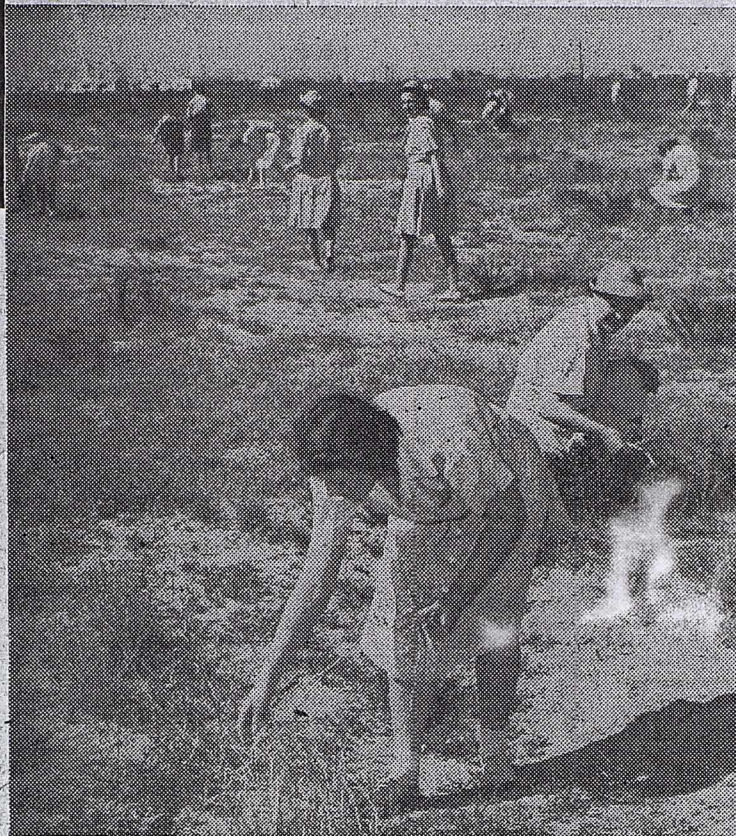


March 29, 1944

# WACWORLD

WHEELSNAKE Army Air Field  
FOURTH NUMBER OF PYOTE, TEXAS MARCH 28, 1944

## Wacs Join Clean-Up Party



## Queen of Pyote To Be Named In Beauty Contest

Page 2

The Wacs, too, joined in the fun last Saturday, searching diligently for scraps of waste paper as the entire base had a Spring "policing up" party. Cpl. Doris Farrell, in foreground, and Sgt. Rose Shubar (kneeling) lead the Wac charge on an area that was soon denuded of everything except sand and mesquite. For more pictures of the same detail see Page 3.

Dance scene at opening of Officers' Club; show part of crowd celebrating officially opening of handsome new building. More shots on Page 5.





# Photographic Contest To Determine Queen Of Pyote

## Dust Off That Picture And Send It In; The Girl May Win A Bond

So you think your babe ought to be in motion pictures. You think that the picture of the little lady you carry around in your otherwise flat wallet is the most beautiful damsel in the world.

Well, brethren, "The Rattler" is willing to spend some of its hard-earned dough in order to determine just who is the Queen of Pyote.

A contest to pick the Queen of the Rattlesnake Army Air Field, sponsored by this paper, opens this Friday, March 31st. This will be strictly a photographic deal and every officer and enlisted man on the field is eligible to enter the picture of either his wife or girl friend.

It doesn't matter what type photograph you enter. It can be a portrait or a snapshot. All we ask is that it be clear enough so our bald-headed, bleary-eyed married judges can determine which is the prettiest entry.

Three prizes, provided through the courtesy of the Special Service Office, will be awarded to the three top entries. First prize will be a fifty-dollar war bond, second prize a twenty-five dollar bond and third prize will be ten dollars in war stamps. If a married man submits the winning photo and his wife happens to be in this vicinity, it is his responsibility to see that he retains possession of the War Bond.

All entries should be turned into the newspaper office, located in Station headquarters, and the sooner you get your entry in, the better it will be for all concerned, especially the judges. The closing day for entries is Saturday, April 22nd.

Winners in this contest will be announced in the anniversary issue of this paper which, we hope, will reach your eager hands on April 26th. The three top prize winners will be published in that issue, plus the photographs of the men submitting the pictures.

Judges in this contest will remain anonymous for the time being. "The Rattler" is perfectly conscious of the fact that no one would attempt to coerce the authorities but rather than run the risk of anything happening, the names of these three men will be withheld until the contest closes.

Suffice to say the trio selected comprises three men who are said to be connoisseurs of feminine pulchritude from way back. Or as they are wont to say in Flatbush "they can really glam the gams".

As entries are received a few will be printed each week in this paper. The fact that certain pictures are printed doesn't mean that any others received during that period have been washed out but only means that those printed were received in time to make a

## One-Man Gang is Kelly, Hero of Italian Campaign

ITALY (CNS) — Number One hero of the Italian campaign—to date—is T-Sgt. Charles E. Kelly, of Pittsburgh, who has received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his extraordinary achievements in action.

Kelly fought at San Pietro, Cassino and in the Rapido River crossing. He's had 70 days of active combat and is credited with killing at least 40 Germans. But his biggest day was last Sept. 13—near Altavilla.

On that date he established the position of the enemy by crawling through sniper, mortar and artillery fire, then worked with another patrol which he "assisted materially" until he ran out of ammunition. The next morning Kelly peppered an enemy advance with rifle, mortar and bazooka fire until his unit had a chance to withdraw. His wounds during this action consisted of a skinned nose and some small cuts on his hands—from shell fragments.

particular issue.

All pictures submitted will be returned to those who entered them.

The entry rules are simple:

Each picture submitted must be accompanied by the following information. The rank, name, and organization of the person submitting the picture and the name and home town of the girl entered.

Pictures will be numbered by members of "The Rattler" staff and the judges will pick the winners by numbers only. In this way, we hope to prevent any outside interference from influencing the decisions of the judges.

So get busy and get your entries in to "The Rattler". We hope to keep this strictly on the level and each fellow is permitted to submit only one picture. So let's have no Hollywood pin-ups. We have a whole cabinet full of those now and you'd be surprised how ugly they really look. Oh yeah!



**FIRST PRIZE**—Look what the winner got in a recent AAF lottery in China—Paulette Goddard, touring bases in the CBI theater. A hat-drawing was held for the privilege of piloting the shapely movie star on her trip. The winners, three officers and one EM, turned down offers of \$100 apiece to trade places with their eager comrades. Their judgement was entirely warranted, as you can see from this picture.

## Letters Returned Because Unsigned

A large number of letters are being returned daily to writers on this field because of improper return addresses, according to a statement from Capt. Jennings B. Duff, Station Post Office Officer.

"Attention is invited to WD Circular No. 238, paragraph 2, July 21, 1942, which states: 'The name of the sender, his grade or rating the designation of the service to which he belongs, and the word FREE, must be in the handwriting of the sender,'" said Captain Duff.

## Soldiers to Get Job Priority in Civil Service

By Camp Newspaper Service

Servicemen and women honorably discharged from the armed forces are going to ride the inside track when appointments to jobs in the executive branch of the Federal Government are made, the U. S. Civil Service Commission has disclosed.

Servicemen are entitled by law to preference in Federal appointments through the Civil Service system, according to the commission. Here are some of the breaks they get:

They are given five points in addition to their earned rating in civil service examinations. Therefore, in written examinations they need earn a rating of only 65 in order to attain eligibility. Non-veterans must achieve a rating of 70.

Ten points are added to the earned ratings of disabled veterans or those who are over 55 years old and because of disability are entitled to pension or compensation. Ten points are also added to the ratings of the widows of veterans and to the ratings of the wives of those disabled veterans, whose disability prevents them from being employed in jobs in line with their former occupations. Ten point veterans need earn a rating of only 60 per cent in written examinations.

Servicemen are examined without regard to height, weight and age requirements, except for such positions as guard, policeman and fireman. Physical requirements may be waived entirely for disabled veterans in some cases.

They are appointed to Federal positions without regard to the apportionment rule, which provides that appointments to the departments in Washington shall be apportioned among the states and territories according to population.

Servicemen are given the privilege of filing applications for examinations which have closed but for which lists of eligibles exist or are about to be established. Such examinations are called "re-opened" examinations.

In order to establish his right to this preference, the veteran should file with his application for Federal employment the commission's preference form—Form 14—and acceptable proof of his honorable discharge, the commission has announced.



# Policing Up Details Cover Countryside In Station-Wide "Housecleaning"



"Scatter out, men, and pick up everything that doesn't grow . . ." That old tune was played recently to the largest audience that ever heard it on this base. Men from every outfit participated in the station-wide clean-up drive which lasted three hours and resulted in the collection of some 20 truckloads of trash. Above, the men of the 390th Aviation Unit fan out start scanning the ground.

## Mirage? Try To Lift It!



"Where did that thing come from?" Honest, that's a log of some kind, or else the camera has gone to telling fibs. How it got out here nobody knew, but it was disposed of in the whirlwind clean-up campaign that lasted one afternoon. It may appear chimerical to you, but there was nothing mirage-like about it to the fellows lifting it. They took an afternoon and picked the base cleaner than a hound's tooth.

## It's In The Bag



Pvt. Granville O. Paris had a sack to fill when he started out. He seemed to be getting a bang out of the whole deal, for Granville filled his sack several times, adding to the huge collection of trash that was hauled away after completion of the drive.

## Does Work Of Squad Alone When Wounded

WASHINGTON — For taking over single-handed the work of an entire machine gun squad and killing three Germans with a pistol when the machine gun was knocked out, infantryman Paul E. Graham of Columbiaville, Mich., has been awarded the Silver Star.

wounded every man in Private Graham's machine gun unit. Although wounded himself, he kept up effective fire from the machine gun and continued fighting until reinforcements arrived.

"This magnificent display of courage and outstanding calmness in the face of overwhelming odds," the citation reads, "was an inspiration to all who witnessed the deed."

An enemy artillery barrage had



## 'What Do You Think of Drafting Women?' 'Let Well Enough Alone' Is GI Opinion

Nobody said his feelings were going to be considered, but the average member of the Armed Forces would just as soon the women folks be left outside the pale of the selective service law.

That was the concensus gathered from this week's questionnaire, in which six persons were asked the question: "Do you think women should be drafted for military service as men are?"

Most of those questioned (four enlisted men, one officer, one Wac) thought that the ladies are doing more good where they are. The thought that the voluntary system is working well and should be left alone was expressed.

The opinions follow:

Sgt. R. L. Thompson, San Francisco, Cal., Armorer-Gunner, Section II, Flight B, says:

"I don't think women should be inducted unless absolutely necessary. The women who are in the armed forces now are doing a good job but believe it should remain a voluntary proposition." Sgt. Thompson is a former sheet metal worker.



Sgt. J. Darden, Clinton, N. C., Radio Operator-Gunner, Section I, Flight C, says:

"I don't believe women should be inducted. It would cause trouble. It's too hard a life for a woman and when the glory of wearing a uniform wore off they wouldn't



like it." Sgt. Darden formerly was an engineering rod man.

