



THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations



Vol. 3 No. 261

New York, N.Y.—London, England

Saturday, Sept. 4, 1943

Allies Invade Boot of Italy

USAAF Strikes Hard in France

Paris Among Eight Enemy Targets Hit

Forts, Marauders Pound Air Bases; Nazis Lose 29 Fighters in Day

Eighth Air Force Flying Fortresses and Marauders, smashing Luftwaffe airfields and repair bases for the second successive day, blasted eight targets in France yesterday, including the former Caudron-Renault aircraft factory at Paris, now used for Me109 repairs.

The day's raids, which cost the enemy 29 fighters knocked down by the Forts and the supporting fighters, came only a few hours after the same combination of heavy and medium USAAF bombers, striking out over the coast shortly before dusk Thursday under cover of the year's biggest fighter blanket, pounded two airdromes and a power station in western France.

10 Planes Missing

Eight heavy bombers and two fighters failed to return from yesterday's raids, and one medium bomber, one light bomber and two fighters were missing after the Thursday evening operation.

The success of the heavily-armed Fortress against the toughest sort of fighter opposition—23 of yesterday's bag of 29 enemy planes were credited to the B17s—led Air Chief Marshal Sir Philip Joubert to assert in a war commentary broadcast by radio that "It almost looks as though the Fortress type of bomber has defeated the contemporary fighter."

The Forts hit five targets in their early morning strike into France: 1—The Caudron-Renault aircraft factory in Paris, separated by a bend in the Seine from the large Renault motor works heavily damaged by Forts last April 5; 2—A large Luftwaffe repair base for single-engine fighters at Romilly-sur-Seine, 65 miles southeast of Paris; 3—A base for fighter reserves at Beaumont le Roger, on the Risle river, about 30 miles southwest of Rouen; 4—An operational fighter base near St. Andre, almost due west of Paris; 5—Repair and service installations for Me109 single-engine fighters at Meulan les Mureaux, on the Seine, about 25 miles northwest of Paris.

B26s Hit Airfields

The Marauders struck at German airfields at Lille-Nord, Beauvais-Tille and Beaumont-le Roger, all in France.

Some 75 Nazi fighters came up to battle the Fortresses over Paris, and there was heavy flak. USAAF Thunderbolts met the heavy bombers at the French coast on their way in and covered them all the way to the target and back. The P47s destroyed four German planes for the loss of one Thunderbolt.

One of the P47 "kills" was done by (Continued on page 4)

See New Aerial Plan by Arnold

Gen. H. H. Arnold, USAAF chief, is here to polish off plans laid in Quebec for the unprecedented air assault on Europe this fall and winter, it is believed here last night.

He will confer with Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers ETO commander; Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal, RAF head, and Arthur Harris, British bomber chief; Maj. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, Eighth Air Force commander, and Maj. Gen. William C. Lee, paratroop expert.

The presence of Gen. Lee in the conference is taken as an indication that closer cooperation between ground and air forces in the event of an invasion is being planned.

FDR, Churchill Keeping Close Tab on the Invasion

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 (UP)—Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Roosevelt maintained a continuous scanning of dispatches from the new invasion front today, conferring in between with high-ranking Allied service experts.

Last night, Churchill and the President waited until 1 AM for the official news that invasion of Italy had opened. When it failed to arrive, they went to bed.

Allies Get Foothold on Italy's Toe



The British Eighth Army and Canadian forces invade Italy across the Straits of Messina, landing in the vicinity of Reggio Calabria. Fortresses pulverize the Brenner Pass, Germany's rail route into Italy, with heavy raids at Bolzano, Trento and Bologna.

Life-Line to Italy Pulverized By B17s in Pre-Invasion Raid

ALLIED HQ., Sept. 3 (AP)—Striking deep into northern Italy in one of the war's most spectacular raids only a few hours before Allied troops began landings on the country's southern tip, United States Flying Fortresses heavily bombed three vital railroad points on lines leading southward into Italy across the Brenner Pass from Germany.

The Fortress first plumped big bomb loads on Trento and Bolzano. At both points it was believed railroad lines from Germany were broken. Bologna was the third point of attack, and large fires and explosions were caused in marshalling yards there.

At the same time, American medium bombers blasted the Cancelli marshalling yards in southern Italy.

34 Enemy Planes Bagged

German fighters offered strong resistance, and a total of 34 enemy planes were destroyed in the day's widespread operations against the loss of 15 Allied aircraft.

Flying without fighter escort on the 1,500-mile round trip, the Fortresses shot their way through enemy fighter screens and dropped part of their bombloads squarely on the railroad bridge at Bolzano. Other hits were scored on main tracks there.

Fortress crewmen declared bombs also hit overhanging cliffs and that ledges apparently had been cascaded onto tracks.

At Trento, 25 miles farther south, two important bridges over Adige River were damaged by direct hits. An official report said the railroad there was blocked and a highway bridge smashed.

Bologna, which was bombed once before by Africa based Fortresses, (Continued on page 4)

Meanwhile, the Red Army is maintaining (Continued on page 4)

Italy Asked to Welcome Allies As Rallies for Peace Spread

Cries for peace, sounded before the Allied invasion of Italy, swelled into major demonstrations yesterday after Algiers radio in a broadcast to Italy asked the people to welcome the Allied armies as liberators in the same fashion as their forefathers welcomed Garibaldi.

"Italians, on the threshold of this fifth year of war, forces of the United Nations are filtering into the so-called European Fortress," the broadcast said. "Italians, remember the words of Mr. Churchill when he told you Italy is paying a terrible price for Germany's war. Italy is becoming a battlefield."

"The Italian navy must remain where it is" and "must not be sacrificed for Germany," the station warned.

"Germany is trying to keep the war as far from her soil as possible."

"Italians, these were the words of Churchill on the eve of the Allied landing on the Italian peninsula."

"The advance of the united forces is the logical and inevitable consequence of recent events. The Sicilian people are already enjoying the fruits of liberation."

"Italians, welcome the Allied liberating forces as your forefathers did the liberating armies of Garibaldi. Out with the Germans."

Rumors that a major Italian peace move was imminent circulated in London yesterday. Many of them, however, were believed to be inspired by the Germans in an effort to learn if the Italian government had made any peace negotiations.

Eighth Army Seizes Strong Bridgehead And Moves Inland

Biggest Mediterranean Barrage Paves Way For Canadian-British Landing Force; Forts Smash Brenner Pass Railway

The Allied invasion of the European continent began at 4.30 o'clock yesterday morning, four years to the day after the Anglo-French declaration of war on Germany.

British and Canadian troops of Gen. Montgomery's Eighth Army, operating under the supreme command of Gen. Eisenhower, swept across the narrow Strait of Messina from Sicily and landed on the toe of Italy under cover of the most terrific bombardment that has been seen in the Mediterranean. By last night they were reported to have established a strong bridgehead and to be fighting their way inland against strong resistance from German troops.

