dave Davenport, of New Orleans, has won his Air Medal. The 40-year-old officer, who was an Air Forces enlisted bombardier even before B10s were the rage, came overseas as material officer for a Fortress group. He volunteered for five combat missions, to fly as bombardier, and the boys he flew with say he never missed the target.

T/SGT. Jimmie Lawson, of Bradenton, Fla., who runs a Fortress station's parachute department, got a letter from a pilot's wife. "My husband is a prisoner of war in Germany," she said. "He wrote asking me to thank you and your boys for the good job of packing you did on his 'cute. I'm enclosing 20 dollars as a small token of our appreciation."

PRIVATE BREGER



"He claims he should have the day off, Sir—all night he dreamt he was on duty!"

ARMY POETS

Courage

When things go wrong and you feel blue, Let your courage come shining through. Put on a smile and not a frown, Keep your head up instead of down. Let your troubles and fears disperse, Someone, somewhere, has something worse. Console yourself that each to-morrow May bring new joy and not new sorrow. Live more in hope and less in regret, You're bound to taste life's sweetness yet. Oscar E. Eberle



# Moguls Blast Plan to Drop Farm Systems

## Zeller Advocates Adoption Of Pro Grid Loop Draft Scheme

DETROIT, Mar. 2—Not that he anticipates great success with other baseball folks, but Jack Zeller, general manager of the Detroit Tigers, would like to see complete abolition of major league farm operations within three years.

An implacable foe of the farm system, Zeller advocated a plan recently that will bring talent to the majors in much the same way as the National Football League functions. This plan gives the last place clubs first crack at minor league material, and goes up the line until the league champion gets last choice.

One of Zeller's more vehement foes is Branch Rickey, Brooklyn Dodger president, who master-minded the great St. Louis Cardinal chain gang. Rickey called Zeller's scheme "Utopian" and added a few other choice phrases of scorn.

Other caustic critics of Zeller claim his aversion to farm systems dates back to the time Judge Landis liberated about 90 players from the Detroit chain, ruling they had been signed illegally.

**Didn't Expect Cheers**  
"I didn't expect to hear cheers when I offered the plan at the New York meetings," Zeller declared. "In fact, the plan was raised largely as a trial balloon for consideration after the 1944 season. After it sinks in, I think baseball men will be more receptive."

Zeller's plan, in substance, calls for a limit of 50 players for each major league club, the teams still acquiring players through trade, purchase or signing free agents. Most farms would be liquidated by Mar. 1, 1946, with final strings severed one year later.

The Tiger chieftain contends it is ridiculous for big league clubs to outbid each other for players. However, he denied this attitude is influenced by the fact the Tigers had to boost the ante to \$52,000 to sign Dick Wakefield.

Minor league czar Judge William Bramham's comment was the sharpest tirade against Zeller. "It can be charitably attributed only to a loquacious imbecility," he declared.

# Dave Smukler May Join Lions

GLOVERSVILLE, N.Y., Mar. 2—Dave Smukler, recently given a medical discharge after serving three years in the Army, will take another crack at pro football next season as a member of the Detroit Lions, he said today.

The former Temple and Philadelphia Eagle star, who disclosed he had received a liberal offer from Coach Gus Dorais, has been working in a factory here since doffing his ODs.

With Smukler and Fireball Frankie Sinkwich, ex-Georgia All-American, in the same backfield, the Lions should cut a fancy figure during the '44 campaign.

# Atkinson Increases Lead With Triple at Hialeah

MIAMI, Mar. 2—Teddy Atkinson booted home three winners at Hialeah to increase his lead over veteran Eddie Arcaro in the jockeys' duel for top honors here during the winter season.

Atkinson's triple gave him 51 winners during the current meeting, while Arcaro, who scored four times Monday, has 33.

# Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

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

# Baksi-Savold Contest In Garden Postponed

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Mar. 2—Illness of his mother has forced Joe Baksi, youthful heavyweight sensation who drubbed Tami Mauriello Friday, to postpone his ten-round bout with Lee Savold, originally slated for Madison Square Garden Mar. 10.