Private Catherine McDaniel, Belleville, Ill., WAC Detachment, says: "I think it should remain voluntary for women to join the armed forces. Before they draft women it seems to me they should draft the 4-F's first!"



Sgt. Guy La Rocco, Inwood, Long Island, Armorer-Gunner, Section II, Flight C, says: "Yes, if they can actually replace a man but not if they are better suited for an outside job. Most of them can do a lot in a civilian occupation to furthering the war effort." Sgt. La Rocco was a mechanic in civilian life.



Flight Officer Warren W. Borges, Arlington, Mass., Pilot, Section I, Flight C, says:

"No. Don't think it is necessary. There are a lot of patriotic women who would join the armed forces if they felt their country needed them drastically enough — and



there are a lot more left who will join voluntarily." F-O Borges was a shipyard supervisor in civilian life.

Sgt. R. L. Miller, San Bernardino, California, Radio Operator-Gunner, Section II, Flight C, says:

"I believe women are O.K. for an office job or something like that, but as far as other jobs are concerned they are doing more good where they are. Don't think they should be inducted. The voluntary system is working fine and should be left on that basis." Sgt. Miller is an ex-engineering draftsman.



## Sec. I Regains 'Best Barracks'

Section I, after dropping the "Best Barracks" contest last week, made a come-back and entered the winner's circle with a percentage of 94.

In second place was Section III with a total of 84. Section II racked up 79 points for third place.

Finishing one, two, three, were the following barracks: Barracks 602, Bks. Chief S-Sgt. Sam M. Plazio; Bks. 613, Bks. Chief Sgt. Fred W. Nicklas; and Bks. 618, Bks. Chief Sgt. Ernest M. Heidt.

Receiving the vote for best all around section for the week was Section I with 80 per cent in first place. Section III in second with 75 per cent and Section II followed with 69 per cent.

The retailer was filling out a questionnaire. Coming to the question, "What is your fastest moving item?" he wrote without hesitation "Personnel."



PEDDLES THREE R's . . . First Sgt. Leo W. Evans isn't a school teacher but he has a lot to do with how much the men of Section II learn. Evans sees that all class schedules are met by crew members in training, as well as flying, ground gunnery, and other schedules.

## Sec. II Top Kick Rides Herd on Men In Training, Sees Classes Are Met

First Sgt. Leo W. Evans of Section II, Combat Crew Detachment, has a job which calls for long hours and a wealth of detail work. His day starts at 0600 or 0700 and sometimes extends to 2200.

The daily schedule of Section II must be posted every day covering the activities of that particular day, for flights A B and C of that section. When the trainees go to ground school, when they fly, when they go to gunnery range, etc., must be recorded.

Crews are divided into the following classifications: Pilots and Co-Pilots, Navigators, Bombardiers, Radio Operators, Engineers, Armors and Career Gunners. They meet formations and line up according to their classification. Then they are marched off to different classrooms, or ground schools, or the range, where each group receives particular instruction, according to positions. On the days on which they are scheduled to fly, the crews fly as units. It is the responsibility of Sgt. Evans to see that all schedules are met by the crews in Section II and all absentees are accounted for.

The men all like to fly and are very cooperative to Evans. Only legitimate excuses are ever presented to miss a flying formation, but when it comes to Ground School a good deal of ingenuity and originality is brought into play!

Daily inspection of the barracks of Section II is also on the list of Evans' activities. Statistics gleaned from the sergeant: Most GI's go in for pin-ups. About 50 per cent display pictures of family, girl friends, etc., on their shelves. Incidentally, in the "Best Barracks" contest, which is waged weekly, Section II has a unique

record. They have never finished first. They have never finished last. Sgt. Evans says he has hopes of breaking the middle-man jinx which has been hanging over them so long!

Section II functions under Captain Vernon Bonn, assisted by Tactical Officers Lts. Parker, Brown, and Roumas.

Sgt. Evans is 24 years old, married and from Raritan, New Jersey. He came in the Army in January, 1942, and spent nearly two years in the Engineering Corps before coming to Pyote in February, 1944. Before transfer to the Air Corps he was on D.S. in Greenland—building airports—so it was not much of a jump to the Air Corps. With two years at Rutgers University, studying engineering, he expects to continue in this work after the war.

### DROP IN SOME TIME

ALGIERS (CNS)—Cpl. Nathan S. Levy, of New York, was lying in a muddy foxhole when the mail clerk gave him a letter. It was from a New York hotel, informing Levy that the hotel hadn't seen him for a long time and certainly would appreciate an early renewal of his patronage.



## A Message Meant For Everyone

The following letter which was passed on to "The Rattler" by Major John B. Nelson for possible publication was received by the wife of an officer on this Field from their son who has been serving overseas in the European theater.

It is only a short note but the thoughts contained in these few lines should be of interest to every person here at Pyote.

We thank the officer, who wishes to remain anonymous, for permission to reprint this letter.

"Hello Mom: So sorry there is such a long time between letters, but I am afraid that's the way it will have to be for a little while longer. I hope it won't be too long, but then again, if it is, it will be just one more cross we won't have to bear in the next life.

'God' has been very good to us and I feel certain that He will continue, but, Mother, if for some reason, He should take one of us, I want you to understand and not grieve. You know Mother, we are just loaned to this earth and when we have completed our apprenticeship, He calls.

"I am not afraid and know you aren't"

"Love and God Bless All. Pray hard."



**Q.** Is it ever permissible for enlisted men in the Navy to wear Army uniforms?

**A.** Yes, Navy men may wear Army uniforms when serving with Army detachments. They are also permitted to wear Marine uniforms when serving with the Marine Corps.

**Q.** Is there anyone outside the Army who is permitted to wear Army officers' uniforms?

**A.** Yes. Officers of Allied Nations on duty in the U. S. are authorized to purchase and wear U. S. Army officers' uniforms. No U. S. Army insignia nor identification will be worn with the uniforms, of course, as the co-belligerent officers will wear their own insignia.

**Q.** What are the age requirements for Spars?

**A.** NEW Enlisted personnel must be Youngest student Ripley, 20 and 36, is Merrill Wolf, who has won two the famed university as a spars more at the age of 12.

## Col. Hewitt at Club Opening



Lt.-Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr. (right), former Station Commandant, is greeted by Col. Bernard T. Castor, the present commandant, at the informal dance last Saturday night officially opening the new officer's club. Col. Hewitt, now CO at Walker, Kansas, was the driving power responsible to a large degree for obtaining the fine building and facilities for recreational purposes for officers at this station.

## Red Cross Drive Looks to Pay Day Givers to Boost Campaign Income

Early returns from the Red Cross War Fund drive on this post gave every indication that the goal of \$3,500 would only be reached in a final payday spurt with a scant \$645.00 contributed at the close of business Saturday. Only two days remain until the official ending of the campaign on March 31 with the possibility that the deadline may be extended to permit the operation of a membership and display booth in the officers club for the Saturday night dance.

Very encouraging to fund workers, however, is the fact that contributions to date average almost \$2.50 for officers, enlisted men, and civilians. At least four units reported hundred per cent contributions. They include Special Services, Transportation Office, Finance Office, and Air Inspector's Office. Even though workers report very few refusals, there have been only 300 donors from all three personnel groups.

"It means that chairmen and those delegated by them to conduct this campaign must exert every effort to see that no person on this field remains unsolicited," Lt. George A. Hoffman, fund chairman, pointed out. The fact that several chairmen have not yet turned in reports explains in some degree the poor showing thus far, according to Lt. Hoffman. The latter was high in his praise of enlisted men's contributions none

of which to date have been lower than \$1.00. Gratitude was also expressed for numerous liberal donations by individual officers.

## Theater Schedule

March 29, 30—"The Purple Heart," with Dana Andrews, Richard Conte, and Donald M. Barry.

March 31—"Action in Arabia," with George Sanders and Virginia Bruce.

April 1—"It Happened Tomorrow," with Dick Powell and Linda Darnell.

April 2, 3—"Lady in the Dark," with Ginger Rogers and Ray Milland.

April 4—"Rosie, the Riveter," with Frank Albertson, Jane Frazee and Vera Vague.

April 5, 6—"Passage to Marseilles," with Humphrey Bogart and Michelle Morgan.

April 7—"The Hour Before the Dawn," with Franchot Tone and Veronica Lake.

## Monahans USO

Wed., March 29—Service Men's Wives Club luncheon, 12:30 noon; Catholic discussion group, 8:30 p. m.

Thurs., March 30—Arts and Crafts program, Mrs. M. L. H.

## Concert To Be Given Tonight

A concert of varied interest, highlighted by a dynamic Spanish dancer, will be presented tonight at 2015 at the Enlisted Men's Service Club. Admission is free.

Rita Holder, ballerina of the New York Metropolitan Opera, will appear. Miss Holder, who has been soloist at the Met for the past five years, specializes in Spanish and Oriental dances. This is her first camp tour, and she has been widely acclaimed wherever she has appeared.

Amparo Navarro Iturbi, sister of the world famous Jose Iturbi, will present her unorthodox style of concert piano playing. Miss Iturbi confesses to a hap-hazard musical education, modelled her playing after that of her brother, and has been a European favorite for many years.

Lela Mae Flynn, gifted young Philadelphia soprano, will be on the program. Miss Flynn sang with the Chicago City Opera Company, with the Kansas City Philharmonic, and has been guest starred over the major networks.

Frank Palumbo, talented young American-trained baritone, will sing several selections. He sang with the San Francisco Symphony orchestra and is well known on both coasts as a church singer.

A rising young violinist, Miss Helen Airopff, who toured Europe and Russia before returning to America to continue her career, will be presented.

Jean Berger, French-American composer and pianist, who specializes in composing and arranging South American music, will appear.

## Thursday Club Council Meets

A meeting of the officers' council of the Thursday Club, organization of wives of officers stationed here, will be held at 12:30 Thursday, March 30, in the officers club, it has been announced.

After luncheon the council members will plan the club's programs for April. Following the program planning meeting a style show, highlighted by a pageant of war styles from 1776 to the present day, will be presented.

Baze; program and hostesses sponsored by Lions Club.

Fri., March 31—Game night; USO-sponsored basketball dinner.

Sat., April 1—April Fool dance, with AAF band.

Sun., April 2—Coffee and doughnuts, 10:30 a.m.; buffet supper, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Mon., April 3—Bingo; "Ball and Chain" club meets with "Better Halves" club.

Tues., April 4—Game night.





NO FIREWORKS . . . But he gets the job done in a quiet manner. First Sgt. Schmidt of the Air Base Unit.

### MEET YOUR BUDDIES:

## Schmidt, Brooklyn Boy With Passion For Anonymity, Is Top Kick of ABU

All preconceived notions about how a first sergeant is supposed to act are shattered on contact of any length with Stanley Schmidt, the quiet, accommodating fellow who's the top man in the Air Base orderly room.

