

THE
RATTLER

Rattlesnake Bomber Base

VOL. I, No. 7

PYOTE, TEXAS

JUNE 8, 1943

Col. Turner New 19th Group CO

Page 5

GUARD SQUADRON HAS KEY ASSIGNMENTS

Page 3

2nd Plane Crash Takes 8 Men

Page 6

Miss Sheila Ryan, Twentieth Century-Fox starlet had read about the hardships of the boys at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base and as a result she could think of no group of men in the armed forces she would like to greet more on Flag Day, June 14, than the boys here. Need we say more? (Story on Page 7.)



New commander of the 19th Group, parent tactical unit on the Rattlesnake Bomber Base, is Colonel Louie Turner, former commander of the Army Air Base, Alamo-gordo, New Mexico. His devotion is the B-17. (Story Page 5).

Copy of original

Price 50

Stars And Stripes Forever



Commander Of 19th



WAACs Will Take Your Job Here If You Want To Get Into Action



Remember all the times you've declared that you wanted to see some action—that you didn't want to spend the duration "at some training base in the United States?"

The WAAC is here to see that you get your wish.

But right now, men have to carry on "as usual" until the WAAC gets going. That won't be too long.

Capt. Marie Moran, commander of Pyote's WAAC squadron, two other WAAC officers and 24 enlisted WAACs are working overtime to get their house in order for more WAACs to come.

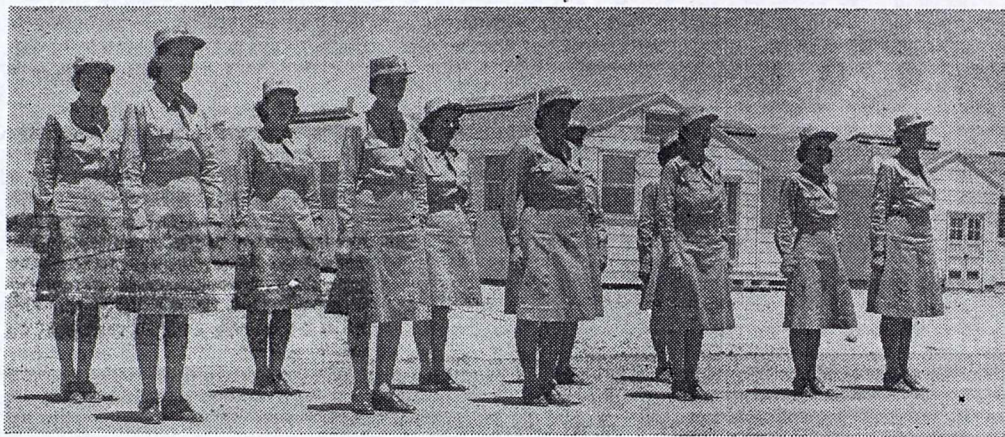
The WAAC day, like that of men soldiers, begins early with a stiff round of calisthenics. It's a stiff round all right, because physical

training was Capt. Moran's civilian specialty and she leads the morning calisthenic session.

There's nothing soft about the way the WAAC goes about its work.

Example: Trucks loaded with beds, mattresses, & covers arrived at the WAAC barracks. "The men will unload the trucks," a male officer volunteered. "They certainly will not," Capt. Moran declared, and turning to the girls she barked in a manner which would shame an old infantry officer: "Look alive in there! Get a move on and lets get these trucks unloaded."

The girls unloaded the trucks. Example: The mess hall was freshly painted, but workmen had left smudges on some of the woodwork. "Dirt!" Lt. Marjorie Stewart, supply & mess officer, commented. No order was necessary—two auxiliaries volunteered and no woodwork at Pyote ever had such a scrubbing.