The former Pennsylvania coal miner left training camp today for Kulpmont, Pa., when he learned his mother had suffered a heart attack.

# Senators Book 52 Night Tilts

## Brownies Also Increase Number of Arc Light Games

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—The gents who pay electric bills for major league baseball clubs will be working overtime this summer to match the pace of 1944's expanded night-games schedule.

The Washington Senators have booked 52 nocturnal contests—more than one-third of their schedule—to lead the way. The Nats will play 43 of these at home by special dispensation of League officials because of the busy daytime activity in Washington.

The St. Louis Browns also have increased their arc light program, playing 21 games at night. Excepting Detroit, Boston and New York, other clubs in the circuit have booked 14. The Tigers, Red Sox and Yankees have no lighting facilities in their parks.

The AL season opens April 18 and closes Oct. 1. On opening day the card will be as follows: Cleveland at Chicago, St. Louis at Detroit, Philadelphia at Washington and New York at Boston.

The annual All-Star inter-league game will be played at Pittsburgh July 11.

# Admission Prices Jumped 20 Pct. By 6 Major Clubs

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—Other clubs in the majors were expected to follow suit today after Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York teams announced they would increase admission prices this summer to compensate for increased taxes recently authorized by Congress.

The boosted revenue plan places a one-cent levy on each nickel charged.

The Philadelphia clubs said box seats will cost \$2 instead of \$1.71. Grandstand seats that formerly sold for \$1.14 will cost \$1.25, and bleacher admission will be boosted from 57 cents to 65 cents.

In New York admission to Giant, Yankee and Dodger games has been increased from 55 to 60 cents for bleachers; from \$1.10 to \$1.20 for grandstand; from \$1.65 to \$1.80 for reserved seats, and from \$2.20 to \$2.40 for box seats.

The tax bill will affect Madison Square Garden, too, Ned Irish, acting president, announced today. Irish said prices probably will rise after Apr. 1.

# Slip Madigan to Return As Iowa Grid Mentor

IOWA CITY, Iowa, Mar. 2—Edward "Slip" Madigan will return to coach the University of Iowa football team next fall.

Madigan became Iowa's mentor when Dr. Eddie Anderson left to enter the Army. Madigan coached Saint Mary's before coming here.

# Mexican Horse Entered in Derby

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—A Mexican horse has been entered in the Kentucky Derby for the first time this year. Don Jose H., a three-year-old colt belonging to Bruno Pagliai, president of the Hippodrome de Las Americas race track here, has been entered in the turf classic.

