

THE RATTLER

Rattlesnake Army Air Field

VOL. 1, NUMBER 39 PYOTE, TEXAS JAN. 19, 1944

One of nature's quirks came home to roost last week at Pyote when one of the heaviest snow storms ever seen in these regions blanketed the Field and surrounding territory. When asked to explain this phenomenon, Lt. James G. Shannon, Field Weather Officer, star of last week's feature said: "Everything comes to those who wait."

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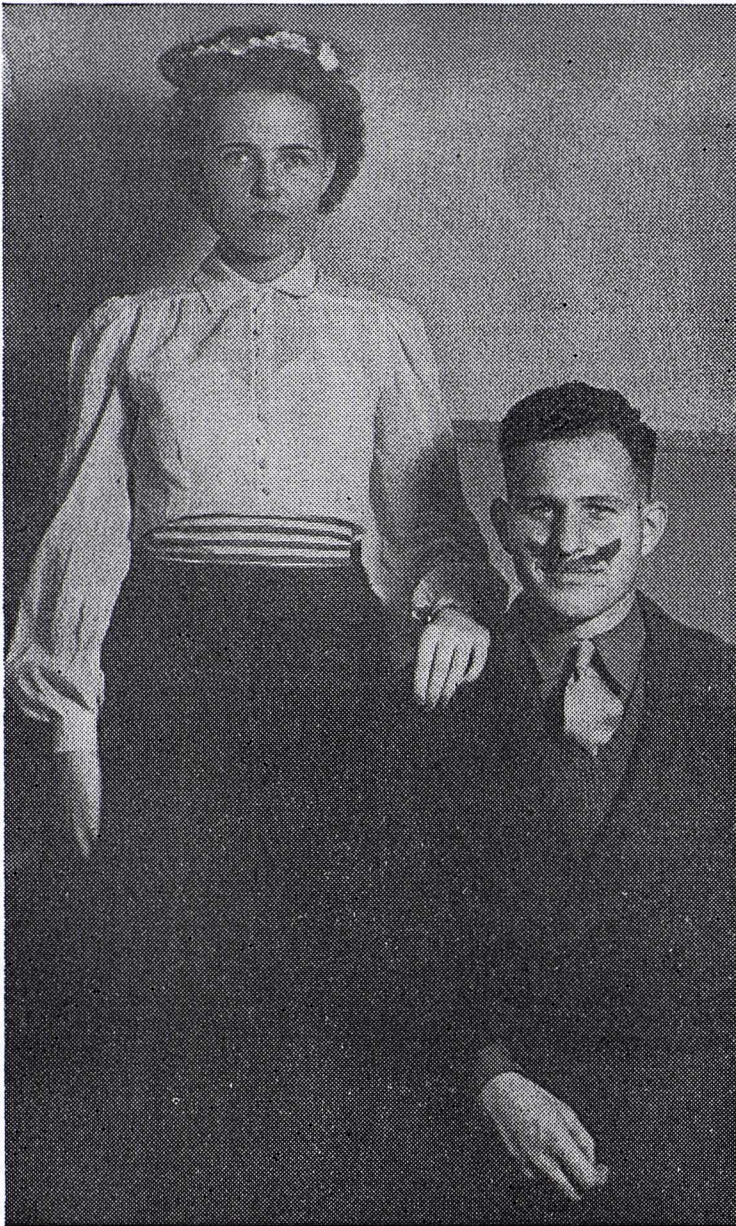
Snow And Mud--

And This, Too, Is Beautiful Texas



USO To Hold President Birthday Celebration Saturday, January 29

The President's Birthday will be celebrated at the U. S. O. Club on January 29. The President's Birthday Ball committee has taken over the club for the night and will stage one of the two balls to be held in the city of Monahans, John F. Moore, chairman, announced. A second one will be held at Tubbs Hall with bands at both places. W. O. Zimmerman, director of the Pyote AF Band will direct the band at the USO. Funds from the two balls will be used in the fight against infantile paralysis with fifty percent remaining with the county chapter and fifty percent going to the national organization.



Miss Shirley Myers and Benny Goodman look like Mom and Paw did when they faced the camera back in 1890. If that mustache is the real McCoy, Hitler is a citizen of the British

Empire. The sad expression is due, according to our snoop, to the fact that Ole Dobbin had done and run off and the happy couple would have to walk sixteen miles home.

The 90s Never Had These



Waltzing With Matilda



The Nineties were said to be "Gay". Perhaps they were and would have been if this quintet of lassies were around then. Snapped at the USO's Gay '90s party last week, left to right, front, Betty Neblett and Sue Kireselmeyer, Rear, same order, Noris Nell Smith, Margie Howard, Bobie Foster and Shirley Myers. Left, six people recall the good ole days. Cpl. Jack LeGrand, Miss Smith, Cpl. Dom Alberico, Miss Foster, Miss Krieselmyer and Sgt. John Carpenter.

Bigger, Better USO-Camp Show 'Funny Side Up', Coming Here Soon

A larger, more varied USO-Camp Show than any yet playing a stand at this field is scheduled at the Rec Hall Monday at 8:15 p.m., January 31, according to word received from New York by the Special Service Office.

"Funny Side Up" leans toward roughhouse comedy, spaced by

Letters Galore For WAC Kilgore Become A Chore



T-5 Virginia Kilgore, Fort Knox, Ky., WAC, opens one of the hundreds of letters from servicemen she has received since her picture was published in Yank magazine. Others are shown scattered over her desk.

FORT KNOX, KY.—A picture in Yank is the only introduction a girl needs to members of the armed Forces.

T-5 Virginia Kilgore of the 1550th Service Unit, WAC Section, Fort Knox, Kentucky, accidentally discovered the drawing power of the soldier magazine when a picture of her was published in the November 12 edition of Yank, The Army Weekly.

Within a week of the publication mail call at the WAC Company became a chore for Virginia and every day added to the pile of letters that arrived from soldiers all over the United States. Some came from old friends in the service, others from soldiers in hospitals, but most of them were just from "GI Joes" who liked the looks of the little Virginia girl who was shown baking a cake.

Several of them proposed, nearly all of them wanted a reply to their letters and they were unanimous in their enthusiasm for Virginia.

song and dance numbers, an exuberant publicity department informs us. This stage attraction, like all Camp Shows, is presented admission free to all servicemen.

Dick Dana is the master of ceremonies who holds the five-act show together, and also joins Eddie Caplan in "Two Refugees from the Nut House", comedy specialty. Dana and Caplan are billed as the "Stars of the Steel Pier", having just finished a run at the Atlantic City amusement center where they have worked one act for three years.

Peggy Marlowe, who has appeared at New York's Hurricane and with Ted Lewis' band, specializes in ballet-tap. The Mac Sisters—two blondes and a brunette—are rhythm harmony singers with a row of radio and stage successes to their record.

The Nathane Brothers are known as "The Musical-Acrobat Comets", combining music, acrobatics and comedy in a flash act. Charlotte King, 22-year-old attractive blonde, does two dance routines, a whirlwind acrobatic number and a control-contortion bit.

Training Unit GIs Planning Hillbilly Affair At Club

Training Unit soldiers are whispering it around to close friends that the Friday night dance at the Service Club this week is going to be a noteworthy affair.

The Hillbilly theme will require ingenuity in costume; try to make it as close to the Snuffy Smith-Lil' Abner style as odd garments in your foot locker will permit.

In addition to the regular dance music to be provided by the Field Orchestra, the hoe-down experts can do their stuff in the square dance numbers.

Sgt. Jim Castner, who, a hitherto unimpeachable source credits with knowing his stuff, will call the turns in the square dances.

So, go to your supply sergeant and ask him for a new uniform, the finest the QM has to offer, and be quick about it. What he'll give you should be a very appropriate costume for the Friday night Tennessee toe tournament.

New Red Cross Director



Mr. Richard Beatty, new Red Cross Director at this Field, picked a wonderful day for his arrival. He pulled in last week at the height of the blizzard and immediately discarded his sun helmet and sun glasses. A graduate of the University of Colorado, his pre-war home is in Pueblo where he taught high

school for five years and did welfare work for three years. One year on the Star Journal convinced him that a newspaper is no place to get rich so he left. Previous to his arrival here, he was Assistant Field Director at Camp Bowie, Texas, for eleven months.

War Industries Need Waste Paper; Local Salvage Campaign Underway

"Waste paper is critically needed for return to industrial use; therefore, it is the duty of everyone to assist in the recovery of this important item of salvage," Lt. S. J. Hennessey, Base Salvage Officer, reminded all organizations last week.

Military installations are cooperating fully with the nationwide campaign to collect and return to essential war industries waste paper needed for reprocessing. In order for the salvaged paper to be of use, certain rules must be followed in its handling, it was pointed out.

Corrugated paper, cardboard and fibre board—including used corrugated cartons, boxes and containers; cardboard and cardboard cartons, boxes and containers; fibre board and fibre cartons, boxes and containers—should be laid flat and tied in conveniently tight bundles weighing approximately 100 pounds each.

Newspapers should be laid flat and tied in tight bundles also weighing about 100 pounds. All mixed and used loose paper, excepting carbon paper and newspapers should be tied in tight separate bundles of 100 pounds.

In the case of magazines and books, the covers must be removed before tying the paper into 100-pound bundles.

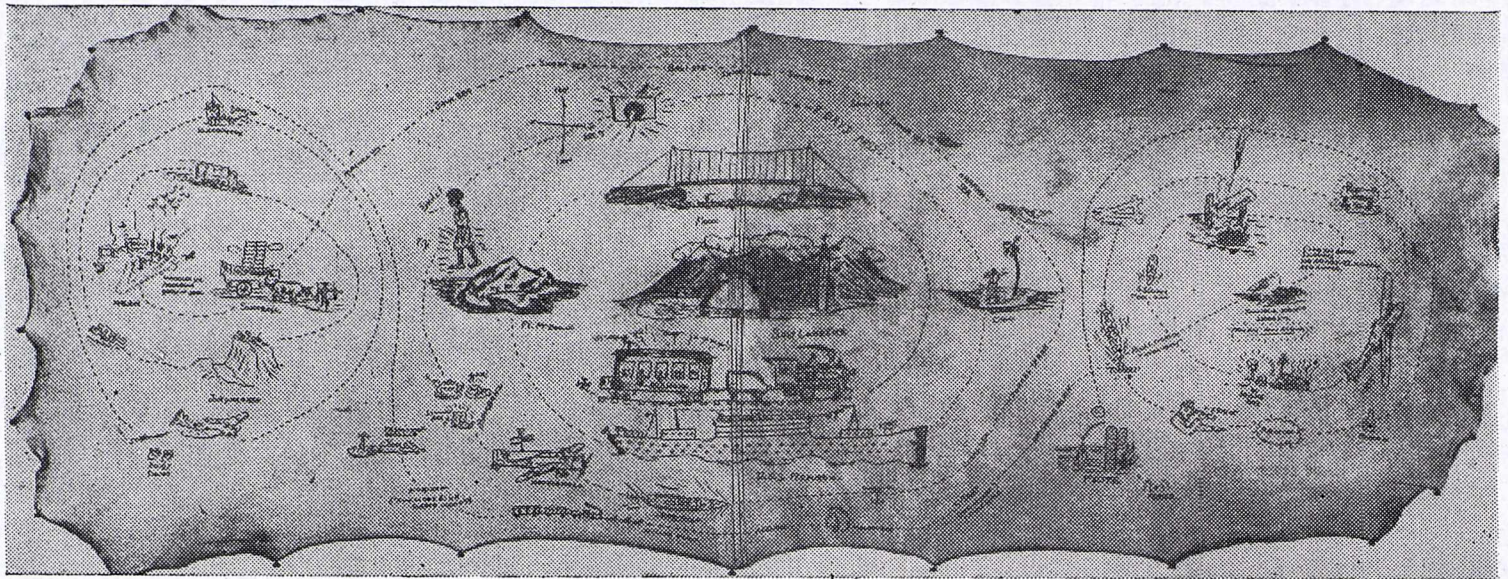
Committees Formed For Bond Drive

The Fourth War Bond Committee for this Station had its first meeting January 17 at the Rec Hall. Plans were developed to handle Cash Sales and Class B Allotments in each orderly room. Information has been received whereby the \$3.75 allotments will be discontinued and the lowest allotment attainable is \$6.25.