Allied headquarters was silent on the exact locations of the landings, but presumably they were made in the vicinity of Reggio, just seven miles across the water from Messina.

Hundreds and hundreds of bombers and fighters supported the invasion force, while thousands of shells from the Allies' big guns in Sicily and from cruisers, destroyers and other units were hurled into the enemy's defenses.

Huge numbers of Allied troops were pouring into the first bridgehead established. At 10 AM, six hours after the first landing, a photo reconnaissance pilot returning to Sicily reported that Allied invasion craft still were streaming toward Italy in great numbers, loaded with fresh British and Canadian troops. Ashore, according to Berlin radio, the invading force was fanning out with strong tank support toward Scilla, six miles north of Reggio.

Forts Sever Nazi Life-Line

A few hours before the pre-dawn landings, American Flying Fortresses knocked out the vital railway line from Germany through the Brenner Pass to northern Italy. Making their deepest penetration into enemy territory on a 1,500-mile round trip, the Africa-based B17s dumped hundreds of tons of bombs on the railroads at Trento, Bolzano and Bologna, and photographic reconnaissance showed last night that the main artery of the German reinforcements pouring into Italy was now "cluttered with wreckage." The Nazis' life-line to Italy had been severed, at least temporarily.

American troops, tried and proven in the swift conquest of Sicily, apparently were not employed in the initial landings, but they stood poised in Sicily for whatever part of the assault on the continent would be chosen for them. Whether they were to follow the British and Canadians in once a bridgehead was established, or whether they have been assigned to strike some other part of Hitler's "European fortress," was not known.

The size of the landing force was not announced, but Berlin radio said the Germans believed it was approximately one division. The Berlin communique yesterday afternoon said that German troops were opposing the invaders.

The invasion was launched at an opportune moment, since the Allied aerial offensive in the last week had crippled railway communications in southern Italy. Neutral sources said that not a single rail line was available to carry Axis troops and supplies to the scene of the invasion.

Paratroops Reported in Action

The invasion troops were believed to have established a strong bridgehead in bitter fighting within a few hours after they surged ashore from the landing barges. Reports reaching Madrid from the Italian frontier last night said the Allied troops were advancing along vital roads from their landing points toward railway junctions in the area. Madrid also heard that Allied parachute troops had been dropped in the rear of several strong Axis coastal positions.

No sooner had the invasion news broken than peace rumors began to fly in Washington, London and neutral capitals, some reports going so far as to say that Italy had offered to accept the Roosevelt-Churchill "unconditional surrender" terms. Reports from the Italian frontier told of widespread peace demonstrations in Rome, Turin, Milan and other major cities.

In Washington there was speculation that invasion of Italy might be just what the Badoglio government wanted in order to give Italy "peace with honor" after a few days' token resistance.

Algiers radio appealed to Italians to treat the Allied troops as liberators just as they did the men of Garibaldi's force in 1859. A number of Italians who reached Sicily from the mainland recently told American and British correspondents they thought Italian civilians would treat the Allied soldiers with the same spirit of welcome that the Sicilians showed, and added: "Why don't you hurry?"

Fierce Barrage Covered Landing

The first step in the continental drive, destined some day to reach Berlin, began two hours before dawn silhouetted the mountains of southern Italy against the sky.

Big guns which the Allies had hastily established on Sicily's shores began to roar, hurling their shells across the narrow strait toward Reggio, a city of 50,000 persons and one of the most-bombed places in Italy.

Bombers in multiple formations took off from Sicilian airfields to dump their explosives on enemy defenses.

Allied cruisers, destroyers, monitors and smaller craft opened up from the Straits of Messina.

And across the strait wave after wave of invasion boats churned toward the Italian mainland, carrying Canadian troops battle-toughened in Sicily and British soldiers who had rolled the Afrika Korps from Egypt to Tunisia and into the sea.

For days before the invasion, headquarters revealed, British commandos had been making hit-and-run raids on the coast of Italy's toe, feeling out (Continued on page 4)

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Newspaper for the U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations published daily except Sunday under the auspices of the Director of Special Services Division, S.O.S., War Dept., Brig. General E. H. Osborn, by The Times Publishing Company, Ltd., at Printing House Square, London, E.C.4 (Telephone: Central 2000). Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors; subscription, 26 shillings per year plus postage. ETO Edition. Entered as second class matter Mar. 15, 1943, at the post office, New York, N.Y., under the Act of Mar. 3, 1879

Chief of Special Services and Publication Officer, ETO, SOS, Col. Theodore Arter

Editor and Officer in Charge Maj. E. M. Llewellyn Associate Editor, Executive Officer Capt. H. A. Harchar

Associate Editors: 1/Lt. J. C. Wilkinson 2/Lt. Robert Moore News Editor: T/Sgt. Ben. F. Price City Editor: T/Sgt. L. P. Giblin Magazine Editor: T/Sgt. Russell Jones Sports Editor: S/Sgt. Mark Senigo Navy Editor: Yeoman Tom Bernard, USNR Merchant Marine Editor: Ensign Donald Hewitt Vol. 3, No. 261, September 4, 1943

The Day of Prayer

At the request of his Majesty the King, a national day of prayer was observed yesterday in Great Britain, and we in the U.S. Armed forces, as guests of the British people, joined with them in this observance.

It was a solemn moment and a reminder that this conflict, perhaps in a unique degree, is ultimately not a clash between armies; but rather a clash between irreconcilable creeds. We as soldiers now realize more clearly than before that we have a bigger job to do than just to destroy Hitler. We must destroy all those things which make the Hitlers possible if we are to win a real victory, and achieve a lasting and a righteous peace.

Such a battle will not be easily won. It is no task for people of small vision. It is no task for politicians or preachers, ambassadors or diplomats. It is a job which must be done by "We the People" working together in a constructive effort which must surpass even the mighty effort required to win this war.

To achieve unity of purpose for such a task will call for more than a bond of friendship to hold us all together... it will require also the bond of prayer and the right thinking that comes with it.

And as we joined our Allies yesterday in prayer; so may we join with free people everywhere, and in the days of peace work together to insure for the world the liberty and happiness every man, woman and child so rightly deserves.

Italian Invasion

In a terse communique issued yesterday by Allied Headquarters the long-awaited invasion of Italy was officially announced. The attack began at 4.30 AM on the fourth anniversary of Britain's entry into the war, as British and Canadian troops of the Eighth Army swept across the Straits of Messina and swarmed up the beaches on the toe of the Italian boot.

It was the first time British troops have landed in force on European soil since they were driven from Greece after the vain but glorious effort that was made to make good the word of Britain to the gallant Greeks.

This time, however, they plan to stay until every dictator on the continent has been wiped from the political scene and the millions who now live in terror and distress are free to enjoy liberty and the blessings of peace.