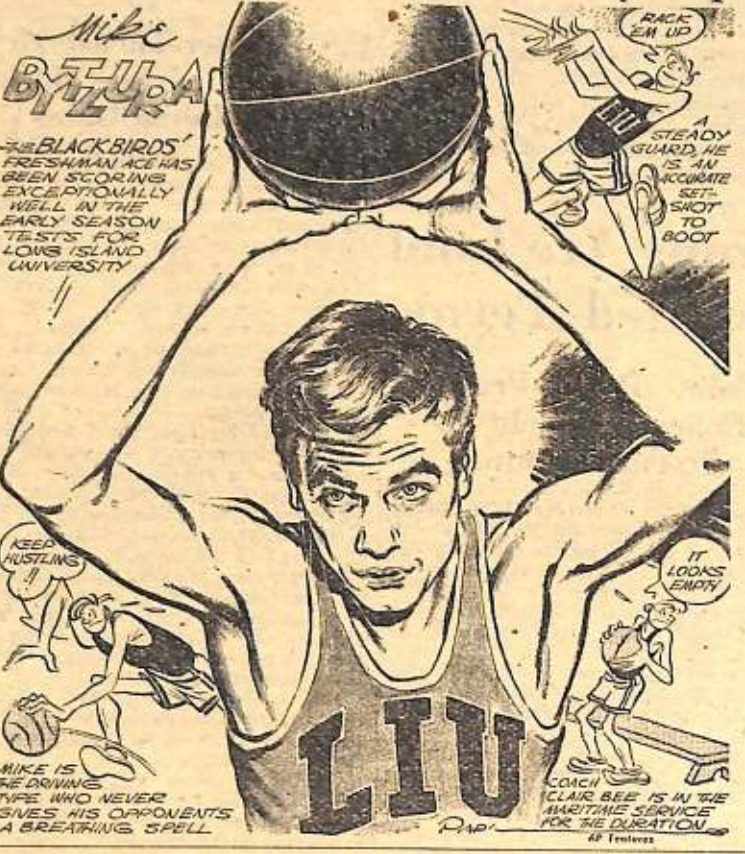
# Alice Marble Quitting Tennis

NEW YORK, Mar. 2 (UP)—Alice Marble, former tennis queen, has given up competitive tennis, and is to be married as soon as the war ends. She would not reveal the name of her future husband, who is an Army captain.

# LIU Five Shades Cornell, 48-47

## Busy Blackbird

By Pap



# Homesick Huck Geary Heads For City of Brotherly Love

PITTSBURGH, Mar. 2—Shortstop Hugh Geary, who set new records for being AWOL last year, has been peddled to the Philadelphia Phillies by the Pittsburgh Pirates for an unannounced sum.

Geary recently was reinstated by Judge Landis after being suspended last year for repeated desertion from the Pirates to return to his Buffalo, N.Y., home because he was "homesick." He also complained that Pittsburgh fans were riding him unfairly.

Acquired by the Pirates July 19, 1942, Geary reported for duty nine days late, played three games, then disappeared over the hill.

He rejoined the club after a short vacation, only to go AWOL again and be suspended for remainder of the '42 campaign.

Geary didn't change the routine in 1943. He was tardy for spring practice, played 46 games and surprised nobody by shuffling off to Buffalo again.

Landis finally stepped in and suspended Geary from organized baseball, so he played semi-pro ball in Buffalo.

Landis lifted the ban last month when Geary promised to be good. But the Phillies probably will have a busy time keeping their new infielder in town when those spells of "homesickness" hit him again.

# Diamond Dust Phelps Prefers Farm to Phils; Riddle Sees Reds Weak on Hill

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 2—Efforts to bring Babe Phelps, veteran catcher obtained from Pittsburgh in exchange for Babe Dahlgren, into the fold thus far have failed, the Philadelphia Phillies disclosed today. Phelps, who stayed at his railroad job last summer, said he thought he'd do the same this year.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Mar. 2—Elmer Riddle, right-hander who won 21 games for Cincinnati last season, took a pessimistic stand today as he revealed he expected an early Army call. "It looks tough for the Reds," Riddle remarked. "With VanderMeer gone and Bucky Walters and Joe Beggs already reclassified, the only pitchers the Reds will have from last year are Ray Starr, Clyde Shoun and Ed Heusser, and they are all subject to call."

CLEVELAND, Mar. 2—Chief Specialist Dom DiMaggio, Boston Red Sox outfielder now in the Navy, suggests that club owners take into consideration time in the armed forces when computing the ten years a major leaguer must spend in the big time before he is immune to return to the minors.

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—The New York Yankees obtained a talented understudy for hard-working Bill Dickey, veteran catcher, when President Ed Barrow purchased Bob Collins from Kansas City, Yankee American Association farm club. Collins retired from baseball last year for a railroad job, but decided to return to the game this season.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Mar. 2—Earl Sheely, former White Sox first sacker and scout for the Boston Red Sox, has signed to manage the Sacramento club recently purchased from the St. Louis Cardinals by popular subscription of Sacramento businessmen.

# Violets' Rally Stops Sooner Squad, 53-47

## 19-Point Surge in Last 5 Minutes Overcomes Big Six Cagemen

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—Local cagers turned in a twin-victory over strong invaders at Madison Square Garden last night before 16,243 customers, Long Island shading Cornell, 48-47, and New York University trouncing Oklahoma, 53-47.