Since the Headquarters for Bond allotments has been moved to Chicago, Bonds are now delivered regularly each month.

Bonds bought for cash during the drive will be issued within a week after receipt of application.

The committee has set up the machinery for the Fourth Bond Drive, which will place Pyote at the head of the list in the 8th Service Command.



MEET YOUR BUDDIES:

Kansan Crabtree Makes Indian-Style Picture Map Of Pacific War Travels

Training Unit Draftsman Sketches Sailing Routes, Combat Experiences

How the Indians used a series of primitive drawings to describe their travels was familiar to Miley R. Crabtree who's hometown is Arkansas City, Kansas, near the Indian Territory. With a 25,000-mile expedition behind him—a soldering journey equal to a trip around the world at the equator, but mainly centering in the Southwest Pacific—S-Sgt. Crabtree decided to put his experiences down in Indian fashion.

For his grandchildren, if any, to marvel over, he now has a 4' by 2' chamois map with story-telling pictures—which, being something of an amateur cartoonist, he drew himself—outlining his wartime travels. The Kansan's odyssey runs like this:

●
Salt Lake City—Frisco—Ft. McDowell (Angel Island)—Oahu, Is.—Seven days out of Hawaii, Dec. 7, 1941—Fiji Islands—Brisbane, Australia (Archer Field)—boat to Townsville—Coral Sea—Torres Strait—Arafura Sea—Timor Sea—Savu Sea—Sumba Strait—Indian Ocean—Bali Strait—Sanda Sea—Java Sea—Madura Strait—Surabaya, Java—Malang (during Macassar Strait Palembang, Java battles)—Singosari Field—Jokyakarta—Tjilatjap—Freemantle, Australia—Northam—Nullarbar Plain—Adelaide—Melbourne—Sydney—Brisbane—Rockhampton—Townsville—(during Coral Sea Battle, Solomons, Gen. MacArthur's Philippine expedition)—Port Moresby, New Guinea—Milne Bay—bomber to Moresby—Townsville—boat to Frisco—furlough—Pocatello, Idaho—Pyote.

Sketches on the map show the

above no pleasure jaunt. On the boat trips to and from Java, Jap subs loosed torpedoes, but missed the boat Crabtree was on. At Singosari Field, for days the bombs fell three times a day regularly, and the run out of Java by truck to the boat beat the Japs by only 40 minutes. Rifles grabbed off the dock helped the men drive off an enemy dive bomber, while aboard came Maj. Bill Taggart, chaplain who wrote "My Fighting Congregation."

At Freemantle, he helped dig slit trenches for the Aussies, when invasion was expected momentarily. Another sharp memory is the 1000-mile arrow-straight railroad ride across Australia's Nullarbar Plane on the Kangaroo Special. Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane night life was not hard to take after all of that, and Crabtree was among those who took it.

Moresby was not very comfortable, what with "daisy cutters" falling regularly from Jap bombers, and the expedition to Milne Bay found a not so pretty sight—the battlefield right after the invasion that routed the Japs.

●
After school and several summers in lumber camps and on farms, tall, hefty be-mustached Crabtree joined the Kansas Na-

GI WEDS GIRL IN HOSPITAL

NEW YORK (CNS)—When PFC Sidney Checkanowitz came home on furlough from his camp in North Carolina he found that his bride-to-be, Anna Shanies, was laid up in the hospital with a broken leg. But Sidney couldn't wait so, with Anna wearing a bridal veil over her bed jacket, they were married at her bedside. The honeymoon, said Sidney, will have to wait.

tional Guard in February, 1935.

He was in field artillery and did some bugling and wire work in the signal section. When the guard was activated, he was in a cadre training new men, but decided he had enough of cannon-pushing and switched to the Air Corps.

He was busy with radio operation until July, 1942, when he was put to doing code work in Allied Combined Headquarters, Cypher Department, in Australia. Originally with the 42nd Bomb Group (Medium), he was transferred to the 7th Heavy, and finally to the 19th Bomb Group, 435th Squadron.

He remembers most vividly the Milne Bay operation, building roads, sweating raids, and fighting malaria. One time at Malans he caught a piece of shrapnel in the ankle, but was running too fast to bother—just flicked it out on the double—for it was an unhealthy spot he was leaving.

S-Sgt. Crabtree is now a draftsman in the Training Section here, drawing "Rube Goldbergs" he says. Like a lot of other soldiers with similar experience, cowboy-booted Crabtree wants to go back to Java one of these days under different circumstances:

"You leave something behind in a retreat that you'd like to go back and pick up."

There's a lot of that picking up to be done in the Pacific, and it's only well begun.

Navigation Aid Is Latest AAF 'Secret Weapon'

(CNS)—The U. S. Army Air Force has come up with another new "secret weapon," the use of which makes possible the accurate bombing of targets obscured by as much as 25,000 feet of thick cloud overcast.

Described by Maj. Gen. Frederick Anderson, Jr., commander of the Eighth Bomber Command, as of tremendous importance in the United Nations' aerial assault on Germany, the new "weapon" is probably the most minutely developed navigational aid in the history of air warfare. Already it has been used in bombing missions involving a total of more than 8,000 bombers and fighters.

Gen. Anderson, who disclosed information on the navigational aid at a press conference held in Washington shortly after his return from Britain, said that his British-based command with the aid of the new device, dropped more than 9,000 tons of bombs on Adolf Hitler's Fortress Europe in one month.

Another disclosure made recently by the AAF was that a brand new German Junkers 88 bomber has been installed at a well-guarded hanger at Wright Field, Ohio, where it is being studied by engineers.

The plane was flown from Rumania to a British airfield on the island of Cyprus by a discouraged young Nazi pilot who explained to the British that he was "tired of it all." It was then flown to the U. S. from Cairo. Engineers hope to learn German plane secrets by studying it.



Pine Camp, N. Y.—Bed check for WACs, which comes at 10:45, invariably finds one or two girls frantically preparing for bed in the dark before the C Q makes her rounds. The other night one private found herself in that predicament. With two minutes to spare she hastily applied what she thought was cold cream to her face. Out of a clear silence the entire barrack was thrown into an uproar when she screamed, "My God, this isn't cold cream! It's saddle soap!"

Over The Nation

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Mrs. Olive Tomey, 14, won a divorce from her sailor husband, Delbert E. Tomey 22, whom she wed a year ago in an elopement. She is the youngest person ever to win a divorce in Washington.

SACRAMENTO, CAL. (CNS)—Donald McNicoll rented a shotgun, bought a hunting license, talked a pal out of four shotgun shells and took a taxi to the city outskirts. He was back in an hour with the limit of two pheasants—and one unused shell.

NEW YORK (CNS) — New York's city slickers raised 200 million pounds of victory garden vegetables last year. The big town's window sill farms covered 6,000 acres and produced a crop valued at \$30,000,000.

MEMPHIS (CNS)—Henry Reynolds saw a blond lugging a huge package into the post office. Chivalrously he offered his aid. The heavy bundle taxed his slight physique but after three stops for breath, he finally made it. "Thanks," said the blond. "Come and see the show tonight. I'm Mae Young, the woman wrestler."

MELROSE PARK, PA. (CNS)—The Union Society for the Detection of Horse Thieves and the Recovery of Stolen Property canceled its annual meeting when it discovered that there weren't any horse thieves around anymore and that all the town's horses were working.

HELENA, MONT. (CNS)—W. Rush Burroughs, who estimates that he has walked a distance equal to four times around the world during his 41 years as a mailman, quit recently to take a new job. Now he's a door-to-door salesman.

Very Interesting Hobby, No Doubt



PIN-UP PARTY. Goldwyn Girl Constance Dowling, poses for camera-operating servicemen at Hollywood's first Pin-up Party, at Samuel Goldwyn's Studio. The thirty-four Goldwyn Girls, who appear in the technicolor comedy, with music, "Up in Arms", acted as models for the pin-up pictures, and entertainment was provided by Danny Kaye, noted Broadway comedian who stars in the film, in addition to golden-voiced Dinah Shore and comedian Benny Baker.

Col. Koon, Heavy Bomber Veteran, Named As 46th BOTW Deputy CO

ARDMORE Okla.—Col. Ralph E. Koon, who until recently commanded the 469th Combat Crew Training School, AAF, Alexandria, La., became Deputy Commander of the 46th Bombardment Operational Training Wing, AAF, Ardmore, Okla., on December 31, 1943.

Colonel Koon, West Point Graduate, who joined the Air Corps in 1928, was one of the first fliers to pilot a Flying Fortress. He was a member of the original Flying Fortress group at Langley Field, Va., in 1937 when it was known as the Second Bombardment Group and was commanded by the late Major General Robert Olds. Colonel Koon participated in the Flying Fortress Good Will flights to Buenos Aires in 1938 and Rio De Janerio in 1939.

In August, 1942, Colonel Koon flew a B-17 from the United States to Australia and shortly after became commander of a heavy bombardment group. In February, 1943, he led the group to New Guinea, where it participated principally in attacks on Rabaul and Wewak.

During the Bismarck Sea Battle he had an eye-witness seat as the U. S. scored a victory.

Colonel Koon, who was born in Bolivar, Mo., December 23, 1904, was appointed to West Point

from Missouri in 1924 and he was commissioned a second lieutenant, Cavalry, June 9, 1928. After graduation, he was one of approximately 25 percent of his class which transferred to the Air Corps. He attended primary flying school at Brooks Field, Texas, graduating November 21, 1929.

For the next four years he was stationed at Mitchell Field, N. Y., and then went to Luke Field, Honolulu. There he married Miss Frances King of Honolulu. They have three children, Robert, 6, and twin daughters, Ailene and Virginia, 3.