Sgt. Schmidt, who was born and lived all his life in Brooklyn until two and a half years ago, is one of the most soft-spoken men on the field. This seemingly irreconcilable feature has not impaired his efficiency even slightly, nor has it hurt his standing among the men with whom he deals.

"You want a story about me," he asked and grinned. "There isn't any. I'm married and love my wife. When the war's over I'm going back to Brooklyn. That's about all."

He has been eating the dust of Pyote for a little better than a year now, and that hasn't wrecked his outlook on life. Sgt. Schmidt was half-way toward his first hitch stripe, when he arrived at this station, and during that 18 months, most of which had been spent at Keesler Field, Mississippi, he had moved up to tech sergeant. He has been in administrative work since coming into the Army. After acting as sergeant-major for the old 410th, he was promoted to master and made first sergeant about six months ago when 1st Sgt. Ed Ryan left.

Before he started wearing khaki and tucking in his tie, Sgt. Schmidt worked for a bakery in Brooklyn. He dismisses his work as "clerical," but on a little scrutiny it appears he had quite a responsible and exacting position. He was "in charge of reconciliation," which means that every day he had to check the output and

report on how much of each item had been sold and the manner in which it was disposed.

Recently, due to the amalgamation of certain units here on the base, the flow of paper work crossing his desk each day has trebled. That hasn't broken his back either, and Sgt. Schmidt gives a large share of credit for the administrative work of the various units to the men in the absorbed units who are still acting as first sergeants.

Trying to extract information from him was something like trying to fly a B-17 with coal oil. "See some of the fellows in the outfit, and they'll give you the lowdown," he said. Some of the fellows were seen, and while they all spoke their approval, none of them had anything spectacular to report.

His friends have found there's one thing he can't do, although he harbors delusions along that line: Sgt. Cimarusti, a clerk in the 410th orderly room, habitually beats the first sergeant at playing pool.

That would be risky business for some top kicks, but not this one.

## Addresses Slow Overseas Mail

WASHINGTON — Fifteen per cent of the more than 25 million pieces of mail each week being sent to soldiers overseas is incorrectly addressed, the War Department pointed out this week in cautioning the public on the extreme importance of correctly addressing mail for these troops. This incorrectly addressed mail is a serious and a growing problem for the Army Postal Service as more and more contingents of American soldiers pour overseas.

The solution to the problem can be found easily if all persons writing to overseas soldiers will realize the necessity of including the soldier's complete address. This address requires the soldier's rank, full name with middle initial, Army serial number, service organization and unit, APO number and the Postmaster at the Port of Embarkation through which the mail is routed.

Investigation has shown that most cases of misdirected mail are due to laxity on the part of the sender. There is a tendency to rely on memory instead of checking the soldier's complete and correct address.

## Star of 'Met' to Appear Here



A few seasons back, at the Summer Festival in Rochester, N. Y., internationally famous Jose Iturbi predicted a brilliant future for Miss Rita Holder, young dancer. Since then Miss Holder has carried out Iturbi's prophecy, having become ballerina of the Metropolitan Opera, and when not appearing as soloist at the Met, dancing in other cities. Pyote AAF personnel will have an opportunity to see Miss Holder on March 29, when she will appear here with the Camp-to-Camp Concert. Johnson, 11,035 named tour with Camp Shows and she has, 202 named Seaman and ceived wherever she has appeared three named Bluejacket, and Oriental dances.



## Control Tower Men Have Vital, Delicate Task

It sounds like the life of Reilly—banker's hours and no 'frozen' T-O—but there's quite a bit more to this control tower operation business than meets the casual eye.

The sixteen men at this station who work at this job are frankly the envy of their fellow GI's, but theirs is a nerve-wracking, delicate job in which there is very little margin for error. Nerve center of all the traffic, the "house on stilts" has the job of getting the planes into and out of the air quickly, in an orderly manner, and without any confusion or crack-ups.

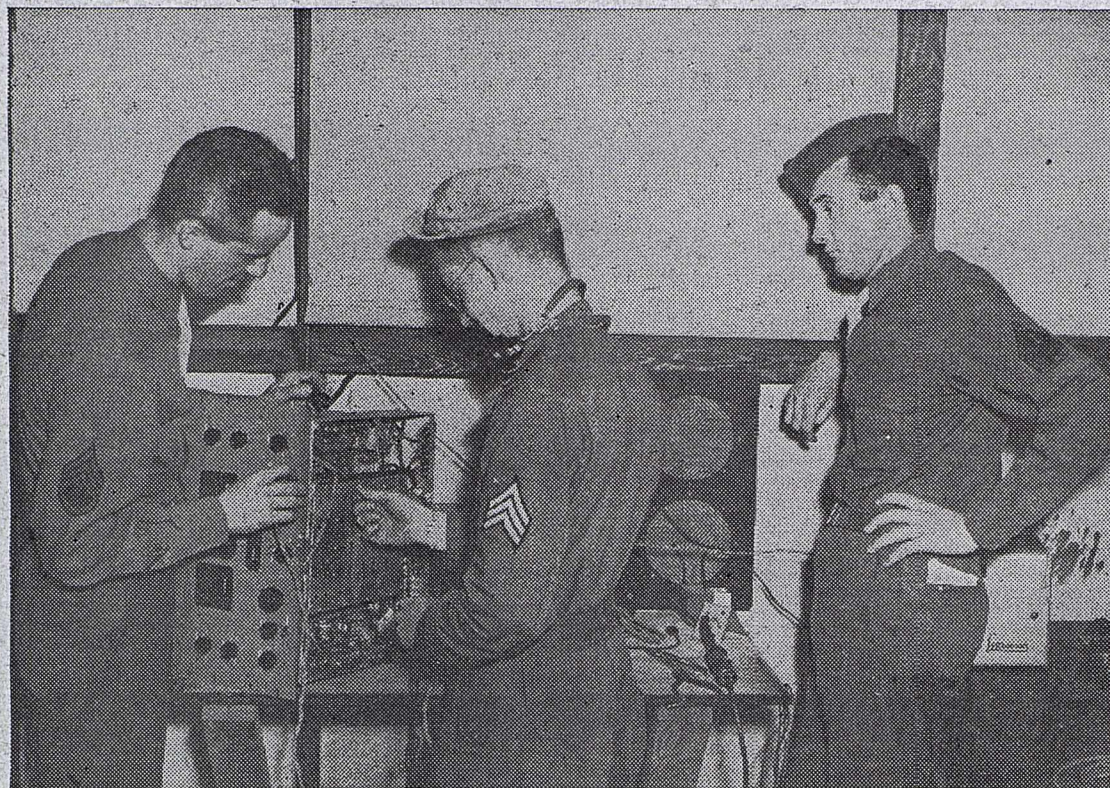
Lots of persons who don't know the whole story perhaps wonder why a control tower operator works "6 on and 24 off". But if you could be in that tower for half an hour or so when planes are clearing the field, you'd understand the importance of the job and the pressure under which the boys work.

S-Sgt. Harry G. McDougall, a Philadelphia lad, is the NCO in charge of the control towers at this field. The men who work under Sgt. McDougall have been trained by the Army Airways Communications System, an organization whose graduates are sprinkled all over the globe.

The tower operator stands at his phone, always with a clear view of the field, and directs traffic onto and off the field. Inside the tower with him during all flying hours is a qualified flier, with a captain's rank or above, who stands by ready to give assistance in case of emergency. In case a pilot has any trouble coming down, the control tower officer studies his situation and gives the tower operator his message of advice which is relayed to the plane calling in. Such advice is priceless to the comparatively inexperienced pilot, or the flier who has something wrong with his plane. Many planes have been saved by the advice of the seasoned fliers who pull control tower duty.

In addition to their work in directing traffic, the control tower operators have a remote control hook-up with the radio range station, and direct pilots approaching the field. You could travel from Pyote to India, Africa, China, Alaska, England, Australia, the Aleutians and South America over this well-marked "highway of the air" that is "visible" both day and night—come drowning rain, lowering fog, snowstorms—or even sand.

Pilots call it "riding home on the range," and it is also referred

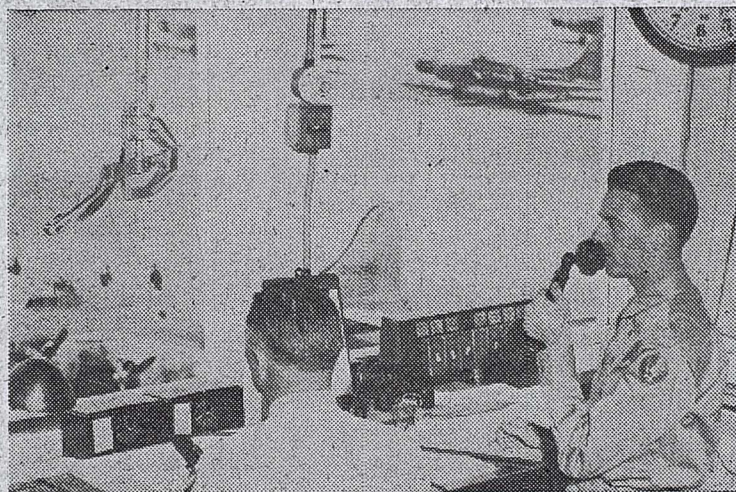


Maintaining the radio sets that provide plane-to-tower communication is an essential part of the work of the control tower men. Sgt. Oscar E. Means (middle), maintenance man, is testing an ailing set while he listens to the advice of S-Sgt. Harry G. McDougall, NCOIC (left), and S-Sgt. Joseph M. McDonald, tower chief.

Pfc. Bill Burton (speaking into phone) is shown as he dispatches planes. Pfc. Burton must keep the ships moving in the proper order; he gets them into the air and then Flight Control takes over. From his position in the tower he can see every plane on the ramp at once. Shown with back to camera is S-Sgt. Alva N. Downing, tower chief.

In case something goes wrong and a pilot needs advice on what to do, the Control Tower Officer is on hand to pull him out of the hole. Here Capt. George W. Martin, of the Training Unit, keeps an eye on the planes coming in; he is an experienced, qualified pilot, as are all officers who pull this type of duty at regular intervals.

to as being "on the beam." What it amounts to is a radio signal, "beamed" in a certain direction. This narrow beam (it varies from ten to twenty miles wide) is a combination of two radio signals that are sent in opposite manners and cancel, or merge, into one distinct sound which is heard when flying down the middle of the beam.





## EDITORIAL

## Keep Your Mouth Shut

Someday it may be the unfortunate duty of "The Rattler" to record in its columns the fact that a troop train, loaded with Pyote soldiers, was wrecked. We hope we never have to write such a story but we will unless things take a change for the better.

There is too much talking going on here at Pyote. Not only on the Field but in the surrounding towns. In fact, it has reached the point where you can go into Monahans (to use an example) and in the space of an hour find out more about the Field and its activities than even the commanding officer knows.

Rumors of departures of organizations, changes in organizations, shifts in personnel, movements of supplies, these and many more are the subjects of many a bull session in Monahans.