A spectacular over-the-shoulder heave by Alvin Rubenstein that swished the net after the final buzzer sounded gave the Blackbirds their photo-finish verdict. The game, which concluded Long Island's schedule, ran the Blackbirds' season record to 12 wins in 15 tries.

Cornell, making its first Eighth Avenue appearance, struck from behind twice and apparently had the game won with less than a minute to play when the visitors sported a three-point edge. But Ed Younger's field goal from midcourt brought the Blackbirds to within one point of Cornell and set the stage for Rubenstein's Merriwell finish.

## Deadlocked Twice

Trailing at the half, Cornell climbed into a 27-27 deadlock after three minutes of shooting in the second half. Midway in the stanza, LIU opened a 43-32 margin, but Cornell's sharpshooters again knotted the count at 44-44 with six minutes remaining, and then assumed their short-lived advantage before Younger and Rubenstein opened the throttle.

Younger's 17 points featured for the Blackbirds, while Nat Militzok paced Cornell with 15.

Sid Tanenbaum found the hoop for 19 points to lead NYU to its triumph over Oklahoma, with the Violets coming from behind in closing minutes. The Sooners held a comfortable 43-34 lead with five minutes left, but it was soon dissipated as NYU staged its belated rally.

Howie Sarath contributed ten points in rapid fashion and Tanenbaum racked up nine markers to dump the Sooners ten points in arrears before the Violets eased off in the final two minutes.

Oklahoma was handicapped by the crippled condition of its star, Alfie Paine, who registered 21 points before he twisted his ankle and left the game.

# Army Smashes Maryland, 85-22

WEST POINT, N.Y., Mar. 2—Army's formidable basketball team marched to within one game of a perfect season by romping over Maryland, 85-22, here last night for the Cadets' 14th straight conquest. The victory maintained Army's record as the nation's only unbeaten major collegiate five.

Hitting from all angles of the court, Dale Hall set a new West Point fieldhouse scoring mark with 14 field goals and four free throws for a total of 32 points. Hall also held the previous mark, having netted 25 against Harvard last year.

Army's 85 points shattered all existing high marks for the Cadets since Lt. Gen. Joseph Stilwell instituted basketball at West Point in 1903.

The future shavetails conclude their season against Navy Saturday.

# Cage Standings

Big Ten							
	W	L	Pct.		W	L	Pct.
Ohio State	10	2	.833	Michigan	5	7	.417
Iowa	8	2	.800	Illinois	3	7	.300
Purdue	8	3	.727	Minnesota	2	8	.200
Wisconsin	8	3	.727	Indiana	1	10	.091
Northwestern	7	3	.700	Chicago	0	7	.000

Southwest							
	W	L	Pct.		W	L	Pct.
Arkansas	11	1	.917	TCU	6	6	.500
Rice	11	1	.917	Baylor	2	10	.166
SMU	6	6	.500	Texas A&M	0	12	.000
Texas	6	6	.500				

Pacific Coast							
Northern Division							
	W	L	Pct.		W	L	Pct.
Washington	12	0	1.000	Wash. State	4	10	.286
Oregon	11	5	.683	Oreg. State	5	11	.313
Idaho	4	10	.286				

Southern Division							
	W	L	Pct.		W	L	Pct.
California	4	0	1.000	So. Cal.	1	5	.166
UCLA	3	3	.500				

Hockey Results					
Cleveland 3, Hershey 3					
Indianapolis 7, Providence 2					

# Li'l Abner



By Al Capp



# Sudden Thaw Slows Russian Drive in North

## Nazis Counter-Attacking At Pskov; Reds Pushing Deeper Into Estonia

A sudden thaw after days of below-zero temperatures slowed the Soviet drive along the 300-mile northern front yesterday as the Red Army inched forward through the suburbs of Pskov and advanced west beyond virtually isolated Narva toward the Estonian capital of Tallinn.