If ever there was a crusade, this is it, for every Allied soldier in this attack knows he is hitting at the nation which bred the first of Europe's contemptible dictators, who, united, have brought death and destruction to so many.

And as the British and Canadians advance into Italy they will be joined by Americans. Then once again the march forward will begin. This time it will not stop until Allied troops march together through Rome and on to Berlin.

The Home Folks

Hardly a day passes without some literary "genius" informing the world at large that the people of America hardly realize we're fighting a war. For some time now we've suspected the truth of such statements, and a recent gift from Willow Run employees to an aviation Engineer Battalion in this theater helps confirm our faith in the folks at home.

It all started when a worker at the Willow Run plant found a penny on the floor. He picked it up and pasted it on the fuselage of the plane he was building with the note "this is a lucky penny and it will make this a lucky ship."

As the plane rolled along the assembly line workers in each department added to the collection. Then someone else added a small note which read "this fund will buy cigarettes for officers and men in the Blank Aviation Engineer Battalion.

Daily the fund grew, firmly attached to the bomber with scotch tape. In due course it was removed so the ship could be given its first coat of war paint.

And the money arrived safely. It is providing many of those little extras we all enjoy for the battalion named and every soldier in that outfit knows there are hundreds of folks at home who are thinking of them, and who know we are in a war and who are doing all they can to help us win.

Hash Marks

Signs of the times. The 151 seniors at George Rogers Clark high school, Hammond, Ind., boast that they are the first class in the nation to graduate in a blackout. The alert signal sounded while the diplomas were being handed out; so curtains were drawn, lights extinguished except for blue footlights and the show went on.

John Pierce was fuming and cussing when he walked into a police station in Tennessee and listed articles stolen from his parked car. He told the police, "I parked my car, and now my tire, wheel, inner tube and bulldog are missing."



The bulldog part puzzled the cops until Pierce explained, "The pup was GUARDING the car!"

If you don't think the thirteenth is unlucky, just ask Mrs. Ruth Hastings of Washington. She was charged with shouting threats at a neighbor and being drunk in a house at 1313 13th street. On the threat charge, she was given 13 days to move out of the neighborhood; on the drunk charge she was given her choice between a \$13 fine and 13 days in jail.

Here's the ultimate in something or other. The State Department of Conservation has announced that it will not assume the responsibility for the social life of Louisiana alligators! The announcement came in answer to an offer from the Chicago Zoological Park promising to send down four or five hundred 'gators for free if the authorities would promise to introduce the Chicago 'gators to proper, well-bred Louisiana 'gators. Tsk, Tsk.

When Mrs. Reggie Swiecz, of Chicago, sued her husband for divorce, charging that he snored all night, the judge wasn't



particularly impressed. But when she revealed that hubby interspersed his nocturnal snores with periodic swigs from a bottle of booze, that was another matter. Mrs. Swiecz complained that her spouse would set the alarm for 1 AM before retiring. When the alarm rang, he'd wake up, reach under the pillow for his bottle, take a swig, reset the clock, resume his snoring for another hour, then repeat the process. Nuff said.

Cpl. H. Weatherbee, of a QM truck platoon, comes through with the simile of the week: "As spacious as the running board on a jeep."

PRIVATE BREGER



Lt. Dave Breger Britain

"It's one of his old toys he had sent from home!"

Invasion Following Ancient Pattern

Italy's First Liberator In 1859 Had Same Aim As Allies

The Allied landings on the toe of Italy's boot are following a pattern set for them in 1859 by Garibaldi, Italy's first great liberator. He, too, started with a Sicilian campaign and then jumped the straits of Messina to march northward toward Naples.

The Allied objective also follows that of Garibaldi. He unified his country under a representative government. The Allies intend to restore Italy to the position of sovereignty, eventually, that German influence has denied her—and use her land for a base from which to strike more blows at the heart of the Axis.

The capture of Italy, or even the southern part, would put the United Nations on the flank of the German defenses in the Balkans, closer to an invasion of southern France and bring all of German industry even within range of medium bombers.

In the invasion, the Allies have some advantages and some disadvantages that Garibaldi didn't have. The control of the Mediterranean and of the air brings everything in Italy under the threat of attack. Against them they have a skilful and determined foe, hardened by four years of total war, who will endeavor to make the Allied gains as costly as possible.

Difficult Country

The mountainous terrain of the boot makes it difficult country for land fighting but at the same time all traffic along the shoreline comes under the big guns of the fleet. The single railway that brings troops and supplies from the north has already been so battered as to make it useless. The gun emplacements dug in the hills surrounding Reggio have been knocked out by the greatest naval bombardment of the war and other positions can expect the same treatment as the land forces encounter them while moving north.

The Calabrian Mountains, running 20 miles from the Gulf of Eufemia, in the west, to the Gulf of Squillace, in the east, form a natural barrier to the advance from the south, but, with control of the air and sea, the Allies may



Allied commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Gen. Sir Bernard Montgomery, Eighth Army commander, with field glasses search the Italian mainland opposite Messina—the first objective of the Allied invasion forces of Italy.

use the landings at Reggio as a diversion from landings farther north, past the mountains.

Once past this barrier, the invaders will be able to move more rapidly. A spine of mountains through the center of the country makes travel there difficult, but coastal roads under the cover of the fleet, are good enough to facilitate the movement of the armies.

After the occupation of the boot, the next line of natural defense is the Po valley, stretching from the Adriatic sea across the top of Italy to France. It is unlikely that Italians will do more than offer token resistance but the Germans are evidently planning on a defensive line here. Even if they are held at Po, however, the Allies will hold the bases that will threaten German positions from Southern France to Greece. The occupation of the southern half of Italy will, per force, knock the Italians from the war; a positive measure in that it means the Germans must garrison the Balkans themselves instead of using Fascist troops.

The invasion is just one more extension of the already over-stretched Wehrmacht and, with each Allied success, means that the United Nations are more able and the Germans less able to concentrate their forces.

Even if the Germans are able to find the troops to man their Balkan and

French defenses and the Allies decide not to attack there, the acquisition of the air bases in Italy will bring hitherto untouched parts of the Reich and occupied territories under a ceaseless bombardment. With these bases the Allies, if they chose, would be in a position to try the subjugation of the Nazis through air power alone.

With the Italian fleet neutralized either by destruction or capture, the American and British Mediterranean fleets could turn their attention to the island outposts off Greece in the other end of the German domain.

An Allied occupation of Italy opens vast possibilities for further offensive measures, but in the meantime they must succeed in their first blow at the boot. That the fighting will be hard is indicated by the fact that the Germans have all the troops they evacuated from Sicily, plus others who have just arrived in the south. These are backed up by still more divisions which are making preparations to defend the north, but which might be sent to aid the others in the boot.

Unofficial estimates of German strength in Italy give them about 18 divisions, roughly divided between the positions in the north and those in the south. The troops evacuated from Sicily were able to bring a high percentage of their equipment with them while the newcomers arrived from Germany fully equipped.