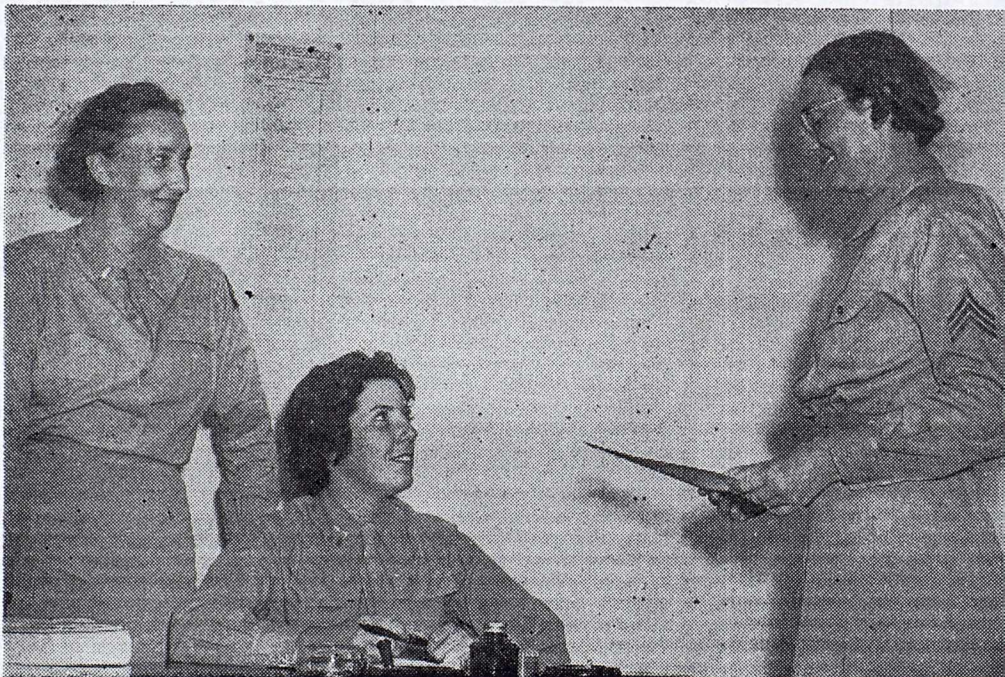
Clean as the proverbial pin is the way the WAACs were making their kitchen when this picture was taken. Dishes & utensils were not the only things scrubbed — walls & woodwork got a scouring too. The WAAC area contains mess hall, orderly room, offices, barracks and day room. L-to-R: Auxiliaries Ogden, Reed, Dennis and Frye.

(Above)

Lined up for some of the fanciest Hup-Tup-Threp-Forp stuff seen on this base in many a day are these ten auxiliaries and their first sergeant. Members of Pyote's first WAAC cadre, they're busy setting up house-keeping in their special area (background).

L-to-R: 1st Squad — Auxiliaries Reed, Frye, Burke, Eiselsstein, Thibodeaux and 1st Sgt. Vincent. 2nd Squad — Auxiliaries Ogden, Erekson, Dennis, Riden and Vransy.

(Center)



Piloting Pyote's WAACs is Capt. Marie Moran, center, shown here with Lt. Edith Haslam, left, executive, and Sgt. Alren Vincent, acting first sergeant. Not shown is the first WAAC to arrive at Pyote, Lt. Marjorie Stewart, supply and mess officer, whose picture graced last week's front page.

(Below)

Security Of The Base: Guardsmen Keep The Peace

"You're Out Of Uniform, Soldier!" —Only One Of Guards' Many Duties

"You're out of uniform, soldier! Button that middle button! Straighten that necktie!"

This, some fellows think, is just about what the conversation would be if they were on a life raft in the middle of the Atlantic with a member of the Guard Squadron. That's about all they know about the Guard Squadron.

But here's the story:

Pyote's Guard Squadron, under the direction of Capt. Stanley B. Lang, C.O. and base provost marshal, is charged with security of the Rattlesnake Bomber Base and with helping to enforce discipline. Keeping that middle button in its proper place is just a tiny aspect of one of the most important outfits on any military reservation.

In addition to its administrative section, the Guard Squadron has three main units: Guard, Gate Sentry, and Military Police.

Pyote's M.P.'s number approximately 20 and their job is to patrol the highways between surrounding towns and to patrol the towns themselves. The reason for the M.P. is obvious. Soldiers who get out of line don't like to be told about it by civilian police. Matter of fact, soldiers who get out of line don't like to be told anything by any police. But it can't be that way.

There are two kinds of soldiers who have no difficulty with the Military Police—those who abide by regulations and civilian laws, and those who, when they forget themselves, cheerfully accept a reminder from their soldier policemen.