He was appointed first lieutenant July 1, 1934, and captain March 12, 1935. He was transferred to Bolling Field, Washington, D. C. and then Langley Field, where he remained until 1941. Appointed major on February 1, 1941, he became a squadron commander at Westover Field, Mass., then assumed

Second AF's Own Radio Program To Honor Bases

Second Army Air Force now has a radio program all its own, and each week one of the Force's numerous installations throughout the west will be honored by a broadcast to be dedicated to it and present highlights of its history and activities.

Capt. A. W. Seibt, assistant adjutant general, explained the program:

"Weekly, over Station KFOR, Colorado Springs, Colorado, there is a radio program which features military and concert music by the Headquarters Band. Through this program it is intended to acquaint the public with the magnitude of the flying training directed by this command and the important part each individual base has in the total effort."

Each base will be notified of the broadcast on which it will be so honored, it was further announced.

Broadcasts now are scheduled each Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. over KFOR, 1300 kilocycles.

GIs INVITED TO ENTER \$50,000 CONTEST

NEW YORK (CNS) — Servicemen are eligible to share in the \$50,000 in prizes the Pabst Brewing Company is offering for the best article of not more than 2,000 words submitted on "Post-War Employment." First prize is \$25,000 in war bonds, second prize is \$10,000 in war bonds and 15 additional awards of \$1,000 each will be made. Envelopes containing manuscripts must be post-marked not later than Feb. 7 and should be sent to the Pabst Brewing Company, 551 Fifth Ave., New York, 17, New York.

LAMENT

Scotch and rye
Are hard to buy
They'll be much harder
I fear it.
It's getting so
That wherever you go
You have to grin
And beer it.

command of a heavy bombardment group at Pendleton Field, Oregon.

He was appointed lieutenant colonel January 5, 1942, and colonel March 1, 1942. In August 1942, he left the States to join the Fifth Bomber Command in Australia, where he was in command of a bombardment group. Returning to the States in July, 1943, Colonel Koon became commanding Officer of the 469th Combat Crew Training School, AAF, Alexandria, La., October 15, 1943.

EDITORIAL:

National Service

President Roosevelt, in his 1944 annual message to Congress, urged: "A national service law—which, for the duration, will prevent strikes, and, with certain appropriate exceptions, will make available for war production or for any other essential services every able-bodied adult in this nation."

The President stated that the law had been jointly recommended by the heads of the War Department, the Navy Department and Maritime Commission, who were quoted in effect:

"When the very life of the nation is in peril the responsibility for service is common to all men and women. In such a time there can be no discrimination between the men and women who are assigned by the government to its defense at the battlefield and the men and women assigned to producing the vital materials essential to successful military operations. A prompt enactment of a national service law would be merely an expression of the universality of this responsibility."

That highly controversial measure was part of a five-point program suggested to Congress otherwise mainly comprising the President's anti-inflation program. Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand have workable national service laws to which the President pointed as examples of democratic total mobilization of a country's manpower for war. It was pointed out that such a law would not adversely affect such matters as retirement and seniority rights and benefits, wages, or contemplate drastic shuffling of workers in present jobs.

Certainly it appears to most soldiers to be as just to order one man to service in aircraft factory or mine as to order another to a foxhole on a Pacific island, both duties being equally necessary to winning the war. And, doubtless many individual civilian workers would approve the measure, which would remove any possible doubt that each man is serving his country where he is needed the most.

Equally certain, the opposition to passage of the law will be strong, perhaps decisive, for questions of basic governmental theory are involved. For example, one complex problem would be safeguards for individual rights of workers ordered into compulsory service in private industry, and the possible post-war effect, if any, on the status of organized labor's relations with such industries.

During the coming debate on this measure, soldiers would do well to try to understand all the various angles of the problems involved, and not jump to hasty conclusions. As surely as strikes should not be tolerated in wartime for any reason, the overwhelming majority of civilian workers are anxious to do their patriotic duty. The question is mainly one of emergency efficiency, which Congress must judge.

THE RATTLER

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NINETEENTH COMBAT CREW TRAINING SCHOOL
Pyote, Texas

COLONEL LOUIE P. TURNER
Station Commandant

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The Wolf

by Sansone

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(In Alaska)



THOUGHTS OF OTHERS

Begged, Borrowed Or Stolen

It is our duty now to begin to lay the plans and determine the strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no matter how high that general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our people—whether it be one third or one fifth or one tenth—is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed and insecure.

This republic had its beginning, under the protection of certain inalienable political rights—among them the right of free speech, free press, free worship, trial by jury, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures. They were our rights to life and liberty.

As our nation has grown in size and stature, however—as our industrial economy expanded—these political rights proved inadequate to assure us equality in the pursuit of happiness.

We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. "Necessitous men are not free men." People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made.

In our day these economic truths have become accepted as self-evident. We have accepted, so to speak, a second bill of rights under which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for

all—regardless of station, race or creed.

Among these are:

The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries, or shops or farms or mines of the nation;

The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation.

The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;

The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad;

The right of every family to a decent home;

The right of adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;

The right to adequate protection from the economic fears by old age, sickness, accident and unemployment;

The right to a good education.

Our fighting men abroad—and their families at home—expect such a program and have the right to insist upon it. It is to their demands that this government should pay heed rather than to the whining demands of selfish pressure groups who seek to feather their nests while young Americans are dying.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT,
1944 Message to Congress

THE CHAPLAIN SAYS -



THE HUNGRY HEART

Man is essentially a spiritual being in that he was created by God and needs God to satisfy the deepest longings of his soul and heart. Jesus once said: "what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

Again we hear Him say: "man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." The Psalmist voiced similar thoughts when he uttered these words: "as the heart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God."

PRESENT DAY TRENDS

Today we see the spectacle of men and women seeking to satisfy their soul's longings with the husks of materialism. Many think of the war in the terms of material gain. Some think only of themselves. Witness the vast industrial strikes in our country and the exploitation of the soldier in some towns and cities.

There is a tendency to worship things and to believe that the mere possession of them will bring happiness. Our inventions and progress have given us a false sense of security. We unconsciously place our trust in these material things which are the works of our hands and forget the Creator who gives us power to produce and to create. This cannot satisfy the soul of man as he needs his Creator; we need to be reminded of Kipling's prayer, "Lord God of Hosts, lest we forget, lest we forget."

Man's soul has not kept pace with his great advancement in the human realm. Man has not taken time to worship God and serve Him as he has been too busy building up his Tower of Babel and to often forgetting his soul. Some have even drifted into disbelief in a God and are agnostic and atheistic. An English clergyman wrote:

"We have been a pleasure-loving people, dishonoring God's day, picnicing and bathing—now the seashores are barred, no picnics, no bathing. We have preferred motor travel to church-going—now there is a shortage of motor fuel. We have ignored the ringing of church bells calling us to worship—now the bells cannot ring except to warn us of invasion. We would not listen to the ways of peace—now we are forced to listen to the ways of war."

"The money we would not give

New Chaplain



Chaplain Arnold T. Anderson

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sunday—0900, Aviation Unit Service; 1030, Chapel Service.
Wednesday—1930, Service Men's Christian League.
Thursday—1900, Chapel Chorus Rehearsal.

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Sunday Masses—0600; 0800; and 1615.
Confessions—Saturday, 1500 to 1730; 2000 to 2100; Sunday, before the Masses.
Weekday Masses—1830, daily except Thursday.
Communion—1700 daily.
Hospital Mass—Thursday at 1015 in Red Cross auditorium.
Evening Devotions — Tuesday, 1900, Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help; Friday, 2100, Novena to the Sacred Heart.
Choir Rehearsal—Wednesday 2030.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Thursday—2000, Base Chapel Services, Mrs. Mabel New Homes.

JEWISH SERVICES

Friday—1900, Base Chapel.

to the Lord's work now is taken in taxes and higher prices. The food for which we forgot to say thanks now is unobtainable. The service we refused to give God now is conscripted for the country. Lives we refused to live under God's control now are under the nation's control. Nights we would not spend in watching unto prayer now are spent in anxious air-raid precautions. The evils of Modernism we would not fight—now we see what Germany, the seat of this teaching, has produced."

—Chaplain Arnold T. Anderson

Monahans USO

EDWARD A. PALANGE
Director

Wed.—Round Table Discussion on books, Library.
Thurs.—2 to 4 p.m., dance class. Recreational Room, quiz program on Texas. How well do you know the Lone Star State?
Fri.—Recreational Room, checker tournament.
Sat.—Recreational Room, dance to Pyote Air Base Band.
Sun.—Coffee and donuts from 10:30 a. m. to noon. 3 to 4 p.m., classical program in the Quiet Room. 8 p.m., book review by Mrs. A. P. Blair.
Mon.—5 p.m. to 7 p.m., dance class. 9 p.m., Gold Rush party and treasure hunt in Recreational Room. 8 p.m., bingo.
Tues.—American Legion meeting in Quiet Room. Dance to recorded music in Recreational Room.

SEA-SOAKED CHAPLAIN GETS SWIMMING DRILL

SAMPSON NAVAL TRAINING STATION, N. Y. (CNS)—Lt. John K. Wheaton, NSUR, a chaplain, jumped into the oil soaked waters of the Kula Gulf when the U. S. Cruiser Helena was sunk. To reach safety he clung to wreckage one day and floated two more days on a life raft before he was washed ashore on Vella La Vella Island. Transferred to this station, he was immediately notified that he must take the swimming test and abandon ship drill required of all station personnel.



Q. If a soldier is convicted of desertion, does his family allowance stop?

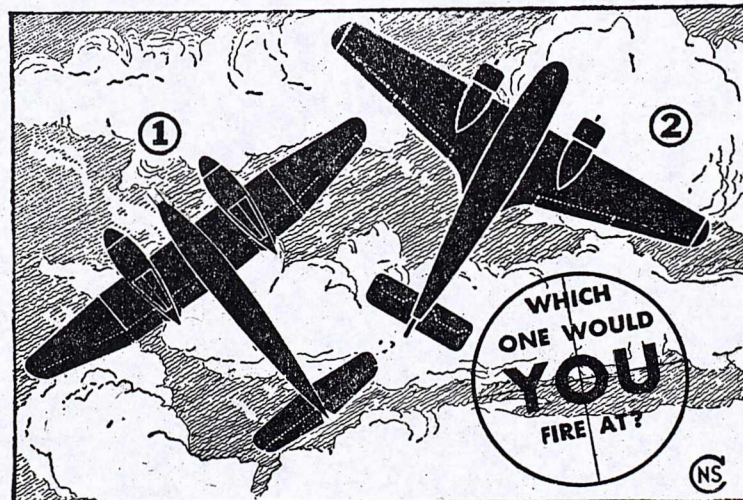
A. Yes, indeed. Family allowance payments cease at the end of the month in which notice is received by the Office of Dependency Benefits of the soldier's conviction of desertion. Payments also stop after the soldier has been absent without leave for three months. If he is later restored to duty, his family allowances may be reinstated.

Q. Is it true that under the new schedule of dependency allowances, all seven grades of enlisted men are now eligible for allowances instead of just the lower four.