'Moon Was Down' at Birth of Second Front Eyewitness Sails with Armada to Give the Boot to Italy's Toe

By Alan Moorehead Representing the British Press

AT AN INVASION PORT, Sept. 3—The attack went in at night and without a moon. On a sea which has been consistently calm for a week, many hundreds of ships and barges are setting out for the Italian coast with only the starlight to guide them to the enemy beaches. They have continuous air cover. Extraordinary scenes led up to the moment when the

first wave of the expedition got under way.

For ten days past, vast numbers of men and vehicles have been feeding down to the invasion ports. If you can imagine a pre-war traffic jam, magnified a hundred times, then you can guess what the roads have been like.

Once I watched a battery of heavy guns being drawn foot by foot with winches across the sheer face of a precipice. An unseasonable and violent storm swept the beach and the embarkation area.

In a night, bridges were washed away and where there had been heavy dust, bulldozers struggled through mud to make new roads and detours.

It was hot.

Perched half naked on the top of their guns and tanks, the men kept sucking grapes and melons bought from the Italian peasants along the way. Sometimes the traffic would be halted for an hour and the infantry jumped down to brew thick, sticky tea in the vineyards.

Road Signs Erected

New and complex road signs sprang up all over the country to guide the columns down to their right coves and beaches. Meanwhile, the invasion barges—that same Mosquito fleet that made the landing on Sicily—stole up the coast to take the army on board. The enemy seems to have been aware that something was going on. They sent over high-speed reconnaissance planes at dawn and evening.

I watched one enemy raid on a strip of coast just south of here. It was all over in half an hour. The ack-ack guns put up such a belt of fire there was a continuous path of light in the sky. By last night, everything was pretty well set. Those stores and vehicles which were not already embarked were waiting in long lines on the lava plains ready to go down to the shore. It looked like a huge motor-car park.

In the darkness you could hear many thousands of voices and the rumble of treads on the docks and the shouted orders of the officers calling their men to come forward. Practically every man had already made at least one landing before.

Though they had not yet been told their exact destination, the troops knew they were bound on their biggest adventure yet and the atmosphere was tense. They either talked about something else or not at all. Two weeks of rest and quiet has given them great steadiness and confidence. A great deal of this intense organization has been carried out in full view of the Italian mainland.

Every morning for the past ten days, I have woken up and seen the shore of Italy. There has never been any real sign of movement on the mainland, beyond an occasional shell lobbing over the Straits from the Calabrian Hills.

From this distance the mainland looks like an uninhabited rock and at times the silence there has been uncanny.

Just before the invasion, Gen. Eisenhower flew here for a final check up with Gen. Alexander and Montgomery. Gen. Eisenhower fashioned the strategy. The same veteran battle planners—the unnamed major-generals and brigadiers—who designed the Sicilian campaign, are at work on this job.



Reminiscing

I've often wondered and at length How an impartial fate Could take a punk like Hitler And make him grand and great.

Or if she realizes that He's cruel and mean within That o'er his barbarism His "great" veneer is thin.

That he revels in the horror That he's brought upon the earth— As wallowing in mortal gore He seeks to prove his worth.

Too late perhaps she sees The road that lies ahead, Too late for those believing men Too late, for they are dead.

Perhaps when he has gone to hell We'll kneel and utter thanks, 'Til then we'll strive to speed his doom We Freedom-loving Yanks.

Pvt. Larry A. Martin.

Billy Herman Is One Flock Vet Who Didn't Flop

After Miserable Season In '42, He's Hitting Second in Loop

By Arch Murray New York Post Sports Writer

NEW YORK, Sept. 3—Just a year ago, the Dodgers were beginning to feel the hot breath of the Cardinals on their neck and Billy Herman was staggering home toward the close of his worst season in the big time. His batting average was just a shadow of its usual self and he was longing for the end of the trail.

Today, the situation is reversed. The Dodgers, far out of the pennant race, are just finding themselves after a disastrous mid-season slump. And Billy Herman is heading into the back stretch of his greatest year, fresh and eager, hoping that he will get more baseball to play when the jaunt of the major leaguers overseas is approved by the War Department.

"I only hope they ask me over," he said. "I can't think of anything I'd rather do—and it's not only because I'd like to do it for the soldiers, but because I don't like to see this season end. I might not have another like it."

13-Game Streak

It is paradoxical that, whereas most of the Dodger veterans faded this summer, Herman came back at full steam both at bat and in the field. As of the moment, he is toting a 13-game hitting streak and is batting .334, second only to Stan Musial of the Cardinals.

Herman can't explain it himself. He thought at first that playing third base was the answer, but it isn't. He played second during the dog days. He guesses it might be the good start he got this year. That gave him confidence.

Herman picked an all-opponent team which he said he wouldn't mind playing with overseas: Walker Cooper, catcher; Elbie Fletcher, first base; Mickey Wittek, second; Marty Marion, short, and Bob Elliott, third. In the outfield he would have Bill Nicholson, Stan Musial and Harry Walker. His pitchers are Morton Cooper, Max Lanier and Elmer Riddle. He wouldn't mind playing with that team if it went overseas. "Who the hell would?" he asks.

Flier Cindermen Compete Tomorrow at Imber Court

EIGHTH AIR FORCE HQ, Sept. 3—The Headquarters Squadron track team here will see action in a triangular meet against the Air Training Cadets and the Metropolitan Police at Imber Court Sunday afternoon.

The match past will be at 3 PM, Col. William Baily, Special Service officer, Eighth Air Force, taking the salute, with the headquarters band furnishing the music. The meet will be run under AAU rules with judges being furnished by the Air Force. Chaplain McGlary, of Minneapolis, Minn., will manage the flier squad.

Help Wanted AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, Priming House Sq., London, EC4.

APOs Wanted

LT. Norbert F. Schmenk, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Lt. Joseph E. Tutt, Monticello, Ga.; Roland Bascley, Wauconda, Ill.; S/Sgt. Phillip Bidwell, Marion, Ind.; Roger Grillo, Dayton, Ohio; Cpl. Al de Long, Hollywood; Charles Albert Ryan, Louisville, Ky.; Wallace Southern, Henderson, Ky.; L. Britton, Ind.; Pfc Edward T. Harp, Philadelphia; Earl Crane, Cucumina, Miss.; Cpl. Joseph La Capra, Newark, N.J.; Cpl. Frank Pelan, New York; S/Sgt. Andrew Keddie, McKeesport, Pa.

PVT. Fred Mehnke, Frederic, Wis.; Bob Smith, Pittsburgh; Theodore Mount, Philadelphia; Kenneth Daily, Erie, Pa.; Don O. Kerr, Athens, Ala.; Carlos Christopher, Marvin, E. Nichols, Athens, Ala.; Cpl. Dick Mazzecka, Chicago; Austin Long, Frank Purley, Corinth, Miss.; Lt. Hazel Lindeman, ANC; Capt. Frank Goldstein, Maj. Sheldon C. Gilmore, Pfc Robert Jansen.