S-Sgt. Claude Meese, non-com in charge of Pyote's M.P.'s, is the first to tell you that the boys are out to help soldiers—but if you want to make the most of their help, you have to help them.

The Guard: Pyote's Guard now works in four shifts of six hours each. Their business is base security. It is up to them to keep unauthorized persons away from restricted areas, report fires, and do the dozens of other things which are a part of base security.

Non-coms of the Guard include: S-Sgt. Frank Zdunczyk; Sgt. Robert McMullen, Amos Kenny, Harry Griffith; Cpls. Dock Hargrove, Peter Ciolino, Henry Combs, William Inman, Lester Don Carlos; and Pvt. Henry Felix. Those below corporal are acting corporals.

Gate Sentry: These boys, who check all persons entering or leaving each gate, work in two shifts. Their work is an important part of base security.

On the administrative side, Lt. Orville M. Stephenson is Guard Squadron adjutant and base police

and prison officer. Directly under him is Master Sgt. Paul Ellis, chief administrative clerk, and S-Sgt. Elbridge Driver, acting first sergeant. First Sgt. Joseph E. Miller is in charge of traffic control. Cpl. Charles Connelly is head non-com in the office of the Provost Marshal.

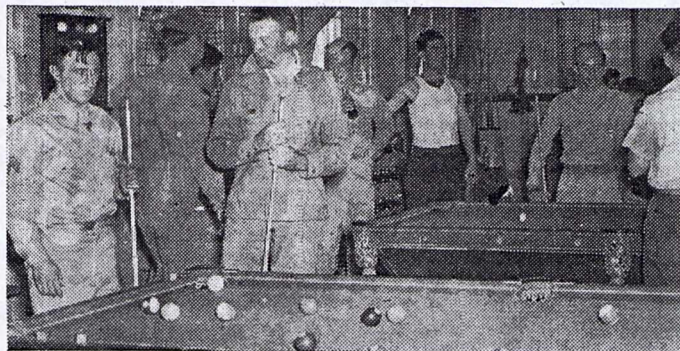
General Order No. 1 just about explains the work of all sections of the Guard Squadron: "To take charge of this post and all government property in view."

"To take charge" means exactly what it says.

What an on-the-ball outfit can do for its dayroom is illustrated by this photo taken in the Guard Squadron Day Room. Three pool tables are among off-duty "arms" of our guardsmen. L-to-R: Sgt. Warren Sandall, Pvs. T. C. Pittman, Glenn Caughy, Claris Doss, Manuel Parras, Peter Monticalla and Frank Meyers.
(Top)

Privates of the Guard relax between tours of duty with a game of checkers. L-to-R: Pvs. John Massey (extreme left), William Grabham, Benjamin "Pup" Shuffain, William Kelley and Frank R. Mitchell.
(Center)

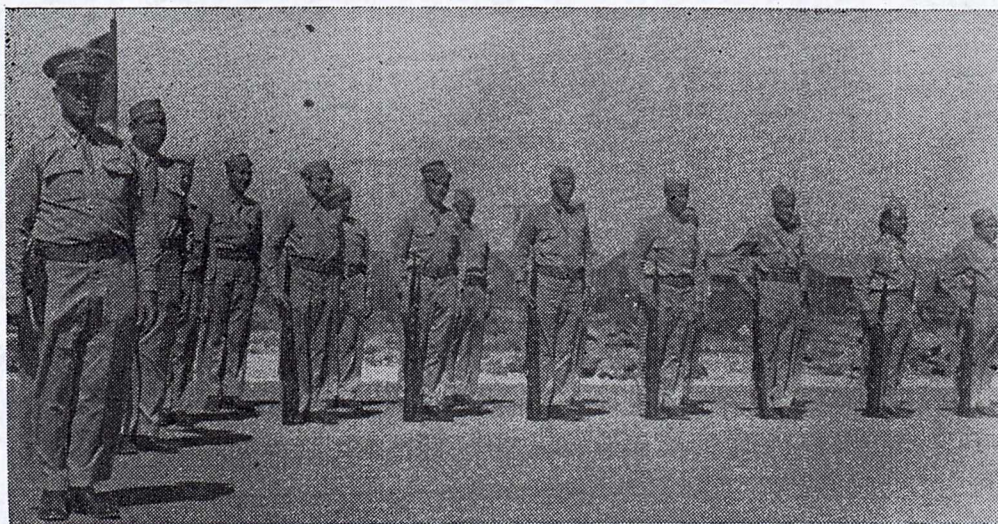
On The Ball



Checkered Existence



Salute To The Flag



Pyote's Guardsmen daily stand retreat at the flag pole in front of Base Headquarters. Capt.