Who is at fault? Each and everyone of us, our families and friends who take information from the Field and pass it along in casual conversation. Some may have the idea that since we are so far from the zone of operations that what we say doesn't matter one way or the other. Take it from us, brother, you're wrong, dead wrong, and someday (God forbid) something is liable to happen which will only come about as a result of someone shooting off his mouth when he should have kept it shut.

Not so long ago, a film called "Next of Kin" was shown here on the Field. It was a story built around the ill-fated commando raid at Dieppe which saw hundreds of British, American and Canadian troops killed and wounded by the Nazis as they attempted to enter Dieppe. This film was based on documentary evidence and showed how, from casual talk, the enemy can piece together a movement which involves thousands of lives. The Dieppe raid was a flop from the standpoint of surprise and only because someone talked.

You may think it far-fetched and very unlikely that anyone would want to wreck a troop train coming from Pyote. Well, it may never happen and more than likely won't, but there is always the possibility that it will and as long as that possibility exists, it is our duty to keep whatever information we possess to ourselves.

Anyone convicted of passing on military information is subject to severe penalties. That holds for military and civilian personnel alike and as far as we can see both are offending here.

The day may come when you will be on the moving end of a shipment order and you can bet your bottom dollar that you won't want that information of a movement to fall into the wrong hands.

So for your own sake and the sake of those you work and live with, if you know anything keep it to yourself.

What you may know is likely to hurt somebody and that somebody might be yourself.

## THE RATTLER

Published Each Wednesday at the Rattlesnake Army Air Field  
NINETEENTH COMBAT CREW TRAINING SCHOOL  
Pyote, Texas

COL. BERNARD T. CASTOR  
Station Commandant

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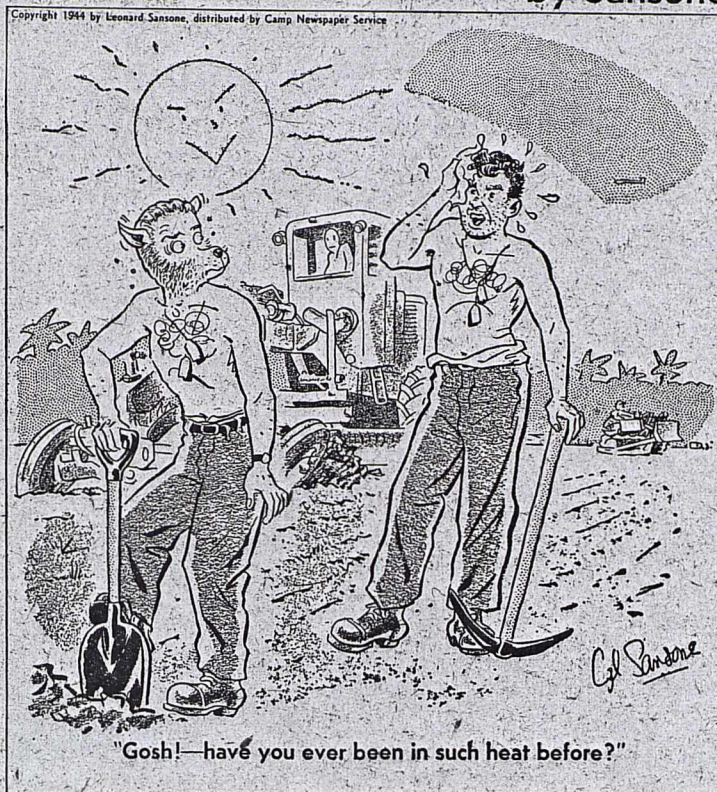
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## The Wolf

by Sansone



"Gosh!—have you ever been in such heat before?"

### THOUGHTS OF OTHERS

## Begged, Borrowed Or Stolen

"IN ITALY" (By Wireless)—In my usual role of running other people's business, I've been thrashing around with an idea—honest. It's to give the combat soldier some little form of recognition more than he is getting now.

### Airmen Cited

"Everybody who serves overseas, no matter where or what he's doing, gets extra pay. Enlisted men get 20 per cent additional and officers 10 per cent.

"Airmen get an extra 50 per cent above this for flight pay. As a result, officer-fliers get 60 per cent above their normal base pay and enlisted fliers such as gunners and radio operators, get 70 per cent.

"All that is fine and as it should be, but the idea I was toying with is why not give your genuine combat ground soldier something corresponding to flight pay? Maybe a good phrase for it would be "fight pay."

"Of any one million men overseas probably not more than 100,000 are in actual combat with the enemy. But as it is now, there is no official distinction between the dogface lying for days and nights under constant mortar fire on an Italian hill, and the headquarters clerk living comfortably in a hotel in Rio de Janeiro.

### Difference

"Their two worlds are so far apart the human mind can barely grasp the magnitude of the dif-

ference. One lives like a beast and dies in great numbers. The other is merely working away from home. Both are doing necessary jobs, but it seems to me the actual warrior deserves something to set him apart. And medals are not enough.

"When I was at the front the last time, several infantry officers brought up this same suggestion. They say combat pay would mean a lot to the fighting man. It would put him into a proud category and make him feel that somebody appreciates what he endures.

"Obviously no soldier would ever go into combat just to get extra "fight pay." That isn't the point. There is not enough money in the world to pay any single individual his due for battle suffering.

"But it would put a mark of distinction on him, a recognition that his miserable job was a royal one and that the rest of us were aware of it."

—Columnist Ernie Pyle, who has gained lasting fame for his close-to-the-front, personalized account of the war, in his syndicated column.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — There are 21,476 men named Smith in the Navy, the Navy department has revealed. There are also 15,045 men named Johnson, 11,035 named Jones, 202 named Seaman and three named Bluejacket.



NEWS OF YOUR OWN HOME TOWN

BANGOR, ME. (CNS)—Arrested on a charge of failure to provide heat for her tenants, a landlady chose prison rather than pay a \$25 fine. "I'd rather go to jail," she said, "It's warm there."

BEAUMONT, TEX. (CNS)—A Beaumont resident overturned tables, broke a mirror and upset the free lunch counter of a local saloon when he discovered to his chagrin that the song "Mairzy Doats" wasn't listed on the juke box.

BRISTOL, CONN. (CNS)—Harry Williamson, principal of an elementary school here, who weighs 200 pounds, will have to pay \$9,140 damages for sitting on Donald Galway, a 10-year-old student who weighs 80 pounds the Connecticut Supreme Court has ruled. Williamson said he sat on young Galway because the boy became unruly.

BUFFALO, N. Y. (CNS)—Jeff Davis, "King of the Hoboes," doesn't like traveling conditions nowadays. He arrived here, weary after having ridden in a de luxe coach from Chicago. "It was terrible," complained Jeff. "You couldn't get a seat. Give me the good old days when a bo could ride the rods in comfort."

CHICAGO (CNS)—Daniel Forsling, 47, admitted in court that he stole 75 checks worth \$600 from mail boxes. But, he asserted, he always sent \$5 from every stolen check he cashed to the chaplain of the Federal Penitentiary at Terre Haute "for the betterment of prison conditions."

NYACK, N. Y. (CNS)—The Volunteer Fire Department of Central Nyack is seeking women volunteers to drive the rear wheel of the big hook and ladder truck.

HELENA, MONT. (CNS)—The State Legislature recently repealed an old ordinance which prohibits girls under 18 from entering "noodle parlors." A noodle parlor, in Montana, is a chop suey joint.

LOS ANGELES (CNS)—Judge Pierson M. Hall ordered the court calendar called. "You do it," replied the clerk. Flabbergasted at this affront, the judge testily repeated his request. "You do it," the clerk repeated. A man stepped forward. "I guess you mean me," said U. Doit, a defendant.

NEW HAVEN, CONN. (CNS)—Youngest student at Yale this year is Merrill Wolf, who has entered the famed university as a sophomore at the age of 12.

Bigger Bonus Plan Up In Congress; New Bill Would Give Up to \$5,000

WASHINGTON—Congress has been offered a bonus plan providing benefits as high as \$5,000 for overseas service. Proposed by five of the six major veterans' organizations, it was introduced into both the House and Senate in identical bills.

The proposed bonus would pay each veteran \$3 a day for service in the continental U. S., with a minimum of \$100 and a maximum of \$3,500. For each day of overseas service a veteran would receive \$4, with a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$4,500. An extra \$500 would be allowed for those wounded.

Paid in Bonds

All compensation above \$300 would be in the form of non-negotiable tax-free Government bonds. Bond holders could withdraw not more than one-fifth of the face value of their bonds each year. The bonds would bear simple 3 per cent interest for the first five years and compound interest of 3 per cent for five additional years.

How much the bonus would cost is still unknown, because that depends on the length of the war and extent of our operations. But it is estimated at between \$10 and \$30 billion. One Congressman said

that it would be "less than the cost of four months of actual war expenditures during 1944."

"The purpose of the bill is to adjust, in a measure, the difference between the pay of those serving in the armed forces and civilians employed in war industry," said a joint statement by the veterans' groups.

However, the bonus bill got off to a rough start when it was sent to the Finance Committee in the Senate. There it will automatically be referred to a subcommittee headed by Senator Clark (D., Mo.), one of the founders of the American Legion.

Legion's View

Until now it has been the American Legion's contention that the bonus question should be delayed until after the war, when the veterans themselves can decide

SAILORS ARRESTED FOR NOT SALUTING

CHICAGO—Both officers and enlisted men of the Navy in this area are displaying more care in their saluting these days.

The precaution was the result of an order issued by Rear Admiral Arthur S. Carpender, Commandant of the Ninth Naval District, ordering the arrest of officers and men found guilty of laxity in saluting etiquette.

whether or not they want adjusted compensation and how much.

The Senate Finance Committee is now studying the American Legion's "GI Bill of Rights," which has provisions for mustering-out pay, educational training, re-employment aid, unemployment insurance and loans for purchases of homes and farms, but defers the bonus question.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Army and Navy Union, Disabled American Veterans, the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Regular Veterans' Association, sponsors of the bonus bill, disagree with the Legion. They point out that a million men have already been discharged and claim they should be paid adjusted compensation now.

MALE CALL

BY MILTON CANIFF

Nice Line Of Communications



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## Training Unit

By Pfc. ED KOOPS

**PYOTE MURAL:** The boys at Flight Control and the lads at the Ground Station are Hatfield-Coying over the Wacs who work in Flight Control . . . Bks. 527 has been beating its chops about starting a barrack softball team. So far, it's only reached the breeze-batting stage, but mebbe something will come of it by next week's deadline . . . We like Sgt. Jack Leverone's suggested song title: "Don't Wave at that quarterback, Myrtle, he's not making those passes at you." . . . Overheard at the PX barber shop: "Boy, whatta haircut. I look like a GI brush that breathes." . . . Overheard at the Theatre line: "The only man that's worth a dollar in Africa is Frank Buck." . . . Eavesdropped in the restaurant. "Man, those Russians are really goin' to town. Looks like it won't be long till Rumania is lost, strayed, or Stalin."