Lincoln Brigade

S/SGT. Jack Shafar is making arrangements for a reunion of veterans of the Lincoln Brigade (Spain). Will all members of this outfit here send their names, units and APO numbers to William B. Cruise, Mostyn Club director, Portman Street, London, W1?

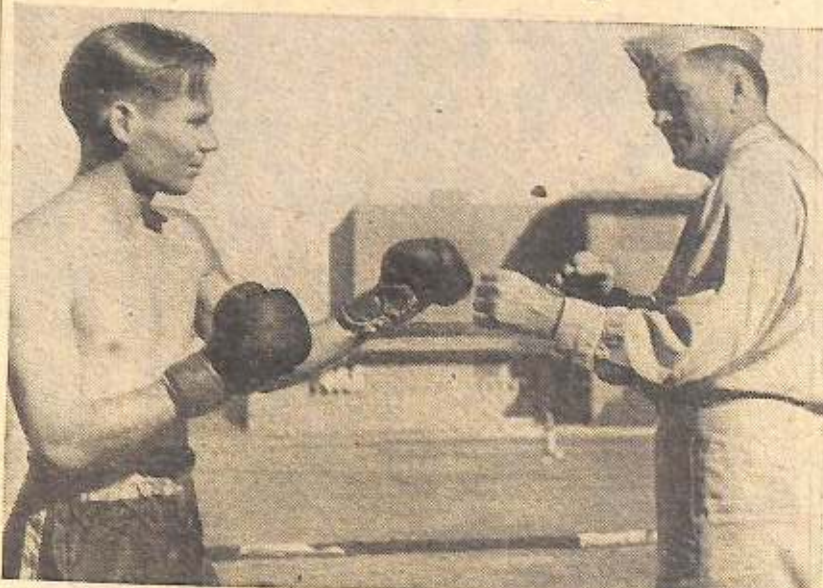
Lost

TRENCH coat, new Burberry, from the junior officers' mess, London, Sept. 1. Coat contained gloves and red plastic flashlight in pocket. Please return to the officer in charge of the mess or notify Lt. W. E. Richards, c/o Help Wanted.

Camera Club

THE Lens-Lease Camera Club extends a cordial invitation to all WACS, as well as enlisted men and officers, to join their organization. Member cards and our latest publication sent upon request.—Cpl. Albert Wexler, c/o Help Wanted.

Advice From an Expert



Cmdr. Gene Tunney (right) shows Jack Ross, hard-hitting lightweight of the Pearl Harbor Naval Air Station boxing team, a few pointers. Tunney, retired world's heavyweight champion, is now an athletic officer in the Navy.

Travelling Circus Baseballers Boast United Nations Infield

NORWICH, Sept. 3—The Travelling Circus nine, which will show its wares here tomorrow in a special exhibition game, is one of the top diamond outfits in the ETO. So far they have a record of 14 victories against two defeats. The two losses were incurred at the hands of the Bomber Command aggregation by 10-4 and 2-1 scores.

The latter loss was a heartbreaker for Circus Hurler T/5 Roy Bullymont, of New York, who allowed only one hit.

The Circus boasts a "United Nations" infield. At first base is S/Sgt. Hugh Gustafson, a Norwegian from Winnipeg, Canada. He's an ex-Milwaukee Brewer and veteran hockey star with the Rhode Island Reds. He has just finished a 30-day tour with the Eighth Air Force All-Stars.



Hugh Gustafson

Second base is ably covered by Pvt. Del Krenzien, of Clearwater, Neb., who held down an infield post for several seasons on the Neligh, Neb., American Legion team that won the national championship. Krenzien comes from Czech-American farm stock. Cpl. Andy Nemtuda, of Gary, Ind.,

a talkative Slovak, plays shortstop alongside Cpl. Mike-the-barber Oslawski, of East Chicago, Ind., Polish third sacker. Nemtuda and Oslawski played semi-pro ball together with the Gary Sports, Oslawski later joining Moline, Ill., in the Three-Eye League while Nemtuda stuck with semi-pro ball around Chicago.

Behind the plate is Sgt. Red Woods, a husky from Shreveport, La., vet of the Sally and Evangeline leagues and Centenary College.

The Circus doesn't boast a galaxy of stars for patrol duty in the outfield, but there's an able staff headed by Cpl. Stanley Stuka, of Clinton, Mass., center fielder, who can also serve behind the plate in a more than satisfactory manner. He was formerly the property of the Phillies, playing for Allentown in the Interstate League.

Others are: Cpl. "Slip" Phillips, of Post Oak, Va., Sgt. Willard Bremser, of West Bend, Wis., S/Sgt. Joe Laposki, of Jersey City, N.J., Sgt. Andy Valushin, a Russian-Slovak from Ashley, Pa., and Sgt. Dick Bryant, of South Grove, Ky.

Mound duty is well taken care of by Bullymont, a southpaw who won 22 games for Harrisburg, Pa., in his last season in the Interstate League; Pvt. Chuck Carroll, a rangy right-hander, also of New York; Pvt. Matt "Slap" Slapkowski, of Camden, N.J., who had a trial in spring training with the Cleveland Indians back in '36, and Pfc Herb Allen, a semi-pro from Logansport, Ind.

Minor League Results

International League table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., and game details.

Southern Association table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., and game details.

Pacific Coast League table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., and game details.

American Association table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., and game details.

Thursday's Games table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., and game details.

Pirates Recall 4 Players From Maple Leaf Club

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 3—Bill Benschwager, Pirate president, has announced that the team is recalling four players optioned earlier this year to the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International League.

The players are outfielder Frank Colman, Shortstop Frank Zac and Harry Shuman and Al Jarlett, pitchers. Zac is hitting .265 for 132 games, but has scored 105 runs to lead the circuit in that department. His stolen base mark also is near the top, with 22 thefts. Colman suffered a leg injury earlier in the season, but has hit .315 for 33 games.

Hans Crescent Golfers Face Tough Opposition

The ARC Hans Crescent Club golf team will be up against such golfers as Sandy Herd, former British open champ, and Bert Pearson, the Haste Hill Club's pro, when they meet a combined team of the Civil Defense and Metropolitan Police at Haste Hill, Middlesex, tomorrow.

Playing for the American team will be: Cpl. Rick Famin, Delaware Water Gap, Pa.; Cpl. Stan Remsen, Long Island, N.Y.; Cpl. Joe Fiore, Pine Valley, N.Y.; Cpl. Ed Sullivan, Hartford, Conn.; Sgt. Eli Thomas, Pittsburgh; Cpl. Don Piene, Springfield, Ill.; Sgt. John Anderson, Beverly Hills, Cal.; Sgt. Walter Kupiec, Chicopee Falls, Mass.; S/Sgt. John Vensberg, Chicago; Sgt. Bud Helmar, Springfield, Mass.; Pvt. Sigmund Raymond, Rockaway, N.J.; Cpl. Dick Austin, Lynn, Mass.; Sgt. Frank Cormaci, Omaha, Neb.; Pvt. Sam Latta, Los Angeles, and Howard Scoggins, Roanoke, Va., club director.