With one of Pskov's three rail lifelines cut and the other two menaced by advancing Soviet columns, the Nazis launched bitter counter-attacks with bombers, tanks and heavy artillery. Moscow claimed the Germans were suffering severe losses in men and equipment.

Russian reporters with Gen. Govorov's column moving west towards Tallinn said great fires raged ahead of them where the Germans evidently were burning supplies they could not evacuate and firing Estonian villages. Fires also burned in Pskov, rail entrance into Latvia.

South of Pskov, the Russians already had cut the railway leading to Polotsk and were reported to have a second of the city's three life-lines, the route to Warsaw, under artillery fire.

In the Dnieper Bend, the Ukrainian army was said, in a dispatch to Pravda, to be "edging forward relentlessly in spite of mud and hard enemy resistance" toward Kherson and Nikolaev.

# Yanks Are Firing The Machine Gun Now From the Hip

A U.S. INFANTRY DIVISION, Mar. 2—Toy balloons of the party type, plus a few improvised from other devices, are being used to develop a new technique in machine-gun firing—from the hip—among officers and men here.

Used principally against low-flying aircraft, the method of fire has proved effective with virtually all types of small arms, units participating in the new exercise reported.

Hip firing is largely a matter of "feel," since no direct method of sighting is used. Officers from one unit improved their technique by improvising a hastily fixed sling, which enabled them to deliver a more concentrated burst and at the same time obtain a much wider range of movement without tiring the shooting arm.

The plan has aroused much enthusiasm among those participating in the course, since it permits use of live ammunition. Firing in volleys by groups, as well as by individuals, also has been practised.

# Giles to Succeed Royce As Middle East Air Chief

CAIRO, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—Brig. Gen. Benjamin Giles will succeed Brig. Gen. Ralph Royce as commander of the USAAF in the Middle East with the latter's transfer soon to another theater, it was announced today. Gen. Giles formerly was commander of the North Atlantic Wing, Air Transport Command, where he won the DSM. He was attached to the Ninth Troop Carrier Command in September, 1943.

Gen. Royce was appointed commander of the Ninth AAF in the Middle East last September. He was awarded the DSC for successfully leading 13 bombers which made a 4,000-mile round trip from Australia to bomb the Japs in the Philippines in April, 1942.

# Gen. Theodore Roosevelt Is Reported in Britain

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (AP)—Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, son of the late President, has left his position as liaison officer with the Fighting French in Italy "to take over an important post in Great Britain," according to Brazzaville radio.

## 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, Mar. 3**  
 1100—Sign on. News Headlines. Personal Album—Virginia O'Brien.  
 1115—Great Music.  
 1130—Jay Wilbur and his Orchestra.  
 1200—World News (BBC).  
 1210—Barracks Bag.  
 1225—Quiet Moment.  
 1300—World News (BBC).  
 1310—Miss Parade.  
 1330—Bandwagon.  
 1400—Visiting Hour.  
 1430—Sign off until 1700 hours.
- 1700—Sign on—BBC Scottish Orchestra.  
 1730—Program Resume and South American Way.  
 1800—World News (BBC).  
 1810—GI Supper Club.  
 1900—Seven O'Clock Sports.  
 1905—Comedy Caravan.  
 1930—Designed in Britain.  
 2000—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—Charlie McCarthy Show—with Edgar Bergen, Dale Evans and Ray Noble's Orchestra.  
 2140—Melody Roundup.  
 2200—One Night Stand with Paul Martin.  
 2225—Suspense.  
 2255—Final Edition.  
 2300—Sign off until 1100 hours, Saturday, Mar. 4

# U.S. Asked to Draft Childless Women 21-28

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—The National Committee to Correct Draft Inequities—a private organization—has sent a message to President Roosevelt asking for speedy congressional action to draft all childless women between 21 and 28 for the women's services. The committee argued that the step would halt rapid conscription of fathers.