A. In the new schedule EM in the top three grades are given their choice of allowances for dependents and their regular allowances for maintenance and quarters. They can't take both, but they may choose the family allowance in lieu of the regular quarters' allowance.

Q. My brother is overseas and wants mail. How many V-Mail letters am I permitted to send him a month?

A. Once again, there is no limit placed on the number of V-Mail letters you can send to service men.



NOT AT NO. 1! It's the British "Whirlwind" 1, a low wing, single seatfighter, powered by twin engines. The wings have a long rectangular section and the outer panels taper sharply to rounded tips. It's engines extend ahead of the short nose of the slender fuselage. Both edges of the tailplane taper to rounded tips.

Courtesy Dodd, Mead & Co.,

FIRE AT NO. 2! It's the Japanese Mitsubishi 96-1 "Otori" a twin engine long range fighter escort. The leading edge of the low set wings is straight and the trailing edge is swept forward to rounded tips. Its fuselage is thin and slabsided, with a long rounded nose. The rectangular tailplane has three fins and twin rudders.

Aircraft Spotter by Lester Ott.

The Snow Fell - Mad



Anything can and does happen at Pyote. Last week brought one of the severest snow storms ever seen in these regions. Always quick to get on top of the unbelievable, "The Rattler" sent its ace photographer out to get a round-up of how the snow affected the Rattlesnake Army Air Field. Incidentally he met

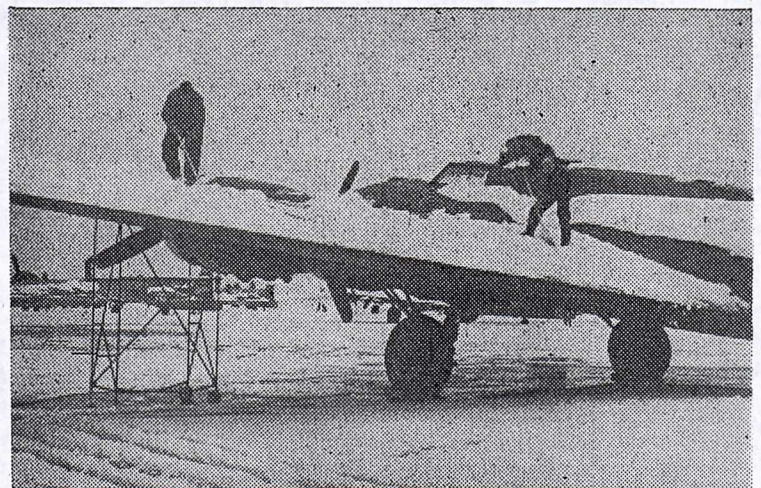


le History And Mud



some nice looking girls, as in the lower left hand picture, who were trying to maim each other with snowballs. Suffering the most during the storm were

the citizens of Texas who had been boasting continuously about the excellent weather to be found in the Lone Star State.



Happiest to see the snowstorm blanket the Field were the Northerners. It was just like a furlough to go sloughing thru

the slush once again. Oh yeah! That stringy haired gal above with Sgt. Joe McGrath is not Hedy LeMarr.

Gypsy 93rd

By PFC. ED KOOPS
MAINTENANCE UNIT A

It was bound to happen to somebody, sooner or later. And of course, it happened to us. We were going along Saturday night minding our own business and taking a blitz-cloth to our rain coat buttons, when we decided to sit down and write two letters. Upon completion, these two missives were thick and bulky. We laid them aside, figuring on mailing them Sunday. And being a man of honor, we didn't want to send them free. We would buy four three-cent stamps, properly attach them, and win the undying gratitude of the Postmaster General and his family. That's all. Just four three-cent stamps. That's all we wanted. So Sunday ayem we scampered over to the Post Office. Gad! No stamps; no window service; no nothing: We tripped over mail-bags and delayed Christmas packages to inquire in the back of the post-office. A burly tech sergeant informed us that there "was no stamps for sale" on Sundays. We should try the Message Center. We hoisted the two heavy letters to our other shoulder and tottered over to the Message Center.

There we talked to a bright-tied civilian. "Yes, stamps, we have stamps only I don't know if we can sell them or not on Sundays. I'll have to ask the sergeant." The sergeant was off at the time on a polar exploration, we gather. He never did show up. We then tried the Service Club, the Red Cross Office, the Chaplain, and a fur-bearing corporal named Thwurp. No stamps. Now—what I want to know is—who does Mr. Anthony go to when he's got problems?

Suggested name for the hecklers who (A) give out with a line to the Service Club waitress while we wait, hollow-cheeked, for service; (B) the guys who always try to crash the line on any pretense. The title: Service Club Commandos.

Mystery of the week: There's a notice in our Mail Room for a S-Sgt. Arthur Baker to pick up a Telephone Directory. Now who would send a Pyote-enslaved G.I. a Fairfield, Iowa, telephone directory? And what for? We've lost sleep nights trying to dope that out.

This week's quote: The day it snowed, we blundered into the Orderly Room just as 1st Sgt. Gerald Blank was coming out. Saith the Sarg, a Missoula, Montana, native, "This is the first time I've ever seen Texas weather I liked!"

Suggestion to the EM Club—

MALE CALL
BY MILTON CANIFF



designating one night a week at the Service Club for a certain state? For example each Monday night have open house especially for guys from—Minnesota; next week, Idaho, and so on. It'd give us guys a chance to talk over the home-state and how we miss it.

Personal Nominations: As Unit A's No. 1 Wolf—T-Sgt. Alexander Chemerys. The guy most in love with his gal-friend—Pvt. Frank F. Leoni. Hardest working G.I.—S-Sgt. Doyle G. Bell. Guy with the most torrid correspondence—PFC Albert Frcho.

Sgt. Jack Leverone is hearing bells (wedding variety) over Miss Bernice Lee, currently of Pyote.

It's about the time of month we always notice that G.I. pals are a lot like umbrellas. They're never around when you want them. Or if they are, they're broke.

CHINESE WACs FORM UNIT

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — A new WAC unit—composed entirely of Chinese girls from Chinatown area here—has been formed.

Sub-Depot Supply

By LOW SCORE FOUR

Well, this marrying business is really catching . . . Congratulations to Sgt. and Mrs. Whitaker . . . Irene, are you a good cook?

Sgt. Brown is back from his honeymoon and said that they had a wonderful time.

Who was it that wanted a White Christmas . . . It was a little late, but that was honest to goodness snow . . . In fact, the day after the unusual weather, everyone was so stiff from playing in the snow that they could hardly move.

L. L. Wilson was wearing some of that Mexican jewelry . . . Bob managed a three day pass and they met in a little Spanish town and had a grand time.

Well, girls, if Flossie can snag a man there is still hope for us . . . Remember it's leap year, and although no names were given out, she says that she is getting married.

Who is this gorgeous creature that works in Central Files . . . A certain person in the local cafeteria sure does go for her in a

big way . . . (P. S. it isn't K. K.)

Dorothy Winkler is expecting her B. F. any day now . . . This is beginning to look serious . . . Didn't think anyone would want to come back to Pyote, after they once got away . . . But that's what love will do to you.

Doris Noel and Betty Cannon are on a strict diet . . . Did you know that Doris' husband is coming home next month . . . He's in the Navy and has been in the South Pacific for the last two years; Cheer up Doris, it won't be long now.

Dewees is beginning to perk up again . . . as Joe is out of the hospital.

Here it is the third week of the new year, and already most of our resolutions have been broken . . . Oh well, perhaps we should wait until next year anyway to turn over a new leaf.

Any potential husbands, before taking that final leap, see the Captain . . . His advice to the lovelorn is really something, and speaking from experience, he should know.

DAVENPORT, IA. (CNS) — Merle M. Hicks, 34-year-old father of seven, has been inducted into the Army as a volunteer.

Mail Call

Once again things are under control at the Post Office after a week of remodeling and moving around. The office has changed from the usual mad house appearance to one of business.

If it were only possible to have half of our personnel on duty at one time we believe that we can go a long way toward improving the mail situation. We are becoming known as the K.P. Unit for we have only eleven men in this office with eight of them from one organization and of the eight men we have at least one man doing K.P. every day while from the other men we have had only one man on K.P. in two months. Should that keep up we will have to close for two days and all go do K.P.

Cpl. Lila Piercey is jumping out of the frying pan into the fire this evening when she is to be married at the Base Chapel. They will leave the same evening for Oklahoma where they will visit her sister and mother. With them go the best wishes of us all and may their troubles be little ones.

Sgt. Becker is none too pleased with the cold lunches being served. It seems that with the cold weather the gas pressure is not what it should be.

PFC John Gilhooley leaves Tuesday on a fifteen day furlough. He has his passport in readiness for the trip abroad. Providence, Rhode Island, is the destination and he says that if he isn't interned there he will be back with us.

We can't keep Cpl. O'Neal from getting the WACs and the Guard Squadron mixed. During the cold weather he has been trying to trade his motor scooter for a hay burner.

Martin says that when he goes to the motor pool each morning to get the truck all he can hear is "wash the truck". With the weather being what it is the truck needs the washing, but he hasn't found out the trick of removing dirt with ice for the water freezes as it hits.

Cpl. Jones turned up with another of those original requests for furlough the other day. Seems that his wife wrote him and told him that his dog was run over and killed and the funeral was to be held upon his arrival. That excuse has been cause for a man getting a furlough, so why not him?

Sgt. Gilbreath has his hands full with the captain on leave. The captain is due back next Friday when he will find that the office has undergone quite a change during his absence.

Looks Like Lace



Sgt. Littleton Rogers, of Bergstrom Field, Tex., thinks that Cleo Chesire, University of Texas co-ed, looks like Lace, curvaceous heroine of Milton Caniff's "Male Call." Cleo doesn't always dress like this, says Rogers. This picture was taken while she was entertaining soldiers.

The building across the street that has been under construction for a number of weeks is expected to be completed and ready for bowling sometime late this spring.

Much against our wishes this department has had to give up the day off each week so that the mail may go through on time. The fact that we do not have enough personnel to carry on while others are on K.P. and still give the men their day off has caused his decision. We hope that in the near future we can again give the men some time off, for a man loses his efficiency after having worked seven days a week for a period of time.

GI BAGGED 8 PLANES WITH 'UNSKILLED EYE'

BRITAIN (CNS) — T-Sgt. Thomas Dye of Steubenville washed out of air gunnery school because he had an "unskilled shooting eye."

Since then Dye, who is a radio operator most of the time but a tail gunner in emergencies, has shot down eight enemy planes and wears the Distinguished Flying Cross and three clusters with the Air Medal.

House On Stilts

By ROGER WILCO
AIRWAYS COMMUNICATION

What Ho, Lads! Back again after our long absence from The Rattler. Reason? Well, we won't go in to that now, or maybe not at all, but from now on we'll try to give you the dope about the "House On Stilts" a little more often.