Flock Rally Downs Giants; Tigers Capture Twin Bill

Race Fan Loses Bet—She Sues Jockey Club

NEW YORK, Sept. 3—Brooklynite Henrietta Albert has sued the Queens Jockey Club for recovery of a \$5 bet on the sixth race Monday at Aqueduct Park. The starting gate broke down after the fifth race and the sixth was started by the flag. The favorite, unaccustomed to a flag start, was left at the post, with over \$61,000 on his nose.

Mrs. Albert claims that failure to use the starting gate for the sixth race constituted a breach of contract by the track and that the track erred legally in not refunding money bet on the race when conditions were altered after the money was wagered.

Agitator Nine Ulster Champs

Defeat Blues, 5-0, 10-1, For Diamond Crown

By Paul Lange Stars and Stripes Staff Writer BELFAST, Sept. 3—Sgt. Joe Aycock, of Alexandria, La., is the proudest GI in this section today. His Agitators won the North Ireland baseball championship in the playoff series with the Blues here yesterday. The Agitators won the title by winning two straight games, 5-0 and 10-1.

In the first contest, two Ulster strike-out kings opposed each other with Sgt. Carl Smith, of Alexandria, La., besting Pvt. Ed "Deacon" Behnen, of East St. Louis, Ill. Cpl. Tom McEvoy, of Darby, Conn., was big man at the plate for the Agitators, while S/Sgt. Bat Lacroups, of New Orleans, was the heavy clouter for the Blues.

Pfc Martin Roth, of Dundalk, Md., and Cpl. Sigmund Buraski, of Mystic, Iowa, took turns on the mound to give the Agitators their second triumph. Lacroups hurled for the Blues. S/Sgt. Earl Roshto, of Pineville, La., led the Agitator hitting and Pfc Floyd Brody, of Detroit, for the Blues.

In the Eighth Air Force Composite Command playoffs the Dodgers have one game under their belts, a 2-1 11-inning victory over the Mustangs. A single by Cpl. Adam Donnelly, of Waynesburg, Pa., brought home 1/Lt. John Grzysewicz, of New Haven, Conn., with the deciding marker. Pfc Joseph Thompson, of Washington, was the winning pitcher. Sgt. Joseph Michalsky, of Montana, was relieved by Cpl. James Clancy, of Rome, N.Y., in the sixth, who was tagged for the loss.

Baccarella Hits, Pitches Griffiss Squad to Victory

CAMP GRIFFISS, Sept. 3—The Engineers, post softball champions, won their 18th game of the season and their sixth in a row here yesterday with a tenning 3-2 triumph over the CBS U.S. One outfit.

T/5 Dick Baccarella, of Bayonne, N.J., winning hurler who gave up four hits, won his own game, his blow in the tenth driving in the deciding tally. He was caught by T/5 Chester Rogers, of Chicago. The losers used three moundsmen, Pvt. Tony Rozak, of Milwaukee, Wis., tagged with the loss.

Five Games at Richmond

Three baseball games are scheduled for tomorrow afternoon at Cannons Park, Richmond. The Headquarters Company will play a double-header, the opener at 1 PM with the — Engineers, the nightcap with the — Port Squad at 2.30. At 5 PM, the DeHavilland Comets will take on the CMHG squad. The U.S. Signal team will also play a double-header at Richmond, the first with the Eighth Air Force Engineers at 1 PM, followed by a contest with the — Engineers.

Giants Lose Feldman

NEW YORK, Sept. 3—Harry Feldman, Giant pitcher, has been inducted. Feldman has been used chiefly in relief roles during the latter part of the season. He has won four and lost five.

Bithorn's 3-Hit Pitching Aids Cubs in 3-1 Victory Over Cincinnati

NEW YORK, Sept. 3—Brooklyn Dodger rookies gave the Bums a 4-3 victory over the New York Giants at Ebbets Field yesterday, Howie Schultz driving in the tying run in the eighth inning and Louis Olmo knocking across the winner. The Flock tallied two runs in the eighth inning as Olmo singled, took second on Galan's pop foul to Lombardi, then scored on Billy Herman's single. Bingles by Dixie Walker and Schultz tied the ball game, 3-3. In the ninth, Bobby Bragan singled and advanced on a sacrifice. Forty-two-year-old Johnny Cooney ran for Bragan and scored on Olmo's blooper past second. Curt Davis was credited with the victory and Ace Adams, who took over from Rube Fischer in the eighth, was the loser.

Four for Hack Hiram Bithorn pitched himself a masterful three-hitter at Cincinnati as the Chicago Cubs took the Reds into camp, 3-1. Elmer Riddle was touched for eight hits by Jimmy Wilson's proteges, four by Stan Hack. The Bruins chalked up all their markers in the second stanza. Riddle lost his ninth in seeking his 18th triumph, while Bithorn notched his 17th mound success.

Butch Nieman's tenth-inning triple with one on gave the Boston Braves a 3-2 decision over the Phillies at Shibe Park. The Phillies died hard, however, Babe Dahlgren walking to open the last of the tenth and scoring on Jimmy Wasdell's triple, making the score 3-2. Al Javery ended the game and scored his 13th victory by fanning pinch-hitter Schoolboy Rowe. Javery went all the way, allowing nine blows, while Al Gerheuser yielded 11 to the Braves in sustaining his 15th defeat.

Higgins' Blow Wins There were no other games played in the National League. Over in the junior circuit, the Tigers scored their second straight double victory over the St. Louis Browns, 5-4 and 8-5. The opener went to the last of the ninth before the decision was reached. With the score at 3-3 in the top half of the ninth, the Browns scored once, taking the lead, but in the last half, three singles tied the score again and Pinky Higgins' single broke up the ball game. Dizzy Trout, going the route, scored his 12th victory and Steve Sundra, suffered his ninth setback.

Hal Newhouser coasted until the ninth inning on a seven-run lead in the nightcap. He was chased, however, in the ninth as St. Louis started a four-run rally. Denny Galehouse, who got as far as the seventh, suffered his eighth setback while Newhouser won with his seventh.

Two runs in the sixth inning gave the Cleveland Indians a 2-1 count over the White Sox at Cleveland. The Sox gave Orval Grove a one-run lead in the first inning on Ralph Hodgins' double and Guy Curtright's single. Lefty Al Smith scored his 14th triumph, giving up five raps as Grove was set down.



American League Thursday's Games table.

Yesterday's Schedule table.

National League Thursday's Games table.

Yesterday's Schedule table.

Leading Hitters American League table.

Leading Hitters National League table.