# Finns Are Cool To Red Terms

## 6-Point Peace Proposal Believed Likely to Be Turned Down

Prospects for an early ending of Russo-Finnish hostilities dimmed yesterday in the face of a reported general agreement among Finnish leaders that the Soviet government's six conditions—particularly Moscow's proposal for demobilization of the Finnish army—were impossible of acceptance.

Helsinki dispatches to Stockholm said news of the Russian terms fell like a "cold shower" on the Finns and there was a general feeling of disappointment.

A Reuter correspondent in Stockholm said he had learned from "a usually reliable source closely in contact with Helsinki" that the Finnish government had decided the Russian terms were unacceptable in their present form. Nevertheless, he said, it hoped to continue negotiations.

The Stockholm Morgen Tidningen published an unconfirmed report that Adolf Hitler had ordered Col. Gen. Dietl to be prepared to retreat to Norway with his seven Nazi divisions in Finland and under no circumstances to allow his troops to be trapped. The paper said heavy equipment already had been evacuated.

Though Moscow appeared optimistic that Finland soon would have to get out of the war, especially with the Red Army's new advance into Estonia making her position increasingly insecure, Helsinki press comment was gloomy.

"It is unthinkable," said the Liberal Hufvudstadsbladet, "that we should withdraw our unbeaten army to the 1940 frontier and then begin to negotiate about demobilization, reparations and Petsamo."

The Conservative Uusi Suomi, organ of the National Coalition Party, which has Prime Minister Linkomies on its editorial board, asserted the conditions "do not give any hope of a secure and honorable peace."

# Lib Bag o' Bones Back With Even Those Shattered

A LIBERATOR STATION, Mar. 2—The Liberator Bag o' Bones limped home from a raid on Germany last week with 400 flak and bullet holes and two dead engines, one still afloat.

Despite "flak like hail," which hit the outboard engines and wounded the waist and tail gunners, 1/Lt. H. E. Broxton, of Birmingham, Ala., kept his ship in formation until bombs were dropped on the target. Then he dived to the treetops for a 90-minute race to the sea against FW190s, which raked the plane with gunfire.

The bombardier, 2/Lt. Clare E. Scharp, of Riverside, Cal., alternately fought flames fed by shattered oil and oxygen lines, cared for the wounded and blasted away at the Nazi fighters.

The top-turret guns were silenced by a 20mm. hit, but T/Sgt. Donald D. Bird-sall, of Wells Bridge, N.Y., escaped injury, thanks to his helmet and flak vest.

Other crew members were 2/Lt. Dwight W. Covell, of Muskegon, Mich., co-pilot; 2/Lt. Robert F. Souerback, of New York, navigator; T/Sgt. Joe K. Corziatti, of McAllister, Okla.; and S/Sgt. Kiech Tindall, of Kiowa, Colo.; Robert E. Hudson, of Decatur, Ill., and Irving Elva, of Brooklyn.

# Red Cross Worker Wins Silver Star for Heroism

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2—James P. Shaw, ARC field director, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, the War Department announced. Shaw rescued U.S. soldiers from the sea, after their landing craft received a direct bomb hit, and cared for wounded under fire. He is the first Red Cross worker in this war to receive the award.

# Terry and the Pirates



# Yanks Repulse German Attack On Bridgehead

## U.S. Counter-Thrusts Hurl 3 Nazi Divisions Back After Initial Gains

Powerful German forces were slowly being pushed back on the Italian bridgehead yesterday after a series of heavy American counter-attacks checked a 1,500-yard penetration of the Allied line and hurled three of Kesselring's divisions back more than 1,000 yards. At least 500 Germans were captured.

Described in yesterday's Allied communique as "strong and determined," the new German assault was launched on a 1,000-yard front midway between Carro-ceto and Cisterna.

Supported by Tiger tanks and Mark IVs, German infantry was carried forward almost a mile by the sheer weight of the initial attack in the face of a thunderous Allied artillery barrage.

However, U.S. troops, striking in the rear, stemmed the advance.

Opening their offensive Tuesday morning, the Germans used a spearhead of two infantry battalions with tank support. The infantryman rode on the tanks and dismounted to clear mines despite artillery fire.