To begin, I'll say that a lot has happened since you last heard from us. For instance: that big, fat boy with the funny hair-cut (Ray Kerwin) has long departed, much to everyone's sorrow. We understand he's doing O.K. as NCOIC down at Brownwood, Texas.

Pvt. John Williams, a new member of Pyote Communications, says he's having the time of his life here. All the girls have gone wild about the dark, wavy hair of his. We've been wondering if anyone has noticed the effect that the trip to Old Mexico has had on the two PFCs with long legs. We have.

All the girls in this vicinity were plenty excited a few days past. Somehow, they learned about Cpl. Richard Norton being on shipping orders to Pyote. He's an "honest to goodness" wolf from Tampa, Florida, so listen for his howls.

All the fellows in this outfit have been a little sad this week, because of Cpl. Joe Conroy's departure to OCS. We hear he's now in Miami, sweatin' out a set of those golden, shiny things. Best of luck, Joe, we all miss you.

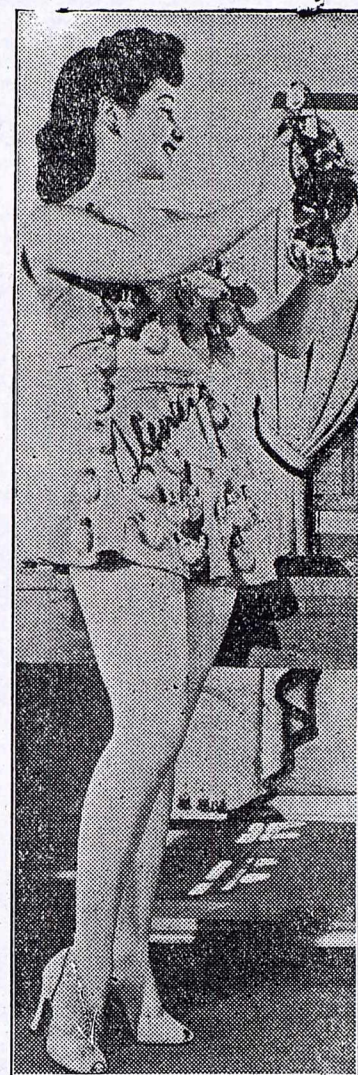
Oh yes a question—What M-Sgt. is "out of this world" about a female in San Antonio? Could it be Godsey? Could be! Could be! Anyway, G. Y. is leaving us soon, to go into Cadets, at Miami Beach. We're all sorry to say goodbye. He's been our NCOIC quite a while now, and we all think he's plenty O.K.

Sgt. Frank Kehoe is enjoying a well-earned furlough with his people back in Detroit. We know he's having fun. PFC Burton has been sweatin' him out since the day he left so he can take his.

We all wish to apologize for not inviting you to the Communications football game, held indoors, Barracks 629 New Year's Eve. It was a wonderful game, and we all enjoyed it immensely. Drunk? No, you're wrong again. See you next week.

CAMP McQUAIDE, CAL. (CNS) — Col. Roy S. Gibson voluntarily washed and dried all the dishes—even the pots and pans—when the new Service Club opened here.

Film Form



CAMERA GAL. Margie Stewart, of RKO Radio's roster of ravishing lovelies, gives an example of grace in the pose of a camera girl, festooned with flashlight bulbs. She makes a better subject than she does a lens expert. Her next role will be in "Show Business," Eddie Cantor's musical.

GRENADe SAVES LIFE OF LUCKY SERGEANT

NEW GEORGIA (CNS) — Sgt. Lowren W. Scholfield, 22, of Council Bluffs, Iowa owes his life to a hand grenade.

Hit by enemy fire during an operation here, Scholfield was knocked 15 feet into a trench occupied by Lt. Paul J. Redmond of New Haven, Conn., a chaplain. "I'm hit, father," Scholfield gasped.

The chaplain examined him and found that a missile had gone through his left breast pocket, hit a hand grenade he was carrying, knocked him breathless, but had been deflected without injuring him.

WAC Flak

B-r-r-r !what we wouldn't give for long red flannels, a sleigh hitched to the dappled greys, Jingle Bells, an open fireplace, a place to pop corn—and corn to pop. The surprise attack by Ol' Man Winter jollyed-up each one of us and how we all wanted our pictures taken in the snow (just to show them at home that Texas isn't too bad).

Snow-balls went a-flying and Vera Hrevus (Message Center) caught one in the eye. (Some one should teach that gal to duck.) She looks mighty interesting with the patch over her right eye, so if you've been wondering what door she ran into wonder no more. It was a snowball and all in fun.

But probably the greatest inconvenience caused by the severe cold was the lack of hot water in both Barracks No. 1 and No. 2. Barracks No. 3 was the cleanest outfit but they also got all the dirt, for the unlucky inmates of 1 and 2 simply gathered up their soap, towels laundry and stuff and paraded over to take a bath in their neighbors' tub. Silly hab-it taking a bath isn't it?

Heard a little gossip while taking my weekly shower and thought you might be interested. They need a tooth brush sleuth for a teeth thief at Barracks No. 3. Sgt. Catherine Vraney, who boasts of havin' a few store bought teeth lost 'em, and with a steak dinner looming in the near future, the poor girl was (to put it mildly) a bit upset. PFC Cecelia Waiter, just because she lost a tooth or two at the dentist, was under suspicion. Things are tough every place but who ever heard of a Bridge Bandit. Maybe a tooth-sayer would help.

Rodger-Dodger, master maniacs of mirth and madness, are among the missing in the locality, and that's no spoofing. Just plenty of fun was their specialty and each WAC will remember their antics with a laugh and a lighter heart. Rodger-Dodger made no effort to cheer the entire unit. It was purely spontaneous, and as much fun for them as for us. Probably their main objective was to keep the convalescing WACs in the hospital from becoming too bored, and consequently to speed their recovery to the extent that they were back on the job sooner and with added zest. Anyhow we miss them, good-luck to you Rodger and Dodger on your new undertakings.

Button, button, who's got the button, ah, ah we have. Have you noticed the nice shiny gold buttons we are wearing now? It took one whole evening to sew them on

so that we'd pass the button inspection that was held a week ago Tuesday. The change from the dull olive drab plastic to the brilliant brass Army buttons certainly made a change in our appearance. You can spot us a mile away on a foggy day.

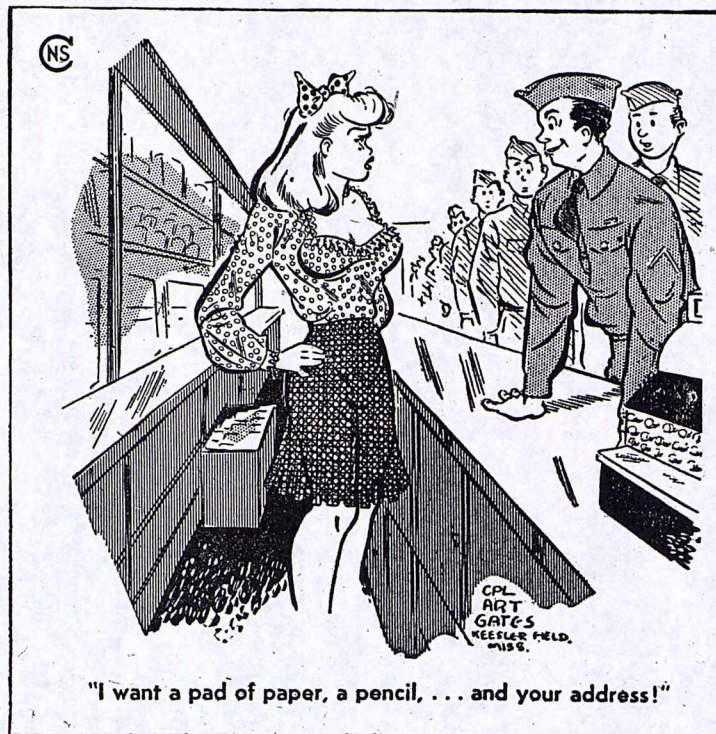
Edna (Penelope) Collins is now taking piano lessons from a sister WAC, who could stand a few lessons herself. Soon as Cpl. Collins learns a bit more she may give a recital. Her popularity is waning somewhat in the WAC area; in fact, Cpl. Collins and her teacher are being avoided every place. Edna's Dum-da-da, dum-da-da to the secondo of Chop Sticks leaves the gals fit to be tied—not necessarily though, they're sorta spellbound, anyhoo. She will not try Chop Sticks on the typewriter, I hope, I hope, I hope.

Coincidence—The day the Rattler came out last week Rose Schubar left the hospital, wasn't that something? Now after a convalescent furlough to rest up and regain her strength, she'll be back at the Library with her nose to the grindstone.

Lt. Haslam, our genial CO, is spending her leave in Wilkes Barre, Pa., after seven months of keeping us on the right track, and running smoothly, she has surely earned a vacation. Anyone who can keep their reason and be as patient as Lt. Haslam and First Sgt. Vincent with a group of temperamental females should wear a crown.

Cpl. Amy Poole hit the trail for New York City where she hopes to regain the art of living in a noisy city in two weeks time.

—BLEDSOE SAIDSO.



The Civvies

GREETINGS, hope every one had as nice a week as I did. Remember last week the translation story? Well that sentence in the jargon in the air force in England means "The homely new pilot officer executed a power dive to the ramp after operational aerobatics." Betcha more than one of you missed it.

We are indeed the proudest and happiest office on the Field I do know. Major Campbell is our officer once again.

Evelyn's baby has a promotion—he is now Petty Officer 2/c. Very nice going indeed.

Gus sits around my place in the evenings practicing saying, "Vivian O". Dear, dear me.

Lillian Stewart has been ill for a week and we miss her tremendously. Evelyn is responsible for your pay this time boys and girls.

Lt. Hodges, M. C., was a bad boy, so he has to stay home while Maureen goes "playing".

Olivia is still wondering what good looking Lt. came to call on her Wednesday night and she was gone. Tough luck. The description fitted her dream man, reckon he will return?

There is a darling person named "Freddie" who asked for an introduction to one of our girls, right in front of his girl friend. So very nice for one and so very bad for the other. Funny thing too, he has been coming to the cafeteria for lunch, etc.

Mary Jane is still sad, longing for her home far, far away. Even the snow didn't help.



Well, we have been heckled, ridiculed and generally shamed long enough for not maintaining a weekly column in The Rattler. Through the interest and by request of Lt. McLaughlin (the word request in this instance, meaning pressure) we will endeavor to reopen our column "On Guard" believing the activities and news in our squadron will be of interest.

Major Samuel E. William's interest in our possible weekly contribution has also proven quite a motive for us (now let's see—"motive" in this case could mean about the same thing as Lt. McLaughlin's request).

Anyway — greetings and glad to be with you.

There is an proverb to the effect that "every dog has his day." We were proud and happy in looking over Special Orders No. 11 to see that one of our dogs was having his day. That particular extract officially gives Shep the rank of Corporal.

Shep is a beautiful Collie with a disposition just as beautiful as he is—when he is not working on his guardpost. Then it is another and rougher story. Not many people would venture within several yards of him without the proverbial ten-foot pole. Off duty, however, he is frequently admitted to the day room where he romps and plays with the occupants and generally enjoys himself and amuses others.