Home Run Hitters table.

Runs Batted In table.



Aerial Assault In So. Pacific At New Peak

Madang, New Guinea Base, Gets 206 Tons of Bombs In Vicious Assault

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Sept. 3 (UP)—Allied bombers, continuing their great aerial assault in the Pacific area, Wednesday dumped 206 tons of bombs on Madang, key Jap sea and air base on New Guinea's north coast, in the heaviest raid of the war in this area, a communique announced today.

Eclipsing their recent massive attacks on Wewak, which forced the enemy to move his aerial front back more than 200 miles, Allied planes pumped thousands upon thousands of rounds of ammunition into Madang and left 50 fires visible 30 miles away after dropping their bomb loads.

News of the huge raid on Madang came simultaneously with a report from the Australian Broadcasting Company that the Japs apparently had abandoned Santa Isabel Island in the Central Solomons group. Allied aerial raiders, according to this report, for the first time have met with no anti-aircraft fire over the island. There was no official confirmation that the Japs had left.

Double Assault on Vila

At Vila, on Kolombangara Island, medium torpedo and dive-bombers destroyed a radio station and several artillery positions, while Allied artillery on New Georgia Island bombarded Vila throughout the day.

(More than 150 Allied planes took part in the Kolombangara raid, a Tokyo message quoted by Berlin radio said. Thirteen of the attackers were claimed to have been shot down.)

Meanwhile, under cover of a practically unopposed aerial umbrella, Allied troops continued to close in on Salamaua in New Guinea, although no major changes in positions either there or at Bairoko Harbor, last enemy foothold on New Georgia Island, were announced.

3rd of Jap Ships Sunk, Knox Says

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 (AP)—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox declared today that one-third of Japan's cargo tonnage had been sunk since the beginning of the war. He added that the loss had been made good by wooden vessels and those the Japanese had seized.

Knox credited 77 per cent of the sinkings to submarines, most of them American.

He agreed with a questioner that the loss of cargo tonnage was impairing the ability of the Japanese to exploit profitably their rich territories in the Southwest Pacific.

Japan's estimated cargo tonnage at the start of the war was 6,368,891. In addition, the Japanese built or acquired in the interim a million and a quarter tons, giving a grand total tonnage of 7,618,891.

Stars and Stripes Announcer To Broadcast Boxing Bouts

Cpl. John Vrotsos, Stars and Stripes radio reporter, tonight from 8.25 to 9 will give a blow by blow account over the American Forces Network of the three main bouts in a boxing tournament held at a Red Cross club in southern England.

Cpl. Karl Hoffenberg, of Detroit, will broadcast between the rounds.

The "Your Town" program tomorrow morning at 10.15 will feature news from three California cities, Santa Barbara, Fresno and Sacramento.

American Forces Network

Operated by Radio Branch, Special Service Section, SOS, ETO.

1402 kc On Your Dial 1420 kc
213.9m. Saturday, Sept. 4 211.3m.

- PM
- 5.45—Spotlight—Ozzie Nelson.
- 6.00—News (BBC).
- 6.10—Personal Album—Shirley Ross.
- 6.25—GI Supper Club—request program.
- 7.00—Sports—Stars and Stripes radio reporter.
- 7.05—The Fanny Brice Show—with "Baby Snooks."
- 7.30—Your Hit Parade—with Mark Warnow's orchestra.
- 8.00—News From Home—Stars and Stripes roundup.
- 8.10—Dinah Shore.
- 8.25—Boxing Bouts—Blow by blow description of boxing bouts held at an American Red Cross club, somewhere in southern England, with Cpl. John Vrotsos and Cpl. Carl Hoffenberg of the AFN at the mike.
- 9.00—News (BBC).
- 9.10—Mood in Music.
- 9.20—American Commentary—(BBC) Ernest K. Lindley.
- 9.35—Yank Swing Session.
- 10.00—Final Edition—Stars and Stripes news.
- 10.15—Saturday Night Variety.
- 11.00—Sign off until Sept. 5 at 8 AM.

Sunday, Sept. 5

- AM
- 8.00—Program resume—Organ Recital.
- 8.15—Melody Roundup—Gene Autry.
- 8.30—Morning Matinee.
- 9.00—News (BBC).
- 9.15—Music For Sunday—Oldtime hymns.
- 9.30—Sunday Serenade (BBC) Scottish Variety Orchestra.
- 10.15—Your Town—Radio news letters from three American towns—Santa Barbara, Sacramento and Fresno, California.
- 10.30—Return Engagement—Fibber McGee and Molly.
- 11.00—Weekly News Roundup—Stars and Stripes radio reporter.
- 11.10—Pop Staff.

Pals Since Induction, Pair Get FW's Same Day

MEDIUM BOMBER STATION, England, Sept. 3—S/Sgts. Raymond Vignochi, of Ottawa, Ill., and Frank E. Mancuso, of Lansdale, Pa., went through several army schools together, trained side by side in three tactical organizations, came overseas together and raided Amiens Aug. 19 in the same Marauder squadron.

Today, still together, each was credited officially with shooting down an FW190.

USAAF Pounds Nazi Air Bases

Forts, Marauders Strike Eight Targets; Paris Plane Plant Hit

(Continued from page 1)

Col. Hubert Zemke, of Missoula, Mont., who thus raised his score of enemy ships destroyed to four.

Only meager flak was reported over Romilly and St. Andre, and fighter opposition was light everywhere except at Paris. Crews reported good bombing results at all five targets.

The Marauders' three-pronged attack lengthened their list of enemy airdromes attacked to 28 in 41 missions. All of the ships returned. Crews said escorting Spitfires kept Nazi fighters at a safe distance.

In Thursday evening's renewal of the offensive against the Luftwaffe's bases in Western France, Fortresses successfully bombed airdromes at Mardyck and Denain and Marauders dumped tons of explosives on Mazingarbe power station and on targets in the Pas de Calais area. Opposition was slight, crews reported.

Some of the planes, unable to sight their targets because of heavy overcast, returned without dropping their bombs. P47s escorted the Forts, and RAF Dominion and Allied Spitfires protected the Marauders.

The night's raiding, RAF Fighter Command's biggest operation of the year, also saw British Bostons, Mitchells and Venturas striking across the channel under cover of Spitfires and Typhoons. The Bostons, flying so low they felt the blast of their own bombs, successfully blasted important railway yards at Serqueux, junction between the Paris-Dieppe and Amiens-Rouen line.

Yesterday morning's resumption of the Allied hammering of the enemy's installations in France gave Maj. Francis S. Gabreski, of Oil City, Pa., his second Nazi plane, while Capt. Lyle A. Adriance, of Grandville, Mich., and Capt. Don M. Goodfleisch, of Cleveland, each destroyed their first.

Aluminum Plants Idle

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 (AP)—Seven new aluminum works on the west coast, able to turn out 21,000,000 pounds a month, have been idle for lack of manpower since their completion months ago, it was learned from the War Production Board.