Stanley B. Lang, C. O. of the Guard Squadron and base provost marshal (left front), and

members of his guard salute smartly as the bugle accompanies the lowering of the flag.

Brains Behind The Bombers Heading Overseas



These are the men who will guide the destinies of the newly organized 1st Bomber Command, with headquarters at Biggs Field. At his desk is Brig. Gen. Robert B. Williams, commanding general. Standing, L-to-R: Lt. Col. Charles R. Allison, signal officer; Lt. Col. Arthur Krause, inspector general; Lt. Col. Robert A. Ping, air in-

pector; Lt. Col. Frank A. Kurtz, A-3; Maj. Robert A. Bremer, A-4; Col. Darr H. Alkire, chief of staff; Lt. Col. Thomas E. Moore, asst. chief of staff; Maj. Wilkes D. Kelly, A-2; Lt. Col. Ernest A. Sweet, Jr., A-1; Capt. John L. Grimes, adjutant general; and Maj. Milton W. Durham, surgeon.

Gen. Williams Molds New Command

Veteran Air Forces Officers Form Commander's Hand-Picked Staff

Organization of the 1st Bomber Command—a new and vital Army Air Forces component of which the Rattlesnake Bomber Base is a part—has just been completed at Biggs Field, Texas, by Brig. Gen. Robert B. Williams, commander. The General's hand-picked key staff is made up largely of Air Forces veterans with whom he has served before.

The job to be done: To turn out more and better heavy bombardment crews and groups, faster than ever before.

"The American people are reading daily of the achievements of our heavy bombardment groups on the first pages of their daily papers," Gen. Williams said. "I want all the people in this area, and wherever the 1st Bomber Command operates an operational training base, to know that we are training and preparing the groups of which they read everyday."

Gen. Williams named the following staff members:

Chief of Staff—Col. Darr H. Alkire, a veteran pilot who was on duty in England when the Japs hit Pearl Harbor. He was squadron commander in the 2nd Bombardment Group, commanded by Gen. Williams, and when the latter was assigned to the Anti-Submarine Command on the northeast coast, Col. Alkire assumed command of this group.

Asst. Chief of Staff—Lt. Col. Thomas E. Moore, a veteran of the

Caribbean Defense Command in the early days of the war.

A-1 (Personnel)—Lt. Col. Ernest A. Sweet, Jr., military personnel expert of long standing.

A-2 (Intelligence)—Maj. Wilkes D. Kelly, an observer in London during the fall and winter of 1941. He was attached to the RAF.

A-3 (Plans, Training & Operations)—Lt. Col. Frank A. Kurtz, pilot of the famous Flying Fortress, "The Swoose," and protagonist in William L. White's story, "Queens Die Proudly," which appeared in Reader's Digest and will soon be published in book form. The Colonel was a member of the 19th Group, and on his return to the U.S. last fall set a new record from Brisbane, Australia to San Francisco.

A-4 (Material & Engineering)—Maj. Robert A. Bremer, who served under the General in the Anti-Submarine Command, the only tactical Air Forces unit in the continental U.S. which has seen combat duty.

Air Inspector—Lt. Col. Robert

A. Ping, who while piloting Gen. Henry H. Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air Forces, from Brisbane to San Francisco, set a new record, besting that of Col. Kurtz. He was the General's pilot on his tour of the Southwest Pacific theater.

Capt. John L. Grimes, a veteran of many years Army experience, is adjutant general for the Bomber Command. Lt. Col. Arthur Krause is inspector general; Lt. Col. Charles R. Allison is signal officer.