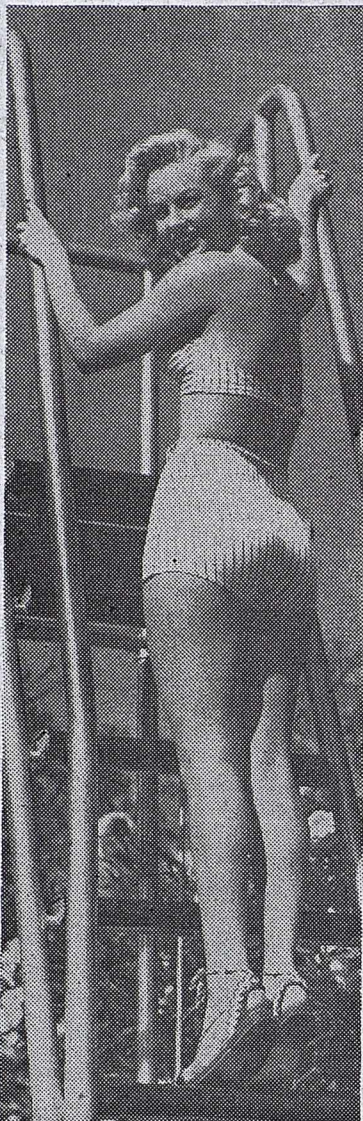
**GIGS AND RIBBONS:** (Occasional hisses and huzzahs as we see 'em and hear 'em) . . . **RIBBONS** to last week's Rattler's editorial. We've been fed up with a wishy-washy attitude in the public press as to the GI attitude toward the Palm Beach set . . . **RIBBONS** to the ghost-worthy movie "The Uninvited" which makes chills play tag on your spine. **GIGS** to the mess halls, which, on occasion, put out plenty of bread on the counter, but not a sign of butter, jam, or peanut butter . . . **GIGS** to the one or two gals who clerk at the PX and act like they deserve the DSM for waiting on you. Most of the gals are tops. But I know one who waits on every soldier as though he was inside man at the skonk works . . . **RIBBONS** to S-2, or whoever is responsible, for the swell maps and news bulletins kept fresh daily in the PX entryway. **RIBBONS** to the Service Club Cafeteria for making that second cup of coffee on the house. All of us caffiards will appreciate that.

**POME:** (Looks like something has started in this department.) This one's about Sand, and Pyote, and March, and is entitled:

**SAND**

It blows, and blows, and blows,  
and blows,  
And blows, and blows and  
blows,  
And blows, and blows and  
blows, and blows,  
And blows and blows and blows.

Which wraps it up for this time, fellas. We remind you in closing that Texas is big, warm, and boastful. Of course, so's hell.



**ON HER WAY UP . . . Pert Mary Ganly brings some prurient talent to the Red Skelton film, "Bathing Beauty."**

## Too Many Queries Of EM Locations

**WASHINGTON** — The number of daily inquiries pertaining to the whereabouts of individual soldiers has become so great that in the future specific replies will be sent only to Members of Congress parents and close relatives of soldiers, and certain public authorities, the War Department announced this week.

Casual acquaintances of soldiers account for more than 750 inquiries each day. The volume of work entailed and the number of employees engaged in answering the inquiries have made the new restrictions necessary, the War Department stated.

In the future, requests for information on soldiers received from persons other than those named in the aforementioned category will be acknowledged by a form card from the Adj. General.

## Fifth Column

By Sgt. WARD HOWELL

First brave members of the Air Base Unit to spring out in summer khaki (on the coldest day we've had yet) were S-Sgts. Royce Hasen and Shelby Wickam. First place they headed for was the heater at Headquarters.

Just a word to wish the best of luck to Cpl. Edna Collins who has fallen heir to the WAC column since the departure of MB. Just keep up your predecessor's standards and you'll be tops, Edna.

Three new names of S-1's roster this week include Pvts. Sheldon Lincoln, who is working in the Morning Report Section at Headquarters; Joe Clinton, slaying away on Officer's Pay Vouchers; and George Scott, who will burn the midnight oil as Station CQ. Ah! Fresh meat.

S-Sgt. Bob Sage has just returned from a three day jaunt down Junction (it's in Texas) way, and says—quote "Never Again"—unquote. Sounds like the old town of Junction saw itself a good time in the hands of Sage.

There is everything from soup to nuts in the way of ex-professions among AIB Unit men. This might well be entitled "Before and After"—so here goes: Cpl. Carl Anderson was a bookkeeper as a civilian, but as a GI, is amply satisfied as a Lab Technician. PFC. Robert Kyte, once a ship steward, is a cook for Uncle Sam. From a saw operator, PFC. Roy Bedwell has become a guard. S-Sgt. Clarence Bernstein, formerly an Investigator, is now a clerk. A radio mechanic is what T-Sgt. Joe Gianetta is, after having been an employee. S-Sgt. Willard Gassel was an accountant first class, but the Army has made an Intelligence NCO out of him. Cpl. Hyman Brook was once a whiz as an electrician, but since being in the Army, has been converted into a Public Relations man. From aircraft assembler to truck driver is Cpl. Gustav Barabas' change over.

Sgt. Harry Becker is now a mail clerk (ah yes, mail) having once been a railroad loader. Formerly an upholsterer, S-Sgt. Loren Lee has become an auto mechanic in the Army. Duty NCO is what Cpl. Robert Choate now is, but in civilian life was a steam fitter. T-Sgt. Leonard Molan was a machinist, but is now a supply clerk. There are all variations of professions among our boys, but here's one that'll fool 'ya: Cpl. Mike Berg, who was a stenographer in civilian life, is a stenographer in the Army!

Here and there . . . M-Sgt. Bobby Espy has returned from Colorado Springs . . . PFC. Walter

## Behind the 8 Ball

By ED RAFTERY

While Cpl. Thompson is enjoying his furlough in the cooler climes yours truly will make a stab at pinch-hitting for him. Have your fun while you can, Thompson, Canada has plenty of snow on which to glide smooth runners. Even if we had the snow here the terrian, couldn't accomodate one who loves to ski.

It surely would be swell-elegant to be along with the furloughers now in the Northwest, what with the signs of Spring in the air and all. Can't you remember, in years gone bye, when Old Man Winter had been finally overpowered by the beauties of Spring, when it was hard to pay strict attention to what some hear-hearted teacher was trying patiently to explain, when thoughts of swimming in the creek were more prevalent than the three R's. Then, after what seemed too long a period to keep a person tied to books and learning, dismissal time would finally arrive and you could spend a few hours enjoying what you had been missing all day. Those were the best years o' flife but we ddin't know it. There were no worries, no cares, no responsibilities, no nothing—(until my baby comes home). Say, how did that last part get in there? I don't remember reading tha tin the script.

Seems that all the boys are on good behavior and in good spirits lately. Could be that something new "may" be added in the way of stripes. Best of wishes to all expecting, we've heard rumors too.

Sgt. Urban Smith would be glad to help you out, Cpl. Delong,—he needs a rope ladder to get in and out of that upper of his, Smitty. Couldn't you requisition one for him from the Q. M.?

We're glad to see Cpl. Vic Lombardi out and around again after spending some time in the hospital. Right now Vic is convalescing for a couple of weeks. Good times, Vic, maybe you'll be in good shape to take that final step when you return.

Those are instructive signs standing in a nice straight row behind Hangar No. 2. Wonder who the ingenious G.I. was that penciled the "Burma Shave" addition on a sheet of paper and tacked it up on the building. What clowns, these G.I.'s.

That about winds us up for this week. See you here and there between times.

Holm is off to New York on furlough, and may bring a wife back . . . There's a new safe in S-1 that's quite the berries, 4600 pounds worth . . . Candidate for one-man-team fame is T-Sgt. Harry Moon when it comes to soccer at PT hour.



# MEDICAL DETACHMENT

By T-SGT. LAWRENCE SHIPP

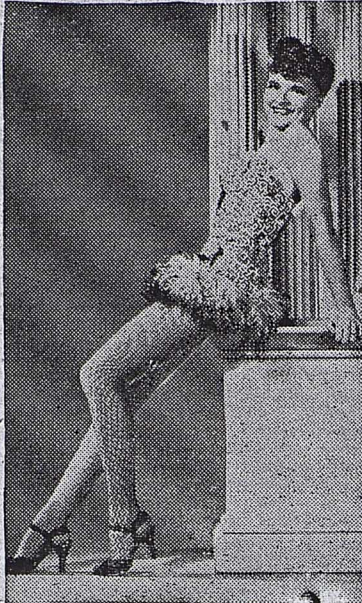
Bacchanalian songs, laughter, and card playing intermingled with "Dagwood Sandwiches" and "The Dew of the Hops" echoed and re-echoed across the desert breaking the stillness of the evening. The event was the opening of the newly remodeled dayroom which occurred last Thursday night. No Stag Party could have been more typical and no "Pack of G.I.'s" could have had more fun. Sgt. Buc really put his heart and soul into the songs he so capably directed and the dance exhibition, really brought down the house. Cpl. Dwyer was plenty good at the piano but when too many started keeping time on his head; that was too much. He quit! Special mention goes to PFC. Abel, that Detroit "Politician," who can't go to a movie anymore without seeing his name flashed all over the screen. Remember, Roy? We really have to hand it to him; he can really put out the drinks and in record time too.

The entire Detachment heartily welcomes 1st Lt. Jay Collins as our new C. O. and he can rest assured that he will receive the same 100 per cent cooperation that has always been prevalent in this Detachment.

Since PFC. Browareks' return from Buffalo the Local 237 has been able to issue the real membership cards. Thanks, Henry. Last week's turnout was terrific and again the nearby residents in Pyote knew that the Medics had taken over. There is only one problem and that is who will furnish Cpl. Solick's wife with an 18 shoe stamp? Sue said she really hadn't planned to marry the whole detachment when she married Joe but the Detachment did wear her shoes out. Fellows, it must have been that "number 24."

From New York City (Via Mercer) comes a story of how Pyote Medics really proved their worth on the Jeffersonian. It seems a Marine put his fist through a train window and PFC. Nassif, the Boston Flash, was right on hand to administer first-aid. A pencil served as a splint and the train's first aid kit provided the rest of the necessary items. Now that should rectify George's "Sirrette Blunder." Remember that deal, fellows?

It was Churchill that said "So much is expected of so few of us" but in the case of S-Sgt. Schroeder Youngest was left; or wasn't there is Merrill Wolf, Ripley, it was not the famed university as was the more at the age of 12.



**SINGING STAR . . . Susanna Foster, curvaceous star, has been elevated to starring roles in which she sings. This proves what a big help a good singing voice is in Hollywood.**

get.

Weeping and gnashing of teeth in the general direction of the WAC Barracks last Monday night really hampered the Medics 'Shut eye'. Cpl. French was never so "happy" and moving is right up her alley, or was it?