According to all available information this is the first time an official army rank has ever been bestowed upon a member of the canine family. Pvt. Roland E. Hale deserves his share of credit as Shep's trainer. Incidentally we wonder how Roland feels being ranked by Shep? (Just dry humor—he is really quite proud). Incidentally, again, it might be woe unto a lot of us if Shep could only talk. He could really enforce his orders.

MAJOR AT 22 HOLDS DFC, 27 CLUSTERS

NEW YORK (CNS) — "It's a young man's war" in the opinion of Maj Carl W. Payne, who at 22 is a veteran of 227 combat missions in Europe and Africa.

Maj. Payne, who enlisted in 1941 as an aviation cadet, was commissioned in January 1942. He has since received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with 27 Oak Leaf Clusters.

Diedrichs' 'C' Breeze

MAINTENANCE UNIT C

By PVT. CARL R. LAMKE

After an absence of two weeks we are finally back in print. Many things of importance happened during this time. The first big event was our transfer from the Air Service Command to the 2nd Air Force. On top of this we were adopted by the 410th Base Hq. and given a new name of Maintenance Unit C. We are proud of our new parent and will strive to live up to its standards.

Many of our old-timers left us, among them our former correspondent, T-Sgt. Roy Wortendyke. His going may perhaps explain why we failed to meet the last two issues. We're going to miss these "old fellows." They've been with us every day, many of them since the Squadron was activated. Now they're "Off To The Wars." It is our wish that their stay at Kelly Field turns out to be a short one. But more important we hope none of them fall into the clutches of 1st Sgt. Libermann. Our new transfers tell us many a tale of woe emanating from that Depot's renowned squadron and its "Simon Legree" top-kick.

Ed Hawkins was discovered the other day out among the sage and cactus of the surrounding desert. In civilian life Ed was an oil well driller of some repute. Could it be that he's doing a little prospecting on Army time? Our "get well" wishes are in order to our veteran M-Sgt. Darley, recently hospitalized. We hope his stay is as brief as those Medics can make it. Incidentally M-Sgt. Darley spent almost 3 years with the A.E.F. in Vladivostok, Siberia, back in 1920. His stories and anecdotes ought to prove both interesting as well as entertaining to both nurses and fellow patients.

What was that mysterious phone call originating from the Orderly Room last Wednesday night to a certain PFC Charlotte Gold? Can it be that one of our GIs is looking for riches in the WAC Detachment? We thought the old adage was "Thars gold in them thar hills," but never expected to find it out here on the plains of West Texas. . . . Cpl. Levin can't keep up with his wife, Shirley. A Spar, Shirley was recently transferred from Cleveland to the Coast and for a week our Classification Expert was beside with grief, having no knowledge as to her whereabouts. . . . With the thermometer hovering around the 50 degree mark in the Orderly Room last Thursday, our CO could be heard singing "Oh, What A Beautiful Day." A natural born

Yank Sports Editor Opens Controversial Subject In Article

NEW YORK—Sports fans will find plenty of material for latrine forums and barracks controversy in Yank's Jan. 28 issue which hits the PX stand Friday, Jan. 21. Sgt. Dan Polier, sports editor for Yank has opened up a wide field for discussion by reviewing the records of top athletes in the service and questioning how many will be able to maintain their status in post-war sports.

Pointing out the ages of such GIs as Sgt. Joe Louis, Cpl. Billy Conn and Sgt. Joe Di Maggio, Yank hazards a guess on the chances of each man to resume his championship form in the athletic world after another year or two in uniform. The conclusions drawn by Sgt. Polier are both challenging and instructive, since the article deals with a phase of American sports that has rarely been touched upon in this war.

schemer, it was a clever way on his part of telling the boys to hurry up with those service records and forget about the fact that the gas was shut off. But all we could think of was Nordhoff and Hall's great book, "No More Gas" and blowing on our fingers continue with the extracts.

Off to Aliquippa, Pa., goes Sgt. Lou Essey on a 15-Day furlough. Mary will be at the station to meet him. . . . Mary is Lou's "little woman." . . . We suggest Pvt. Earl "Chief" Yellowcloud treat himself to a "dollar watch" next pay-day. Maybe it will help the Chief when it comes to meeting that Curfew Hour. . . . Pvt. John Merryman has plenty to squak about now. No longer has he got a life of ease and comfort. He's back in Aero Repair and pulling down a real "honest to goodness" 8 hour shift.

Our basketball team got off to a running start in league play by overwhelming the Aviation Unit 39-14. Trailing by a 7-6 score at the end of the 1st period, the team managed a comeback, made 5 goals to lead at half-time 16-12. Continuing their fast pace the five led at the close of the 3rd period 27-13, and then in the final quarter, scoring their highest total for any period with 12 points, they finished in a blaze of glory, 39-14. The team took 62 shots at the basket, 33 in the first half and 29 in the second, dropping in 18 of them for a good 30% average.

The one-handed flips of Gerrard, Boots, and Padak were thrillers, some of them being tossed in from half the distance of the court.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

T-SGT LAWRENCE SHIPP

Whittier's "Snowbound" and a comfortable chair by the fire-place would have been ideal during the very unusual desert snow storm last Wednesday night, but not for the Medics. Plans to meet at Pyote's Sunset Cafe had been made and nothing could alter them. Plowing through the snow to the most notorious "Night Spot" in West Texas was no effort whatsoever when all concerned knew a good time was in store for them. The occasion was no other than a meeting; the first in 1944, of "Local No. 237," already made famous by its hilarious meetings in the P. X. Patio. The organization was forced to move into its winter quarters.

At the designated hour the "old faithful" members had assembled and everything proceeded according to schedule. In spite of a broken down Juke Box, a leaking roof and a "refreshment" called "Victory" the participants had an excellent time and all types of rug-cutting continued 'til the lights began to flicker. The meeting itself was brief. The main feature was an announcement by Cpl. Barber (High on a chair) stating that T-Sgt. Rayfield, somewhere in England, had opened up a "Branch" in London and its expansion and progress was terrific. Yes, that was excellent news from our friend across the "pond". After all, "Local No. 237" in reality means—"A good excuse for a gang to get together." It's as general as the 104th Article of War. The trek back through the snow to the barracks was enjoyable and made plenty of GIs and WACs think of those long cold winters in the north.

Memories of the Famous Friday Night Dance still linger. The paramount question in the minds of all the "Pill-Rollers" is the following: "Did 1-Sgt. Schurr really take Sgt. Nugent back to her barracks in the wheel-chair after the party?" From all indications that was really the means of transportation for the night. Oh well, why walk when a "vehicle" will get you there faster?

"Who tripped me?" yelled Cpl. Nissen as he fell on the barracks floor with a terrific thud the other night. It seems that this "Chronic Night-Owl" was returning from Tubb's Hall when this occurred, and he was also alone. Ah, what injustice. The mystery has been solved by everyone but Nissen; he wasn't tripped.

A Lucky Strike?



SHE WILL DO. Ariel Heath, Kentucky lass, reveals why she fits in as a night club cigarette girl in a recent RKO Radio picture. She is currently seen in the John Wayne-Jean Arthur dramatic comedy, "A Lady Takes a Chance."

Hurry, hurry, it's "Coffee Time" in Ward 8. What will you have, Edwina, cream sugar or both? White table cloth too? No, that is only for Sunday, the holidays are over.

The best boner in Pyote Medical History occurred last Friday night. Place—along the highway; characters—PFC Nasiff and patient; properties—Morphine Sirrette. There kneeling beside the patient, was this "highly trained" technician supposedly administering the drug. George's intentions were excellent but you should have seen the expression on his face when Captain Dill learned later that the cover of the cover of the tube had not been removed. Oh well, you're not alone George; did you hear about the "shot" that Cpl. Joe "Papa" Solick was supposed to have given Sgt. Fohey the other day? "Never again," said Fohey, "next time I'll try Cpl. Pietrusinski." Yes, plenty happens in that dispensary but let's not say anymore. Sgt. Buc and Lesho could say plenty but those "bashful" soldiers won't talk.

PFC Lady Bernette, the Detachment's new mascot is really an idol. Ah, just wait until that dog grows up; she'll be the Queen of the airfield.

QM Sees

By SGT. JACK CANNON

Notice to all you GI wolves who eyed the picture of Miss Arlene Casey in The Rattler a couple of weeks ago. You should have got on the beam then because now it is too late. Her third finger left hand is now decorated with what is known in Brooklyn as a "rock". The lucky boy, and we do mean lucky, is Cpl. Vernon Cole, the California cowboy. We understand that he has quite an eye for horse flesh. We don't know so much about that but we can see that he has an eye for beauty. Don't some fellows have all the luck? All we ask Cole is that you don't take Arlene away from us for a while. We would be stuck without her, so for the good of your outfit please let her stay with us at least for the duration.

While wandering through the Salvage Department the other day, a little bird told us that the Beauty School that Inez Turner was going to has been transferred. What's the story on that Inez? Let us all in on the secret.

When snow comes to Texas, it is a cause for celebration on the part of the natives. The Quartermaster was not to be outdone during that storm of last week, so a little party was held by the P. & C. Department during the height of the storm. Thanks for the arranging goes to our lively redhead Virginia Collins, who cut the cake and made ice cream (out of snow). The only thing that we are still wondering is where the icing went from the top of the cake. We suspect that Collins' "sweet tooth" got the best of her although she still maintains that it all stuck to the paper.

As she was the hostess there was nothing else that we could do but believe her story. Some of the boys got back at her though when it came time to go home. As she stepped out the door she was met with a barrage of snow balls and was subjected to a fierce five minute attack. She promises to retaliate in the near future but we know that it won't be with snowballs because we don't expect to see snow again in Texas. But then again this is Texas and any thing can happen.

Perhaps the most disappointed soldier in the U. S. Army last week was George Mahaney, who would rather hunt than eat. George has just acquired a new coyote hound and with the advent of snow he was all set to give it a tryout. Due to the shortage of manpower, however, he was not able to leave to go tramping over the prairie. George swears that everyone is against him. To quote him, "We have a snowfall in Texas once in a blue moon and what happens? I can't go coyote hunt-

Vincos, Guards Take Opening Loop Games

The Rattlesnake Basketball League got off to a flying start last week with three fast games.

The Vincos squeezed by the Sad Sacks, representing Unit "B", to the tune of 26-18 with Sgt. Jim Castner leading the victories with eight points. Sgt. Ralls Neil also netted eight points for the Sad Sacks to tie for high scoring honors in this game.

The Galloping Guards, minus their arm bands and club, came through to score a 38-18 win over the Ordnance outfit. Corporal Bill Ray racked up eighteen points to lead the Guards while another two-striper Lagerquist set the scoring pace for the Ordnance five with 12 points.

Handicapped by a loss of some of their outstanding players, the Gun-Busters (to the uninitiated, Ordnance) team pulled an iron-man act and played the entire game without a substitution.