Other key staff members are: Maj. Milton W. Durham, surgeon; Capt. Herbert W. Rath sack, engineering officer; Capt. George M. Rogers, base services officer; Capt. Leslie M. Barnes, armament and ordnance officer; Maj. Dinsmore Brandmill, classification officer; Maj. Owen F. Murphey, quartermaster; Capt. K. D. Gatliff, special services; Capt. Fred Finney, public relations; Lt. Aaron J. Boggs, chemical officer and Lt. Robert W. Kirk, weather officer.

TINY PILOT (GAL.) WANTS WINGS—ARMY SAYS 'NO'

NEW YORK (CNS)—Know anyone who can use a tiny pilot? Pretty little Paulette d'Avril is looking for a job. Paulette, who is four feet, 11 inches tall, has been turned down by the Army Ferry Command because she's too short. She's an experienced pilot and she's sure she can fit in somewhere.

Pyote Justice Offers Free Legal Services To Servicemen Here

Tom Tunstall, Justice of the Peace, Pyote Precinct, sends this generous notice to servicemen, WAACs, and defense workers:

"I'm a little too much on the shady side of life to kill Japs, but I would like to do my part indirectly by offering free legal services to the men and women at the Pyote Army Air Base: car title transfers, contracts, deeds, mortgages or any legal acknowledgements."

"Too, if any of you decide to go for a voyage on the sea of matrimony, I'll be glad to unite you with the one and only," he added.

\$150,000,000 MONTHLY PAID G.I. DEPENDENTS

NEWARK, N. J. (CNS) — Approximately \$150,000,000 monthly is paid dependent's of servicemen by the War Department through its office here. An entire 18-floor building is occupied by the 153 Army officers and 10,000 clerks who mail out the cash at the pace of \$200,000 per hour. Largest single monthly check is \$152 which is sent to the wife and ten kids of one Pvt. Pinkerton.

Col. Turner, Heavy Bombardment Pioneer, Is New 19th Commander

Alabaman Is First Non-Texan To Head Famed Group Here

Col. Louie P. Turner, formerly base commander at the Alamogordo Army Air Base, this week became commanding officer of Pyote's famed 19th Bombardment Group. He succeeded Lt. Col. Elbert Helton, youthful Texan, who was with the group overseas. Col. Helton went to 1st Bomber Command Headquarters, Biggs Field, El Paso, Texas.

Col. Turner is another of the 2nd Air Force's pioneers in heavy bombardment aircraft. He has been flying B-17's since 1938, less than a year after the first four-motored craft was accepted by the Army Air Forces.

A veteran of military aviation, he got his wings at Kelly Field in September, 1926, following primary and basic training at Brooks Field. While at Maxwell Field, on June 7, 1928, he was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in the Regular Army. Returning to Brooks Field, he was an instructor until 1932.

He then went to the 8th Pursuit Group, Langley Field, until 1935. Radio school at Chanute Field was his next stop before going to Hamilton Field, where he was stationed until 1939.

World War II started for him while he was stationed at Honolulu's Hickman Field—but the Japs caught him "away from home" when they began the trouble. Col. Turner had flown to the mainland on a ferry trip.

He was transferred back to the States in November, 1942, and after a brief stopover in Washington was assigned to Alamogordo. He left there for the Rattlesnake Bomber Base, June 1.

Birmingham, Ala., is Col. Turner's hometown, making him one of the first non-Texans to head the venerable 19th. Brig. Gen. Eugene Eubank, Lt. Col. James T. Connally, Lt. Col. Felix M. Hardison, and Col. Helton, all former 19th Group commanders, were Texans.

Col. Turner attended the University of Alabama before entering Brooks Field.

Among his outstanding flights: He piloted the first land-based plane to make landings at Midway and Wake Islands. His passenger on this flight was General Martin, then Air Forces commanding general in Honolulu.

At Pyote, Col. Turner said: "Now is not the time for words." He has always been a man of action.

GOWEN FIELD, Ida. (CNS) — Blinds for barracks windows was the first request made by a group of WAACs when they arrived here.

The Army roasts its own coffee raised in Africa.

Five Men Go To P.T. School

Five men from the Rattlesnake Bomber Base left this week for Miami Beach, Fla., where they will attend the Physical Training School for Non-Commissioned Officers. Upon completion of the course they will return to Pyote.