The Pyote High School, in the study of letter writing, was using a soldier's letter for a model and apparently it was very well written. As a result of a casual conversation between two Pyote H. S. girls in a cafe the other night it was learned that this soldier was a Medic. Personnel records list his name as Sgt. Bradley. Well, well, three cheers for Pyote High School!

D. T. could stand for "Don't Touch" but for Bonney and Nisen last week it was very much the contrary. Who could have more fun than those two technicians and that goes for Sunday, Monday and always. Pvt. Allen's Laboratory now ranks next to Ward 8 where "A special attraction" has been occupying much of his time. What's this about Red Stewart trying to "convert" Abe Bloom! It seems to be a long story but Red is determined and has untiring zeal. Anything can happen in that kitchen, can't it? T-5 Tomczak really hasn't forgotten the boys for already four letters have arrived telling of those "Furlough Experiences." We have to hand it to him for "The Tomcat" really keeps his promise. Cpl. Nichols in S & W returned from furlough engaged and is now interested in one thing primarily—a short war. Congratulations, Nick. What's this about the three Depperschmidt 'musts', 1. Comb; 2. Hair; 3.

# WAC Flak

By CPL. EDNA COLLINS

Since the last writing of the WAC Flak, Pvts. Sarah H. Adkins, of Huntington, W. Va., and Genieve Lubinski of Cleveland, Ohio, have joined our company. The enlistments of these girls show us that the work of Lt. Marjorie Stewart, Sgts. Roberta Deason and Sylvia Wexler and the numerous other girls out recruiting has not been in vain. We here at Pyote welcome them whole-heartedly so keep up the good work, girls.

Our "Hill Billy," Ruby Lupardus returned from the hills of West Virginia this week where she spent a glorious furlough. She was minus the "ants" she promised to bring back to the girls of Barracks No. 2. What happened, Ruby? Just ask PFC. Eloise Carter and Cpl. Margaret Eriksen, members of our Cadre how they enjoyed their trip to L. A. and watch their faces brighten. Guess they have never visited Brooklyn.

This year Sgt. Rita Burke celebrated her (censored) birthday in the hospital. Sgt. Bobby Eiselstein baked a delicious cake for the occasion. After congratulating Burkie on the big event we toured the hospital and said hello to our other girls who are spending a little time there. Cpl. June Barber, (Dead End Kid) is doing fine and will be back with us soon. Cpl. Margie Schneider is now an appendix lighter, she had it removed recently. Glad to report that she is coming along nicely. PFC. Lenore Assante and Pvts. Freida O'Mallie, Elizabeth Wick and Fay Sherman should be back with us soon too. Hurry and get well, girls, we all miss you.

First Sgt. Alren Vincent and Cpl. Doris Ferrell spent a three-day pass at Sgt. Vincent's home (yep, Texas) and on the way back to the base had the pleasure of sitting next to Lawrence Tibbett in the dining car on the train. Doris, accidentally on purpose, tilted her chair so that she could touch him. Imagine, all she can say is that he is her grandmother's favorite, should we believe her or not?

Ta-da-da-da. (Wedding March) Sgt. Vernis Montis and W-O Levert Dempsey are now Mr. and Mrs. Our whole company extend congratulations and wish you a world of happiness.

Thrill of the week was given to Pvt. Margaret Pickering who had her first ride in a jeep. She came into the barracks just walking on air and thrilled to the bone. We know Margaret how it is, we all witnessed the same feeling on our first ride. You and Pvt. Vivian Hunter have to get together, she is now learning to drive a jeep for Chaplain Norton.

# 3rd Echelon

By SELMA LANE

College seems to be calling one of our best workers, Katherine White, who probably won't be with us very long.

Tech Order clerks now consist of one B-17 and one B-29. Of course we are speaking of what they will B- their next birthday.

After struggling and trying so hard to get an excellent report the Fabric Department, headed by Eula Longino, received the report—not only the best department in Manufacture and Repair but also the best department in 3rd Echelon. Keep up the good work, Mrs. Longino, and thanks to your good workers.

After waiting patiently for four weeks, Mrs. Weaver, secretary of Fig. and Repair, has received word from her son in New Guinea.

What certain girl in the machine shop came into the dormitory at midnight, shaking and complaining that she was nervous. Come to find out she had just been "The Uninvited." She talked all night of seeing her dress walking around the room unassisted. That will teach you to go to things uninvited.

Ask Jimmy, our little messenger boy, why the bike instead of the scooter? The only answer we received was a wave of the hands in the air and "it's a long story." Maybe Jimmy won't be in such a hurry to open the lid the next time.

Come on, all you girls from Maintenance and Supply who are leading a Dormitory life. Get on the beam for the bowling team, consisting of girls (Maintenance vs. Supply). You can do it because we saw you last Monday night.

And last but not least, don't forget to come to the Recreation Center for the next dance, which will be held Thursday, March 30th. Bring your boy friends and come a-sliding, C. U. B. 4 long.

Made an announcement last week that we are having another party in our Day Room, but evidently there wasn't enough room for it. Anyway the offer still holds. Get our favorite WAC to give you Thursday evening March 30th. It is more or less a party to honor our new girls and we want to make it a success.

PFC. Charlotte Gold up-held the WAC tradition for knowing all the answers the other night at the Service Club. She answered all the questions that we asked her at the Quiz Program and won a carton of cigarettes. We know the questions were terribly hard, Charlotte, and we are proud of you for knowing the answers.



## QM Sees

By Sgt. JACK CANNON

Every week about this time a little Gremlin sneaks up behind us, taps us on the shoulder and says, "How about that column?" We know that to ignore his warning would result in an impatient phone call from the vicinity of headquarters on the morrow, so, with a mind that is a total blank, we sit before our faithful Royal and endeavor to put into print the things that have transpired on the Supply front in the week past. As the weeks pass these things become more and more difficult to uncover. But once again we shall try to bring into the open those things that should be kept under cover. (At least that is what some people think.)

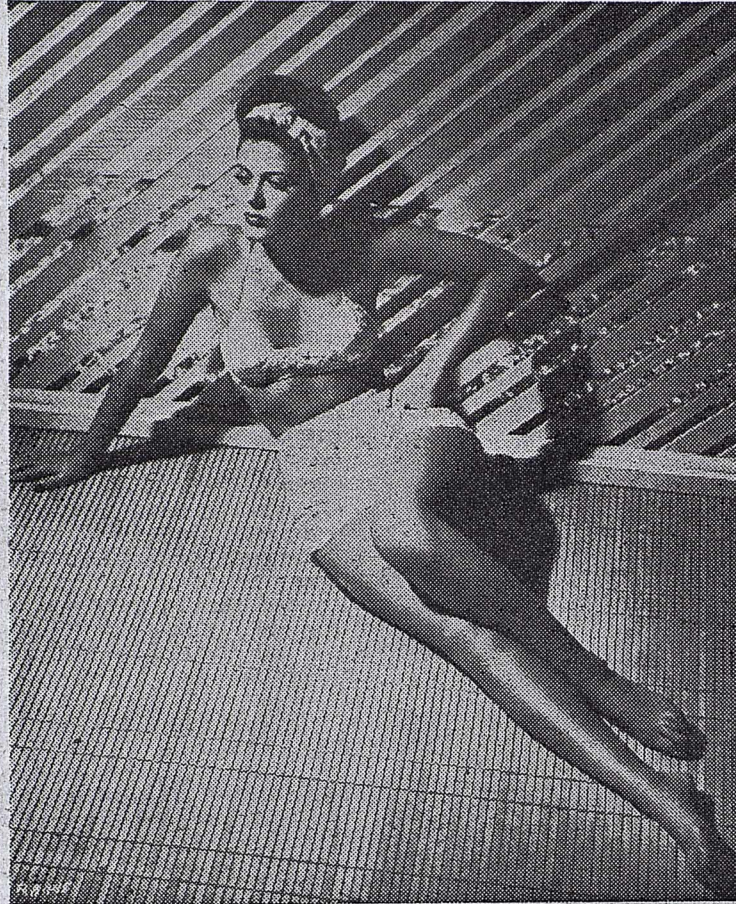
Overheard on Saturday night: "Give me something hot to eat or drink. I can't jitterbug but I am a gentleman. That girl in white or black." It may sound like hodgepodge to you but those were a few of the expressions that were voiced by the Pride of Minneapolis, Red Gagnon, after an evening of flexing the elbow in the nearby Bright Light District, Monahans.

We have been told that one of the finest things to see in this great country is the Old Faithful Geyser in Yellowstone National Park but we never expected to see a geyser in Pyote but wonders will never cease because the other night the occupants of Barracks No. 2 were treated with a spectacle the likes of which have never been seen. It all started when "Acting Corporal" Amos made a grab for a chair upon which was setting a bottle of ink which was being used by George Mahaney. As the ink bottle landed flat on the floor, the fluid spurted up and you can guess the rest. Not only did it land on Mahaney's bed but it covered the ceiling. As if one geyser wasn't enough, Mahaney decided to spray Amos with the contents of a coke bottle which this correspondent had intended enjoying at leisure. In spite of his being an accurate shot with a rifle, the Batavia Boy is far from an Annie Oakley with a "coke" and this correspondent's shirt got the worst of the encounter.

**Wonders will never cease!!!** Benny Barafatto startled the entire detachment this week when he pulled his own K.P. It wasn't his own idea but his deal with Salato fell through at the last minute and there he was at the sink, pearl diving. One result of the job was that the dishes all got a good grease job.

Methinks that Kermit is getting to be a quiet place. Amos and Blacklock returned from there the other

## Name It And Take It



That's right—if you're the first one to name this ravishing beauty. Tips: Her initials are R. A. and she is a fast-rising Universal starlet. We agree with you in your compliments; in fact, admiration for this langorous lassie is universal. The first one to correctly identify her will be presented the stunning 8 by 10 inch glossy print, which will make a nice pin-up. Bring her name to the Public Relations Office in Station Headquarters.

evening without so much as even a bruised knuckle. When we think of the condition that Amos was in last time he returned, we believe the feather merchants in said community have dropped their grudge or maybe they have been drafted.

We have heard about G.I.s getting "sugar reports" from their loved one but we think that the one that Tex Dailey got the other day really was unique. It arrived Air Mail!! We hear you saying, "What's strange about that?" Here is the catch. This fair maiden lives in the far north town of Kermit. Maybe she sent it by carrier pigeon.

The return of Cpl. Harold Melvin from ASTP this past week brought to mind a little ditty that was often heard before that son of Harvard left for higher education. The song mentioned was introduced by the Irish wit, Mahaney, and went something like this: Don't send my boy to Harvard, the dying mother said, Don't send him up to Harvard, I'd rather see him dead.



**NEW YORK**—A barnacle-studded old salt, retiring after 30 years in the Navy, decided that the best way to pass his fading years was to buy a saloon in New York.

He bought an old tavern, boarded it up and began to paint and redecorate it. After a week had passed, residents of the area gathered outside and knocked on the door.

"When are you going to open up?" their spokesman asked. "We'd like to patronize your place."

"Open up!" the old sailor hollered. "I'll never open up. I bought this place for myself!"