Prayer Services at ETO Headquarters



American troops based in London stand at attention before ETO headquarters during ceremonies held yesterday in commemoration of Britain's National Day of Prayer.

Troops Mark Day of Prayer; Told Big Gains Due This Year

Thousands of American soldiers throughout the ETO joined yesterday with the British in observing their National Day of Prayer and Dedication, proclaimed by the King on the fourth anniversary of Britain's entry into the war. Brief services were held by chaplains in every unit.

A message from Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, ETO commander, to American troops in Britain was read by Maj. Gen. Idwal H. Edwards, chief of staff, at a service in London attended by Adm. Harold R. Stark, commander U.S. Naval Forces in Europe; Maj. Gen. John C. H. Lee, SOS commander; American Ambassador John G. Winant, and Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, U.S. Ambassador to the Allied Governments in London. The American Red Cross and other American organizations also were represented.

During the service formations of Flying Fortresses flew high overhead on their way home from bombing targets in Europe.

Referring to yesterday's establishment of a bridgehead in Italy, Gen. Devers said, "This is the first of the bridgeheads which, in the fifth year of the war, with

God's help, we will establish and breach the Fortress of Europe on land even as it has already been breached from the air.

"We are fighting for the right of every man to live in freedom, and to pray to God as he sees fit. Today our prayers will be led by men of different faiths, all praying to the same God of righteousness. We are here to thank God for the successes gained by our own fighting forces, by those of our Allies, and all other freedom-loving men of the world who fight by our side," Gen. Devers' message concluded.

The opening prayer was given by Chaplain Chester R. McClelland, CBS senior chaplain. Herbert Agar, of the American Embassy gave the address. A similar service for Catholic personnel was held at Farm Street Church.

At Camp Griffiss, Eighth Air Force Headquarters, American and RAF personnel joined in a service conducted by Chaplain M. W. Reynolds, chief of chaplains, Eighth Air Force. The Rev. Dr. William B. Pugh, chairman of the General Commission on U.S. Army and Navy Chaplains, who is touring American installations in Britain, spoke briefly, and later the men passed in review.

Life-Line - - -

(Continued from page 1)

received equally effective battering. Large explosions and numerous fires were seen in railroad yards, and warehouses and rail cars were blasted.

Between 40 and 50 enemy fighters were beaten off.

One bombardier, Lt. John Morris, of Newark, N.J., reported, "I was in the fourth and last wave to go over Bologna. Bombs were going down and terrific fires already had been started. We cut ourselves a nice chunk of Bologna this afternoon."

One of the greatest aerial battles ever waged over Italy came when American P38 Lightning fighters which escorted the American Mitchell bombers on the Canello raid tangled with 60 to 70 enemy fighters.

Lightnings shot down 22 interceptors and a Mitchell gunner got another in combat over the target. The dogfight continued until the coast was reached, when another 30 to 40 enemy fighters appeared, and the fight raged on out over the sea.

Russia - - -

(Continued from page 1)

ing its pressure at every point along the front stretching from the Sea of Azov to Bryansk. Here is the position according to latest reports from the various fronts.

In the Sea of Azov sector, Russian troops pressing forward along the marshy swamps bordering the Sea of Azov, are now within 30 miles of the great port of Mariupol. The Germans here with withdrawn to prepared defenses.

In the great Donetz Basin, the Germans, steadily withdrawing in the face of heavy Russian pressure, are under the constant threat of envelopment from the north, and are obviously fearful of another encirclement of the Stalingrad type.

The Russians on the Sumy front have crossed the Psiol river in great strength and have already pressed on six miles beyond the town itself.

The Red Army is steadily closing in around Briansk and is now astride three of the five railways leading into it despite bitter fighting.

August Output Of U.S. Planes Reaches 7,700

Exceeds Figure for July But Production Still Behind Schedule

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 (AP)—U.S. aircraft production for August reached 7,700, a War Production Board preliminary estimate disclosed today.

This exceeded the July figure by 327. The rate of climb was according to expectations, but left the total still 12 per cent behind schedule.

Gripsholm Sails With Japs

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3—The Swedish liner, Gripsholm, sailed from Jersey City yesterday bound for Mormucao, Portuguese East India, to meet the Jap ship, Teia Maru, for the exchange of interned nationals of Japan and the United Nations. At Mormucao it will exchange the Japanese for about 1,250 American citizens, interned in Japan since Pearl Harbor.

George Jessel Divorced

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 3—Movie actress Lois Andrews obtained her final divorce decree from George Jessel, to whom she was married three years ago when she was 16. Miss Andrews obtained an interlocutory decree a year ago after testifying that the difference in their ages seemed to make Jessel unreasonably jealous.

'Back the Attack' to Open

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3—Negro soldiers will play an important part in the third war loan Army show, "Back the Attack," which opens next Thursday on the Washington Monument grounds, the Treasury Department announced yesterday. Demonstrations will be given by a Negro barrage balloon unit, a cavalry outfit and an engineer group.

Soldiers Buy Bonds

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3—Soldier payroll subscriptions to War Bonds in August totaled 2,346,350, an increase of almost 1,000,000 over April, the War Department announced. Commenting on the rise, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau said: "Our boys are willing to fight night and day and give their lives; and they are eager to turn over every available cent to buy more War Bonds to help us buy more equipment to help them to do a still better job."

Invasion - - -

(Continued from page 1)

the defenses and increasing the pressure on the enemy's already paged nerves.

On Tuesday, in broad daylight, the battleships Nelson and Rodney, the cruiser Orion and nine destroyers bombarded the Italian mainland. The battleships swept up the Strait of Messina, their 16-inch guns plastering the Italian shore batteries in one of the greatest naval bombardments of the war. The only Italian gun to answer was one at Cape Pellaro.

The softening-up bombardment was completed early yesterday morning by planes, ships and artillery, and two hours before dawn the invasion barges, troop-landing craft and amphibious jeeps touched the battered toe of Italy. The terrific barrage lifted and the men leaped ashore.

Mortars in the first wave of assault craft poured a heavy hail of shells into the coastal defenses and those slightly to the rear, and covered the landing area with a heavy blanket of smoke from smoke shells. It was under this cover that the men went ashore, fanning out through the lemon and olive groves that abound in the area.

Few details of their progress were released at headquarters. One RAF Spitfire pilot returning to Sicily after accompanying the first landing wave said that a few fires on the hills inland were the only signs of activity on the whole Calabrian coast when the great fleet of invasion craft approached the mainland.

"The first sign of the invasion visible from the air," said Flying Officer George Craig, "was a flotilla of large warships skirting the coast. They were going at top speed, causing a zigzag wake. In the straits I could see many small craft sailing in formation. From my height they looked like a large shoal of fish turning with their leaders as one unit toward the Italian mainland."

By Milton Caniff

Terry and the Pirates