In Thursday night's only game, the Crippled Commandos, formerly the 475th, bounced the Aviation Unit off the hardwood, 39-14. The Aviation team battled its foes right down to the wire but the Commandos had too much on the ball.

PFC Joe Boots tossed aside his crutches and led the Crippled Commandos with fourteen points.

The Question Marks have come out from under their mystery masks and proved to be the Station Band. If their basketball is as good as their music, the Question Marks will be a hard outfit to lick.

ing." The rest of his conversation is unprintable and therefore for the sake of good taste I will drop it there. Things were never like that back in Batavia, were they Mahaney?

They say that in spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to what the girls have been thinking about all winter but our Romeo of Warehouse Eight seems to be rushing the season. Just last week he sent Margaret, the latest addition to the Salvage Department, a bag of goodies from the Commissary. My! My! How can he afford it on a S-Sgt.'s pay?

Bill Harris seems to have forgotten the line to a popular song of last year. The line to which we have reference is the one that goes "I got a gal in Kalamazoo". He is rapidly becoming like a famous cartoon that appears in this paper and we don't mean the one by Caniff. Tsk! Tsk! Bill, what would Kitty say. This seems to be a case of "When the Kitty's away, the wolves will play".

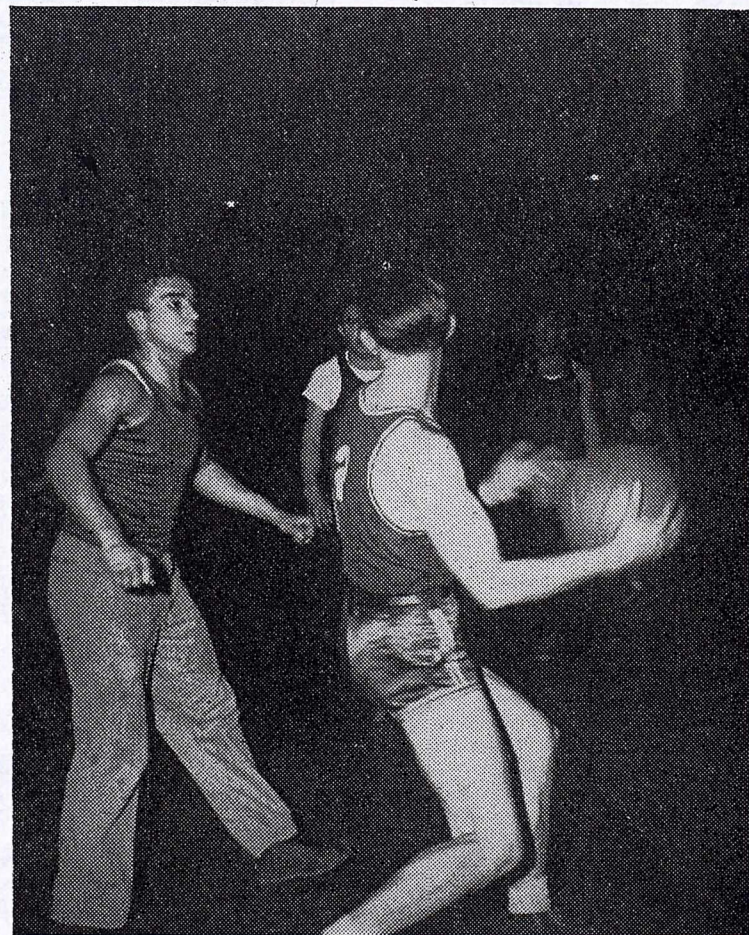
Basketball League Opens



Cpl. William Ray of the Galloping Guards and S-Sgt. Blackburn of the Ordnance five get the low-down on the latest in basketball rules and regulations from Sgt. Donald White, left

and Cpl. Michael Fedor, holding the ball. These two teams are members of the Rattlesnake Basketball League which functions at the Rec Hall every Tuesday and Thursday night.

Hardwood Caper Cutting

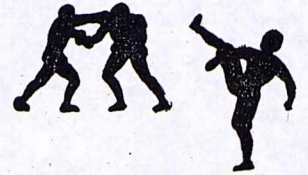


PFC Henry Felix of the Galloping Guards stands with mouth agape as his opponent, unidentified, from the Ordnance

five prepares to spin one in the hoop over his shoulder in their game at the Rec Hall last week.



RATTLER SPORTS



Pyote Coyotes Take Two; Drop One

Pyote Coyotes were nosed out in last Saturday's game in the final minutes of play 49 to 41, by the Midland Air Base, to end a two game winning streak.

It was one of the best games played by the Coyotes. From the starting whistle to the final finish it was anyone's game, until Midland put the heat on in the final minutes of play.

Starting the first quarter, Pyote went to the front 11 to 8, with one of their newest members of the team, Kucherenko, chalking up 5 points in the first quarter, and was responsible for 15 of the 41 points scored by Pyote. Also for the first time since the Coyotes have been playing, Coach Glucksman went in the game after the first quarter, and although he didn't attempt many shots at the basket, he played a whale of a game.

The star for the Midland Air Base was Mr. Five by Five (No. 40), better known as DuBow. DuBow scored a total of 12 points, while his team mate Wiedmayer tallied up 15.

At the half time the score was 20 to 19 favor Pyote, but at the end of the third quarter the score was 29 to 28 with Midland on top.

Coach Glucksman is going to try and get a re-match with Midland Air Base in the very near future.

However the games played Tuesday and Wednesday nights of last week told quite a different story, as the Pyote team took both ends of the "Double Header" from Kermit and Wink High Schools.

At Kermit the Coyotes won by the final score of 23 to 15, without dropping their lead once during the entire game.

At Wink High, our boys gave them a lacing, to win 31 to 12. This game was strictly in favor of Pyote all the way, and after the Coyotes had a substantial lead they eased up for the first time this season and enjoyed themselves.

WARMIN' THE BENCH



By SGT. FRANK DEBLOIS

Distributed by Camp Newspaper Service

PORTRAIT OF A FELLOW LOOKING FOR A FIGHT

The latest news about Joe Louis is good news for the thousands of gees in the Army who never saw the Dark Destroyer stalk a man across the ring and then nail him with a clout in the mushroom.

If all goes well for Joe the Jolter, the heavyweight champion soon will start a tour of our fighting fronts to give boxing exhibitions for the edification and enjoyment of one and all concerned.

Present plans call for Sergeant Joe and other members of his entourage to leave for posts abroad shortly after completing their tour of Army installations within the USA. The domestic tour, which began last August, has covered the country from coast to coast, playing to packed houses at each stop en route. The War Department estimates that more than 630,000 soldiers have seen Joe do his stuff.

The WD hasn't announced where Joe's overseas odyssey will take him but it a pretty safe bet that, wherever he shows up, he will be boxing for a lot of GIs who never saw him before, because although thousands of Americans saw Louis' great fights in the ring, millions of others never clapped eyes on the fellow.

Joe Louis—like good wine—seems to have grown better with age. Maybe he's not the fighter today he was when he stiffened Max Schmeling, but he's surely a much bigger man. Right now—as a matter of fact—he's the biggest figure in sports.

Louis is a good sport and a gentleman. He never talked down an opponent. He didn't gripe the one night in his life he was licked. He never got into street fights and he never slugged a waiter in a night club. That's why everyone likes him so much.

Someone has suggested that a big packing crate full of movies should be sent along with Joe on his overseas tour. Then Joe could box a few rounds and after that he could run off a few films of his

various bouts, supplying the comment himself.

"That fellow could punch," Joe would say, and on the screen you'd see Two-Ton Galento rubbering around on the floor.

"He had a good hook," Joe would say, and on the screen you'd see big Abe Simon collapse and fall as though shot.

"And then I hit him," Louis would say, and on the screen you'd see Kingfish Levinsky sitting in his corner, not wanting to fight anymore.

Seeing some of these movies again would be almost as good as watching Joe box. How about that Braddock fight, for instance, when game Jim dumped Joe in the first round, then took an unmerciful drubbing as Joe climbed up from the floor? How about the two Schmeling fights: the tragic knockout of Louis in the second? And how about the Billy Conn fight, when Louis felt the title oozing from his fingers for 12 rounds and then saved everything with one sledge hammer punch in the 13th?

Louis rose to the top as a good sport in that Billy Conn fight. In the tenth round, Conn slipped, dropped his guard and stood helpless for a second before the champion. But Louis wouldn't hit him. He stepped back and let Billy recover, although the kid was way ahead of him on points at the time.

A tour of the fronts is the kind of thing Joe Louis has wanted to do ever since he went into the Army. Like Barney Ross, he wanted to fight—fight Germans or Japs, or fight with his fists. As a boxing instructor he may have been kind of unhappy, although he never said much about it.

"Shucks," he once told a friend. "I want to fight. I don't know nothin' about boxing."

Soldier Sports

By Camp Newspaper Service

Johnny Rucker, New York Giants' outfielder, was telling a few baseball stories to GI patients at Finney General Hospital in Thomasville, Ga., when one of his listeners remarked that he had often watched Rucker play from the centerfield bleachers at the Polo Grounds in New York. "Really?" said Rucker. "I thought I recognized your voice."

Capt. Hank Greenberg, the Detroit Tigers' great slugger, recently completed a 15-month tour of duty at the headquarters of Lt. Gen. Barton K. Yount's AAF Training Command in Texas and has been given a new training assignment.