### CHANGE OF PACE

**SALT LAKE CITY (CNS)** — Coxswain K. T. Duffin was overheated all the time he was fighting with the Navy in the tropical Pacific. So he's spending his leave working in an ice company's warehouse.

## Mail Call

We see Sgt. Higgins sweating over a typewriter making locator cards. That is only a part of the work to be done. First is the making of the cards and then comes the work of looking for all of the mail to that personnel that has just arrived at this base and then the work of filing all of those cards and getting them in the right place.

We have on file at this office approximately eighty thousand cards on men who are or have been stationed here since this base opened. If one could only take a look at those names he could readily understand why a complete and correct address is so essential to effect immediate delivery. For example we have five cards on Robert L. Jones and they are all officers and all Lts. None of them is here now and they have all gone to different bases so it can readily be understood why when we get a letter for a Lt. Robert L. Jones it is returned to the sender for better address. That is only one of the number of duplicate names on file.

We have lost the one and only member of this office who has been with us for any length of time. We lost Cpl. Lila Piercy this week and that took the only member who has a thorough knowledge of the work to be done here. I have seen them come and go through here but I linger on.

Why was Sgt. Harry Becker's blankets turned the other morning?

Next week will see yours truly head for home to forget the woes of the mail clerks. I am going to get a boat and get out in the middle of the lake and there I will remain until such time as I have to leave to get back at the last minute without being AWOL.

I have enough Readers Digests on my desk to furnish one to every man on the base. The publisher has to be notified of the addressee's correct address so that he can get his on time. If each man would keep his publisher and correspondents notified of his correct address it would save many man hours a month. We have a supply of change of address cards that do not require postage that may be obtained for the asking.

Captain Duff is in San Antonio this week attending a conference.

## Jeep Found n N. Y., Stolen in Bermuda

**BERMUDA (CNS)** — A jeep stolen from a Navy Public relations officer here last January, has turned up in New York, authorities report. There are also 15,045 thief, aka Johnson, 11,035 named Nes, 202-named Seaman and three named Bluejacket.



# SPECIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

## Lectures Planned

General Arnold has ordered that all Air Force personnel will attend regular lectures concerning the background of the war. In line with this policy, the Special Services office has secured the services of Pvt. Sims, a former defense corps coordinator, who will conduct lectures concerning pre-war and present problems of the Armed forces.

The regular discussion periods will consist of brief outlines and lectures on subjects pertaining to "Why We Fight?" and action in various theaters of operations. Following each lecture an open

discussion period will be held and questions from the audience will be thrashed out.

Perhaps you have strong ideas about certain subjects; perhaps you are interested in a particular problem; perhaps you have a buddy overseas with whom you correspond, thereby gaining some first-hand information. If so, the chance to sit in on an ably presented, intelligent discussion after these lectures is yours.

The discussion periods will be conducted weekly in the Recreation Hall and both theaters. All personnel on the field are required to attend at least one hour each week. Watch your bulletin board

for date, hour and topics of these discussions.

## At The Library

You can keep abreast of the times by reading the daily newspapers available at the Station Library, no matter what section of the country you come from.

The following daily and Sunday papers are at your disposal: Chicago News, Dallas News, Los Angeles Times, St. Louis Post-dispatch, New York Times, and Christian Science Monitor.

In the magazine section you can select your choice from the finest magazines published — Air News, Flying, Blue Book, Fortune, Popular Mechanics, Readers Digest, Sporting News and Esquire. Many other magazines are also available.

A complete musical and technical library can also provide your wants along these lines. Scores of fine biographies, autobiographies, and popular novels of the day by such prominent authors as John Steinbeck, Lloyd Douglas, Pearl

Buck, and others are on the shelves of the Station Library.

Several current works high on the lists of best sellers are in—among them: This Is My Life, A Tree Grows In Brooklyn. The Robe, and Undercover.

The library is open from 1000 until 2200 each day.

## Service Club

Wed., March 29 — USO Show, 2100; Art Class, 2000.

Thurs., March 30 — German Class, 2000; Enlisted Men's Wives Club luncheon; Record Hour, 2100, Jive Dive Room.

Fri., March 31 — Red Cross night and dance.

Sat., April 1 — Sing song.

Sun., April 2 — Free coffee and doughnuts, 3-4 p.m.; bingo, 2100.

Mon., April 3 — Shorthand class; Movies: "Shinto, Way of the Gods," "This Is Japan," and "This Is China."

Tues., April 4 — French class; mending in the club.

Wed., April 5 — Art Class, 1930; Quiz Program.

# What would you like to learn?



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### Correspondence courses

Course No.	Title
131	English Grammar
411	Arithmetic
431	Algebra
441	Geometry
451	Trigonometry
531	Inorganic Chemistry
611	Typewriting
621	Shorthand
631	Bookkeeping & Accounting
632	Cost Accounting
651	RR Rate Clerk
721	Refrigeration
731	Automobiles
734	Diesel Engines
741	Aviation Engines
742	Airplane Maintenance
811	Elementary Electricity
814	Prep. Radio, Telephony
921	Engineering Mechanics

### Self-teaching courses

512.1	Algebra I
355.1	Military Correspondence
513.1	Plane Geometry I
530.1-530.2	Physics I
514.1	Trigonometry

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Please send me the complete list of USAFI courses with enrollment application.

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# RATTLER SPORTS



## 'Let Me Up, I'm Bloody' Theme Of Volleyball Tilts

Rough House Rosie, bouncer deluxe at Joe's Bar and Grill in Flatbush would have a field day if she could only horn in on the Commando Volley Ball Tournament now raging in the Station Recreation Hall. With no holds barred and only the use of broken bottles prohibited by rules, this commando tournament promises to set a mean pace in the production of rough and ready tactics.

In the opening games last Friday night, the Bogies, a conglomeration of cut-throats and parolees from Ossining, slashed and clawed their way to two victories over the Tabers, a quiet, genteel combination which didn't realize what they were in for when they signed up for the league.

The opening tilt which resulted in one sprained ankle and a few bashed heads saw the Bogies score a 15-1 victory. The second game of this best two-out-of-three competition also went to the Bogies, 15-11.

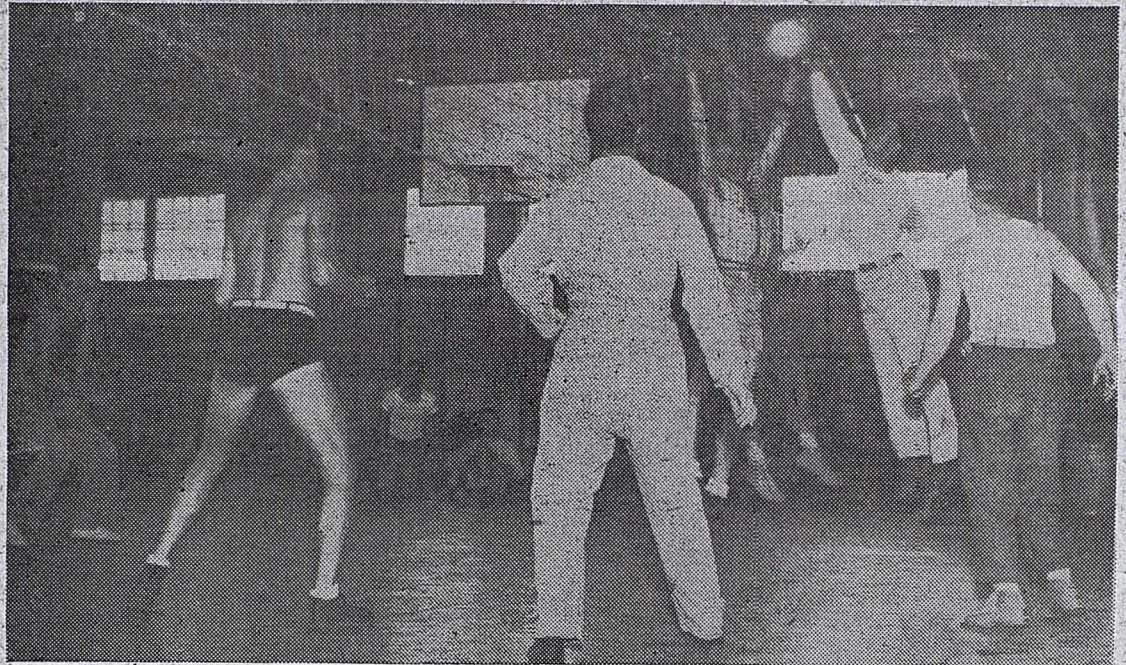
In the second series of games played Friday, the Medics representatives, armed with adhesive tape and arnica, came out on top in two games against the Yardbirds. Scores of these games were 15-11 and 15-5. Contrasted to the rough and ready treatment evidenced in the opening tilts, the Medics-Yardbirds frays were only waltzes on the hardwood. However, league officials say that the Medics can play and fight as hard as any combine entered in the league.

During the evening, HBC's representatives, led by Majors Eubank and Stepp, sat on the sidelines and rumor has it that the HBC team took copious notes on their opponents.

### THE STANDINGS

Team	Won	Lost
Bogies	1	0
Medics	1	0
HBC	0	0
Yardbirds	0	1
Tabers	0	1

Gerry LeVan, sparkplug scouter back of Princeton's great football teams of 1933, '34 and '35, is back again at Old Nassau—as a Naval V-5 student.



From the looks of early-season action, the blossoming volleyball league at this station is going to provide plenty of rough-and-tumble action for those energetic officers and men participating. These shots register crucial moments as the season started. It appears the little man (top picture) has timed his jump right and will slip the ball by his opponent. In rural areas where outdoor volleyball is played regularly, this action is called "milking" an opponent.

At right, two players jump high and both get their hands on the ball over the net. Sharply contested games which sent the players away with sore limbs and bruised bodies are expected to increase in intensity as the league chase gathers speed.

## Non-Coms Sell Passes To Callow Recruits

NEW CUMBERLAND, PA. (CNS)—A group of non-commissioned officers stationed at the New Cumberland Induction Center have been broken in rank for selling week-end passes to greenhorn inductees.

The non-coms, according to a post spokesman, took advantage of the recruits' ignorance of post rules, which permit them a week-end pass seven days after induction.





# WARMIN' THE BENCH

By SGT. FRANK DEBLOIS

## Back on the Docks

One of the least glamorous jobs in the war is being done quietly and efficiently by one of the least glamorous and most conscientious men in the United States Army.

The job is bossing a bunch of longshoremen at the Army's huge freight depot in Brooklyn. And the man is Capt. James J. Braddock—"Plain James" Braddock, former heavyweight champion of the world.

Braddock is right at home out there on Pier Six. He was a longshoreman there himself not so very long ago, when Joe Gould got him a match with Corn Griffin, an up-and-coming young heavyweight, on the preliminary card to the world's championship bout between Primo Carnera and Max Baer in Madison Square Garden Bowl.