Then, as the battle progressed, battalion after battalion was thrown into the fray until three divisions were massed along the narrow front.

On the American left flank, British units of the Fifth Army pierced German positions along the Moletta River and wiped out an enemy platoon.

Called in for the third time in the Italian campaign to help smash an enemy ground attack, strong formations of Fortresses and Liberators hammered German troop concentrations and gun positions.

# Lives 1st, Rome Buildings Second, Stimson Asserts

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2—U.S. troops will take every precaution to preserve cultural, historical and religious property in Rome, but if the Nazis "make use of such monuments for military purposes and the lives of American soldiers are thereby endangered, there can be no alternative," Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson asserted today.

"American lives must be safeguarded whatever the cost in material things," he told a press conference.

At the same time, he said the Army, working with the Navy, was taking steps to preserve evidence for the future court-martial of Lt. Gen. Walter C. Short, who with Adm. Husband E. Kimmel was accused by a Pearl Harbor investigating commission of lack of vigilance. Stimson said the Army was collecting evidence from officers now on duty in various theaters of war.

# Bowles Assails Black Market

NEW YORK, Mar. 2—OPA chief Chester Bowles, charging that housewives were spending \$1,200,000,000 a year in the food black market, called the scope of black market operations "a national disgrace."

# WACs Serving in Italy

A MEDITERRANEAN AIR HQ, Mar. 2 (AP)—A detachment of 113 WACs has arrived from North Africa for duty here. Under command of Capt. Theresa Mravintz, of Pittsburgh, the unit is supplying switchboard operators, tele-typists and secretaries.

# Rubber Checks Bounce on 'Major,' 'Captain'

## Big Spree as Phony Officers Puts 2 in Civilian Guardhouse

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2—Two youths who posed as Army officers and lived in a \$35-a-day suite in a Capital hotel now are behind bars.

The two went on a spending spree climaxed by a lavish dinner party at which they played hosts to some of Washington's most prominent citizens. Their roles were cut short by FBI agents who attended the dinner and unmasked the two as escaped military prisoners.

Under arrest are Douglas Ray Allred, 20, former employe of a Portland (Ore.) bank, who posed as a major, and Edward Richard Malone Jr., 18-year-old former Brooklyn high-school boy who claimed to be a captain.

# News From Home

## Visitors Denied Gas by South Can't Even Get a Train Home

### ODT Curbs Non-Essential Travel, Creates Vast Bus-Rail Jam

MIAMI, Mar. 2—Denied gasoline coupons for their trips home after spending the winter in the South, thousands of vacationists are creating a rail jam described as worse than that of the 1925 Florida land boom.

The motorists, groggy from an OPA ruling that they had not been entitled to gasoline for their pleasure jaunt south in the first place, were floored by an Office of Defense Transportation edict limiting non-essential travel.

ODT said that visitors to the South could return home on buses and trains only after servicemen and civilians traveling on government orders had been accommodated.

Many stood in long lines for hours awaiting transportation, only to be left stranded at the last moment by priority travelers. Others, despairing of finding a means of transportation, made plans to remain in the South for the summer.

Meanwhile, Florida officials wondered what was to happen to automobiles left behind by those Northerners who succeeded in finding train seats.

### He's Tough on Wives

MIAMI BEACH, Mar. 2—Val Ernie, orchestra leader, is being sued for divorce by Grace Emiline Valle, who charges he once threatened to kill her. The defendant, whose real name is Ernest P. Valle, was divorced in 1938 by Irene Woodworth, millionaire heiress, who accused him of having an ungovernable temper.

### Willing Guinea Pigs

ATLANTA, Ga., Mar. 2—More than 200 inmates of the Federal penitentiary have volunteered as subjects for experiments seeking a malaria remedy more potent than quinine. Only long-termers were accepted because the experiments will take at least two years.