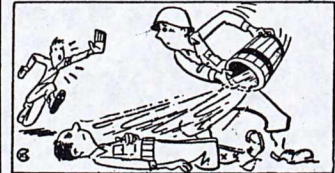
They are: S-Sgt. Robert B. Nickerson, 435th Bomb Sq., 19th Bomb. Group; Cpl. Eddie A. Lockamy, Base Headquarters; Cpl. Frank E. Walden, Airdrome Squadron; Pfc. Albert Simek and Pfc. Quentin J. Taylor, Base Headquarters.

RADIO SHOW CHANGES TIME

Starting Saturday, June 12, "What's Your Name, Soldier?" popular War Bond radio show of the Eighth Service Command, will be heard from 7 to 7:30 p.m., CWT, each Saturday over stations WFAA, WBAP, WOAI, KPRC.

An all-star cast of soldiers talent recruited from installations over the Service Command will inaugurate the new program time.

Life Savers



Don't try to revive an unconscious wounded man. Keep him quiet, stop his bleeding, and keep him warm.



Liquids should never be poured into a wounded man's mouth if he is unconscious as they may choke him.

Major Saenger's Folly



VIEW ABOVE the sad results of a mixture of good intent and presumption. Drouth parched the seed; rains drowned the seedlings, and the Pyote sun is still champ. Rabbit Hutch (BOQ) No. 5 tried hard—but the cacti and mesquite do not like competition.

Petite Miss Hutson Takes Over New Base Library, Reveals Plans

"Come to see me at our library," is the word Miss Emily Hutson, new senior librarian for the Rattlesnake Bomber Base is tossing lightly around the base.

If her words are light, she has a lot of heavy readin' matter to back up her invitation.

Miss Hutson who has more degrees than pounds, and twice as many smiles, arrived at the base this week.

Her first job: To get the existing Rec. Hall book collection—3,500 books—catalogued and moved into a building of their own.

"The collection has quite a start, and we're going to keep adding to it. There will be books for every man's need and taste," Miss Hutson said.

The new library building—to be open to all base personnel—is nearing completion. Looking very much like another barracks building, it is located behind and adjacent to the Service Club.

While this will be the main library on the base, the numerous branches already in existence will be continued. These include a thousand - book collection at the Officers' Club, small collections in 11 day rooms, at the hospital, bombing range detachment headquarters, and the colored squadron.

Miss Hutson, of Austin, Texas, holds B. A. and M. A. degrees from Rice University and a bachelor of library science degree from Carnegie Tech. On leaving school she was in charge of one of the eleven children's libraries in Portland, Ore.

She comes to Pyote from Mus-

kogee, Okla., where she was head of children's reading activities for the public library there. In addition, she has done considerable volunteer library work at various army posts.

Her aim at Pyote: A pleasant place in which to read surrounded by (1) good works of fiction, (2) non-fiction, including technical books, (3) the best magazines and (4) representative newspapers.

Various Schools Call 19th Men

Cpl. Fred M. Ward, 93rd Bomb Sq., 19th Group, went to Salt Lake City to attend the Enlisted Men's Intelligence Training School.

S-Sgt. Quentin Smith, 30th Bomb Sq., 19th Group, left for Wichita Falls, where he will take pre-flight training at Sheppard Field. Other men who are candidates for Aviation Cadets and are now awaiting appointment are S-Sgt. Edward A. Bowen, Jr., 435th Bomb Sq., 19th Group; Sgt. Lester M. Strong, 30th Bomb Sq.; and Sgt. William A. Riley, member of a heavy bombardment crew.

Cares For Strangers



T-SGT. RICHARD M. FILLMORE, Pyote Bomber Base's Base Flight line chief, and his 30 men meet, take care of, and perform maintenance work on all transient aircraft arriving here. No small part of his duties is to see that visiting dignitaries do not slip in without proper fanfare.

MEET YOUR BUDDIES:

Base Flight Line Chief Takes Good Care Of Transient Aircraft Here

"Say, that's not one of our planes." When you hear that, it's time for T-Sgt. Richard M. Fillmore of Base Flight to swing into action. For a young feller (going on 21), he does alright.