Braddock was an old man, as fighters go, and when the Corn dumped him in the very first round, ringsiders thought he was through. But "Plain James" climbed back on his feet and in a couple of rounds he had stifened the Corn.

He was back in the Bowl a year later, winning the heavyweight title from Baer in one of the ring's biggest upsets. Sports writers called him the Cinderella Man then and wrote a lot of copy about his long climb from Pier Six to the Top. But they gradually forgot about Jim after Joe Louis knocked him out in Chicago and took his title away.

Now Braddock is back on Pier Six. He's the boss over there, the unglamorous boss of an unglamorous job, and because he knows his business, he gets the job done. Come to think of it, that's just the way he worked in the ring, conscientiously, methodically, thoroughly — and without any flim-flam at all.

Sammy Byrd, once Babe Ruth's shadow in right field for the Yankees and more recently a prominent professional golfer, expects to be called into the Navy within a month. Sammy is 36.

Lou Fonsca, former Chicago White Sox star and American League batting champion in 1929, has been touring GI stations in the U. S. His latest port-o-call was Finney General Hospital, Thomasville, Ga., where he showed World Series movies, autographed baseballs and told funny jokes.



## Banquet At USO Honors Teams In Hoop Loop

As a windup to the basketball season, a banquet, honoring the Crippled Commandos, league champions, will be held at the U. S. O. in Monahans on Friday night. Guests at this banquet which is being sponsored through the courtesy of the local USO Club will include all the teams in the Rattlesnake Basketball League and the Pyote Coyotes, Field team which turned in a commendable season.

To top off the evening's festivities, trophies will be presented to the Commandos by Colonel Bernard T. Castor, Station Commandant.

The Commandos romped through the schedule undefeated, copping ten-straight games, to win the league championship with a minimum of difficulty. The second-place Vinco team which won six while dropping four will also be presented with trophies.

Guests, other than the teams, include Major William H. Cocke, Major Thomas D. Haigh, the various Unit commanding officers, Mr. R. D. Lee, Superintendent of Schools in Monahans, Mayor Ed Duffey and Mrs. Milton McCleskey, Monahans High School coach.

Master of ceremonies will be Lt. Frank L. Orfanello. A program of entertainment has been arranged by Mr. Irvin E. Zimmerman, Station Band leader, and from the program outlined, it can be assumed that an enjoyable evening is in store for the ex-basketballers.



The Army version of the ancient game of soccer is something to make even brave men falter and tremble. For the well-known GI gunboat, wielded by a healthy GI leg, can cause great damage when (as often it does) it misses the ball and lands across a GI shin or, in a GI stomach. This is one game where it doesn't pay to be "on the ball," for he who gets on the ball will sooner or later, probably sooner, get the living daylight kicked out of him.

Top, the shirtless, hatless player in middle is trying to

maneuver the ball downfield through a maze of opponents. This is similar to the dribble in basketball.

At right, one of the "skins" has just missed the pellet and his team-mate is trying to get it in position for a shot, while the "shirt" at left tries desperately to spin himself around and get in position to stop the play.

Such games, played outside on calisthenics fields, the an integral part of this station's program for physical fitness among all personnel.

There was a hot pilot named Bright,  
Whose speed was much faster than light,  
He took off one day,  
To indulge in a fray,  
And returned on the previous night.

**MP HANDCUFFS HIMSELF**  
FT. SHERIDAN, ILL. (CNS)—Cpl. Ed Rocklin, an MP, overstayed a one-day pass, but he had a good excuse. Seems he put his handcuffs on to show his girl how they worked and then he couldn't get them off. A locksmith freed him the following day.



# Rampaging Russians Poised For Balkan Thrust

## Artillery Fire Is Hurled From Banks Of Prut

Piling one stunning victory atop another, Russia's raging bear has stomped across the Dniester River in a momentous invasion of the Balkans. Movements of the Red Army within the past fortnight have two murderous portents for the German people: Their troops in Russia continue to be hacked to pieces, and these advances leave them in worse positions than ever; and, it forces the Nazis to abandon all pretense and support their tottering Balkan house of pasteboards.

Triumphant, the Russian Army newspaper Red Star trumpeted:

"For the Red Army there are no boundaries; her boundaries are victory, Berlin, and a straight jacket for the mad German Valkyrie."

Soviet cannon—backbone of all military actions for that nation, whether offensive or defensive—are already blasting away at Rumanian soil from positions along the Prut River. On the banks of the Prut, 60 miles beyond the Dniester, Soviet infantrymen are poised to strike into Rumania.

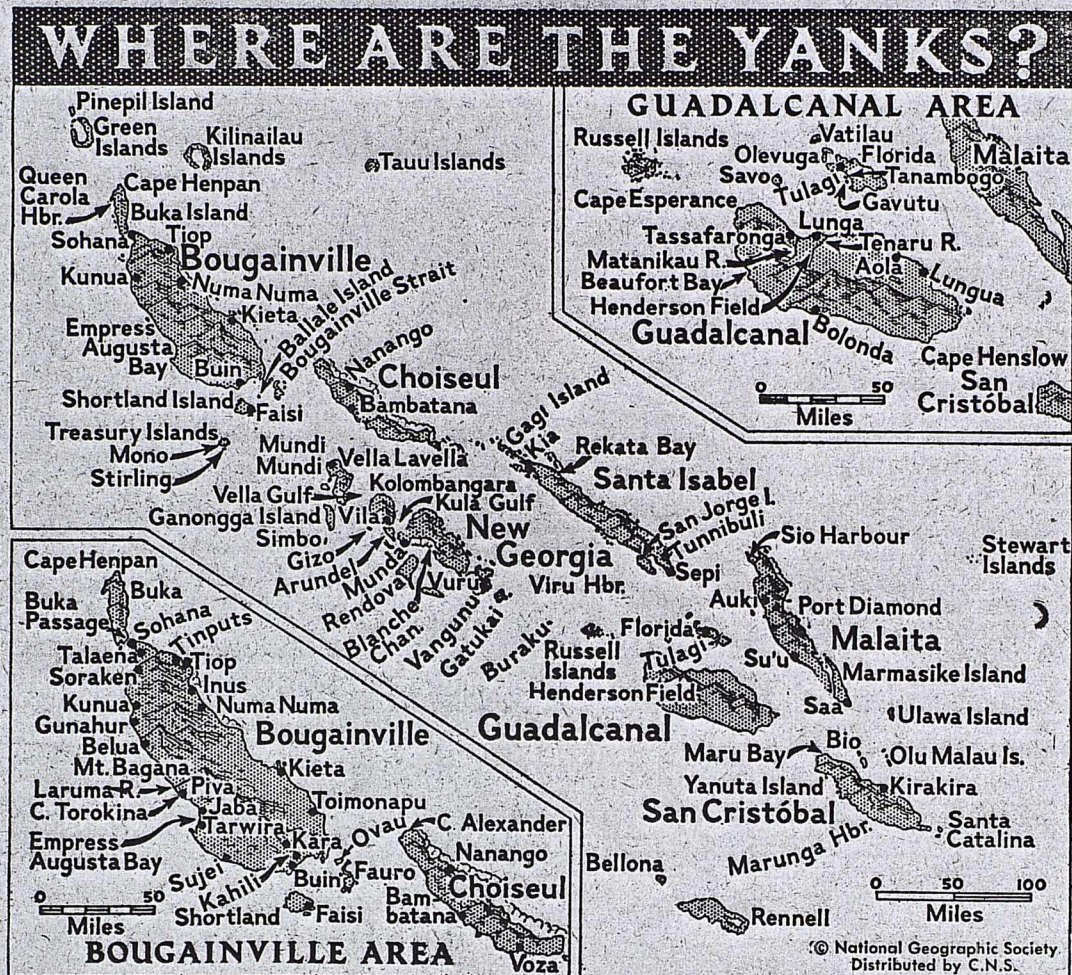
Today the Russians have driven to the very soil from which Adolf Hitler launched the southern wing of his invasion three years ago. It took the surging armies only a week to reach the Prut on a 53-mile front, after having spanned the broader Dniester.

Premier-Marshall Joseph Stalin led the Russians in national rejoicing over their incredible battlefield triumphs. The surge to the Prut is regarded in informed military quarters as presaging the doom of German troops hoping to stand at Odessa, and besieged Nikolaev.

Always a gambler, Hitler has thrown more stakes on the table, ordering masses of armored reinforcements through Rumania and Hungary, in an effort to save the Ploesti oil fields, only 200 miles distant from the onrushing Russians. Making this move at a time when Germany is face to face with their ancient spectre—a two-front war—indicates the importance which Hitler attaches to these fields.

The advancing Russians are about 250 miles from Bucharest, Rumania's capitol—about as far as from here to El Paso.

Last week Winston Churchill made a speech, one that left most second front "sweaters"



Since Aug. 7, 1942, the almost countless Solomon Islands, 700-mile chain of pin-points in the Southwestern Pacific, have been bathed in more blood than ever before in their history. Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and New Georgia have become names as familiar to school boys as Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. Few know, however, that the Solomons, discovered by Mendana, a Spaniard, in 1568, were not re-visited by white men for another hundred years and were not mandated by whites until the 19th century. The islands lie 6,000 airline miles southwest from San Francisco. Their size is double that of New Jersey. Their population is 140,000—about that of Trenton, New Jersey's capital. Their climate is humid, rainy. Gay-plumaged, screaming tropical birds are abundant and so are mosquitoes, and huge, sticky flies. When peace comes to the Solomons, the natives, once head hunters, will resume work on their plantations, raising ivory nuts and sandalwood, unconcerned that their islands will have found an indelible place in history.

cold, but one that gave little comfort to the Axis. Churchill reviewed the progress of the war, defended his administration, and indicated Japan might reach the end of her rope before she is generally expected to do so. He predicted many false alarms before the actual invasion from the West comes; and, we may be sure that each heightening of the war of nerves will have its harrasing effect in Berlin.

"I must warn you that to deceive and baffle the enemy there will be many false alarms, feints and dress rehearsals..." he said.

"When the signal is given the whole circle of avenging nations will hurl themselves on

the foe."

This bears out earlier predictions that the second front, when it comes, will not be a do-or-die single concentrated thrust at one point, but will be a coordinated series of actions all around the ring of Hitler's Fortress Europe, with some support to be expected from the conquered countries who will be joining the fight for their deliverance.

Turning to Russia with words of personal praise for Marshal Stalin, the Prime Minister declared:

"Not only have the Hun invaders been driven from the land they have ravished, but the guts of German Army have largely been torn out by Rus-

sian valor and leadership."

RAF bombers made a crushing raid on Essen, site of the Krupp armament works where furious re-building is underway from previous attacks. Strong forces of American heavy bombers pounded airdromes in Southwest and Central France as a prelude to invasion.

The allied assault on Cassino has been stalled short of its objective and the battle has changed into an artillery duel. Massive Allied shell fire is being hurled at tenacious Germans clinging to positions in the town's southwest corner.

The Japanese enemy, beset on half a dozen fronts from Burma to the Marshalls, enlarged his thrust into Imphal.