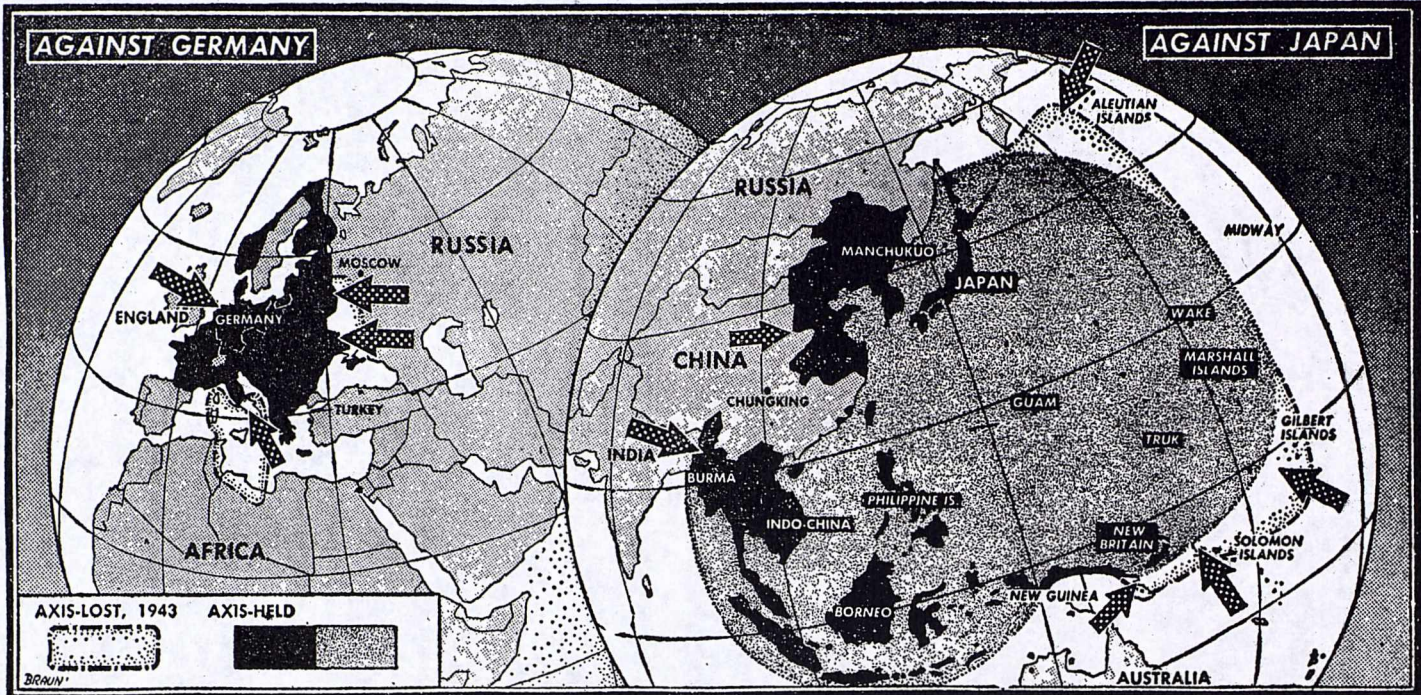
Having lost First Baseman Elbie Fletcher to the Navy, the Pittsburgh Pirates recently completed a deal with the Philadelphia Phillies whereby they secured the services of a 4F initial sacker. He is smooth-fielding Babe Dahlgren, rejected for service because of a sinus condition. The Pirates sent Babe Phelps veteran catcher, and cash to the Phils for Dahlgren.

Best all-around athlete now stationed at Camp Stewart, Ga., is Pvt. Joe Derrico, a four-letter man from Melrose Park Ill. A high school football, baseball, basketball and boxing star, Derrico hit .486 in the Wisconsin State semi-pro baseball league and twice made the All-State scholastic basketball team before he was drafted. At Camp Stewart he batted .383 last summer and enjoyed a 28-game hitting streak. He was elected to the Savannah Service Defense League All Stars, the All-State Georgia semi-pro team and the all U. S. Army team. His greatest accomplishment, however, is his ability to inflate an automobile tire, using only lung power.

Lt. Joe Hunt, on leave from the Navy, added the Southern California midwinter tennis championship to his court laurels the other day. Hunt, who won the national singles championship last summer, defeated Bob Falkenburg of Hollywood, national junior titleholder, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 to take the coast crown.

GLOBAL FIGHT TO FINAL VICTORY

Ward County
Historical Commission
Monahans, Tx. 79756



Although the global war is one gigantic struggle against totalitarian imperialism, the European and Asiatic theaters obviously are separate strategic units, as shown on the above excellent map reprinted from Air Forces Edition of the

Army Times. Although momentum is being gained in offensive operations around the perimeter of Japan's vast stolen empire, decision in that theater apparently must follow complete destruction of Hitler's European

fortress. Hitler's defensive walls have begun to crack seriously, particularly on the Eastern Front, where the Red Army is pouring into Poland and toward Rumania. Allied air attacks have assumed 1,000-plus plane

raids as the decisive western invasion of the continent nears. But the Germans are still fighting strongly, and the Japs are deeply dug in. This map is convincing evidence that, while victory has become certain, the hardest fighting lies ahead.

Gen. Arnold's Report Reveals Miracle Of Growth

USAAF Climbs From Seventh To Top Place

By SGT. TOMME CALL
Rattler Editor

Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the United States Army Air Forces, recently paid stirring tribute to the men and women responsible in producing and manning fighting America's sky-filling fleets of warcraft.

In his comprehensive, concise report to the Secretary of War on the growth of the USAAF, Gen. Arnold stated:

"After a period of desperate, if resourceful, maneuvering with consistently outnumbered forces, the United Nations have mounted and are about to mount greater crushing aerial offensives on every front. The Army Air Forces are now in the process of fulfilling an historic and decisive mission.

"No man, no group of men and no combination of groups could possibly have created the Army Air Forces. We have become a reality through the outpouring of the will and en-

ergy of an entire nation." But he concluded: "Final tribute must be to the airmen who pit their flesh, skill and steel against the flesh, skill and steel of our enemies. It is they who are fighting this war."

Gen. "Hap" Arnold reported how the Air Forces began expansion in January 1938, with about 1,300 officers and 18,000 men, with a reserve of 2,800 officers and 400 men. The AAF now numbers 2,385,000 officers and men.

In 1938, the USAAF ranked seventh among the world's air forces; now it is the largest in existence.

In September, 1939, this country produced 117 planes; in November, 1943, 8,800 planes rolled off the spreading assembly lines, and the figure is still rising.

In 1939, employes in U. S. aircraft final assembly plants (engines, propellers, airframes) numbered only 32,000; now the figure runs around 1½ millions.

Gen. Arnold outlined the principles on which Ameri-

ca's unrivaled air striking power was developed:

1. Decision that the No. 1 job of an air force is bombardment with the best defense being attack.
2. Planes able to function under all climatic conditions.
3. Daylight operations.
4. Precision bombsight.
5. Highly-trained crews working as a team.
6. Belief in strategic precision bombing of key targets deep in the enemy's territory.
7. Effective tactical operations in cooperation with group troops.
8. Combined operations with the Army Group Forces and the Navy.
9. A research program putting special emphasis on high-altitude flight.
10. Efficient organization, maintenance and supply.

Not a phase of the work carried out by various organizations at such fields as Pyote AAF missed praise from the Commanding General for jobs well done.

Gen. Arnold warned, however, that heavier casualties

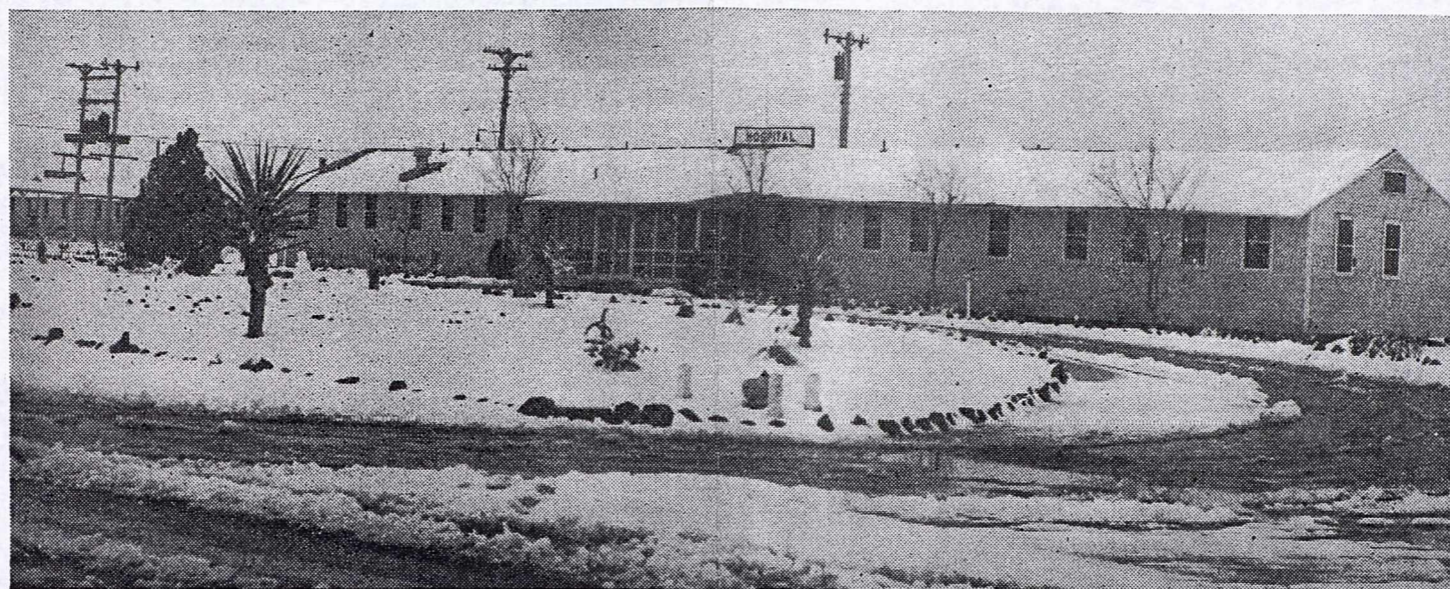
would result from striking deeper, oftener and in greater force into Hitler's Europe, and he had another word of caution regarding optimism toward the Pacific war:

"Those persons who think that after the costly and time-counting defeat of Germany, we can by a simple order fly our planes to China, bomb Tokyo and bring Japan to her knees, do not yet understand the need for vast supply lines, well-equipped bases, and planes built to fight under entirely different conditions from those that prevail in Europe."

Gen Arnold spoke for all his men when he concluded:

"It is difficult to appraise the present struggle for air supremacy as representing anything short of a major turning point in the war . . . It is the overall cost to us, in relation to our ability to bear that cost, measured against the overall result and the enemy's ability to endure the result, which must decide for or against the resolute prosecution of a military campaign . . . we will not falter."

The Snow Fell - Made History And Mud

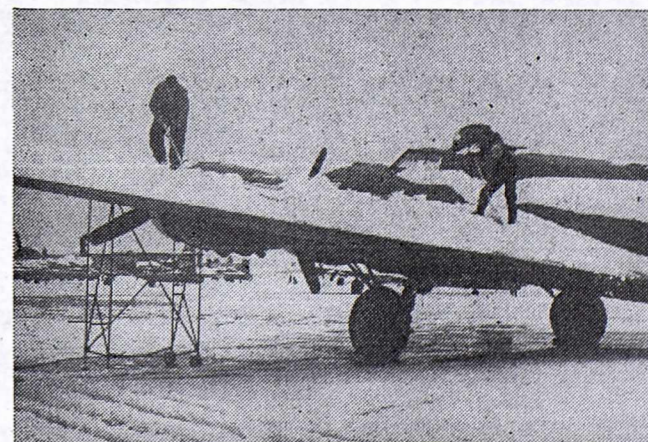


Anything can and does happen at Pyote. Last week brought one of the severest snow storms ever seen in these regions. Always quick to get on top of the

unbelievable. "The Rattler" sent its ace photographer out to get a round-up of how the snow affected the Rattlesnake Army Air Field. Incidentally he met

some nice looking girls, as in the lower left hand picture, who were trying to maim each other with snowballs. Suffering the most during the storm were

the citizens of Texas who had been boasting continuously about the excellent weather to be found in the Lone Star State.



Happiest to see the snowstorm blanket the Field were the Northerners. It was just like a furlough to go sloughing thru

the slush once again. Oh yeah That stringy haired gal above with Sgt. Joe McGrath is no Hedy LeMarr.