### No-Strike Policy Adopted

DETROIT, Mar. 2—The United Automobile Workers (CIO) has adopted a plan outlawing unauthorized strikes. Under the new policy individuals, groups or local unions responsible for unauthorized walkouts will be disciplined and charters revoked if necessary.

### Love Balances the Scales

ELIZABETHTON, Tenn., Mar. 2—The wedding of William C. Buckles, 81, and Mable Sarah Odell, 34, attracted "hundreds of persons from miles around." Buckles weighs 115 pounds and the bride admits to 356.

### Field Buys Radio Station

CHICAGO, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—Marshal Field, owner and publisher of the Chicago Sun, announced that he had completed negotiations to purchase a 20,000-watt Chicago radio station. The station will operate independently of the Sun.

### Prison Doldrums

CARUTHERSVILLE, Mo., Mar. 2—The county jail was empty six days last month—the first time it had been unoccupied in 17 years.

### Speedboat Pace to Go Up

MIAMI BEACH, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—Gar Wood, veteran international speed-

# Woman Found Slain In Washington Cathedral

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—Clad only in a slip, the battered body of 37-year-old Catherine Cooper Reardon was found early today in the basement pit of the Washington Cathedral Library, where she was assistant librarian.

She had not been seen since leaving home late yesterday after telling her mother she was going out for a short while.

Police did not announce whether the unmarried woman had been criminally attacked.

boat racer, said the armed forces, which borrowed racing-boat designs for fighting vessels, would repay the debt by making possible post-war marine speeds well above 200 mph.

### Pinched on \$10,000 Per

NEW YORK, Mar. 2 (UP)—The cost of living is now so high that the salary of Magistrate Ambrose J. Haddock is "almost nothing and confines me to the barest necessities. How can people who make less live at all?" Haddock gets \$10,000 a year.

### Zoo Goes Vegetarian

EAST CHICAGO, Ind., Mar. 2—The local zoo is disposing of all its meat-eating animals because of rationing. A retired lion tamer recently bought a lion, four alligators and a crocodile for his farm. The zoo will keep an eccentric bear which eats only bread and green stuff.

### Knox Gets Victory Flag

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—The first American flag hoisted on captured Japanese territory has been presented to Secretary of Navy Frank Knox. The flag was raised on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshalls Jan. 31.

### The Story Got Her

MIAMI, Fla., Mar. 2 (UP)—Paula Clark, reporter on a newspaper here, confessed to her city editor that she had fallen asleep while on an assignment. She had been interviewing Max Mann, author of "Put Yourself to Sleep."

### No Cause for Tears

WETHERSFIELD, Conn., Mar. 2—For many years this town was known as "Onionville" because so many gardens were devoted exclusively to onion growing, but a recent survey showed there was not a single onion being grown in town.

### Allies Invited to Air Parley

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (UP)—The State Department has invited Russia and Britain to attend the forthcoming conference here on post-war aviation, congressional spokesmen said last night.

### Senate Honors McNary

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (Reuter)—The Senate voted a three-day recess in respect to the memory of Sen. Charles McNary, Senate Republican leader, who died in Florida last Friday.

### GIs to Old Salts

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2 (AP)—Six hundred men who once served in the Merchant Marine have been discharged by the Army to return to sea, the War Shipping Administration has announced.

### Navy Graduates 301 Negroes

WASHINGTON, Mar. 2—The largest Negro class ever to complete instruction in the Navy's service schools, 301 men, graduated last week at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

### Hereford Bull Fetches \$38,000

SULPHUR, Okla., Mar. 2 (UP)—A Hereford bull was sold at auction for \$38,000. Twenty other bulls from the same herd brought a total of \$139,024.

### Grandmother Only 33

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Mar. 2—Mildred Sonico, 33, is believed to be the youngest grandmother in the U.S. She has five children and two grandchildren.

### Rep. Cullen Dies

NEW YORK, Mar. 2 (AP)—Rep. Thomas Cullen, Brooklyn Democrat, has died of uremia.

# By Milton Caniff

By Courtesy of News Syndicate