Leaving high school about three years ago, he enlisted in the Air Forces. First, however, he attended the California Aeronautical School, where he acquired the excellent technical background for the work he is doing at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base.

On leaving home (Jacksboro, Texas) he was sent to the basic training center at Kelly Field, then, to Fort Douglas, as a "prison chaser" (his own wordage) as a part of his basic. At the end of two months of that, Dick was sent to Gowen Field, Idaho, where for 18 months, he was a member of the Alert Crew—in 5 months, he was promoted to Alert Crew Chief.

He arrived here on Christmas Day, 1942, as the line chief of Pyote Base Flight. The main function of his organization is the meeting, care, and maintenance of all transient aircraft, plus the three L3C's (called Grasshoppers) stationed here, and Colonel Hew-

itt's plane, "Mary Jo."

When a visiting plane does hit these parts, here's a word picture of what our "buddy" does:

When the ship is over the field, the Control Tower notifies Base Flight over interphone of its impending landing. As the ship turns on the final approach prior to landing, a Base Flight Jeep is sent out to the runway, guiding the aircraft to the area used for the parking of strange planes. The plane is then serviced, and any maintenance required is performed.

If the crew of officers and enlisted men are going to stay overnight, Sgt. Fillmore arranges for their food and lodging. The next day before take-off time, the aircraft is pre-flighted. If the ship should have any visiting dignitaries or high ranking officers aboard,

Flying Fortress Crash Six Miles From Base Kills Eight, One Lives

Second Fatal Air Accident In Five Months' Operation Result Of Fire

Eight men died and another was seriously injured when a Flying Fortress crashed six miles southeast of the Rattlesnake Bomber Base at about 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning.

The crash followed by one week, almost to the hour, that which took the lives of eleven men, when their Fortress hit an iso-

lated mountain 50 miles north of Van Horn. The two accidents were the first fatal plane crashes in the base's five months of operations.

The plane was returning to the base after a routine local flight and was preparing to land when an engine ignited. An attempted emergency landing in the desert resulted in the crash.

Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., base commander, said that an investigation is underway to determine the cause of the accident.

Sgt. Kennard C. Stevens, tail gunner, of Stratton, Maine, escaped with serious injuries. Eight others in the plane were killed instantly.

The dead:

1. 2nd Lt. Joseph C. Folsom, Jr., pilot, of Atlanta, Ga.
2. 2nd Lt. Norman P. Beck, co-pilot, Glenside, Pa.
3. 2nd Lt. Edwin Everett Curran, bombardier, East Boston, Mass.
4. Sgt. Alphonse M. Kwedar, aerial gunner, Stoughton, Mass.
5. Sgt. David Lachter, radio operator - gunner, Brooklyn, N. Y.
6. Sgt. Robert Lee Been, assist-

Dick sees to it that the proper people are notified, so that a suitable reception committee is on hand to greet the visitors.

Sgt. Fillmore recalls a very amusing incident in connection with such an occasion. The late Gen. Olds was due to arrive at Gowen Field in connection with decoration ceremonies. The type of aircraft he was due to arrive in was unknown—the entire base was assembled on the parking ramp (even as at Pyote). A B-23 circled the field and prepared to land. The entire assemblage was called to rapt attention; the plane landed, taxied up to the ramp. The band started to play its much practiced martial air; the Base CO and his executives paraded up to the door of the ship, and waited for Gen. Olds to step out. Out walked a very, very surprised 2nd Lt.

T-Sgt. Richard M. Fillmore and his 30 men who work under him, are doing an excellent job, seeing to it that all visiting aircraft receive the same prompt and efficient attention and care as the regulars of the Rattlesnake Bomber Base.

ant radio operator - gunner, Denver, Colo.

7. Sgt. Allen Y. Mumford, aerial engineer - gunner, Jackson Center, Ohio.

8. Sgt. Edward W. Trapp, assistant aerial engineer - gunner, West Salem, Ohio.

Red Cross Gives 20 Hour Course In First Aid

The American Red Cross, in cooperation with the Pyote Base Hospital, will offer all interested persons over 17 years of age a 20-hour course in First Aid, it was announced today by Red Cross representatives from Monahans.

Reasons given for the courses were obvious: It has been established by Red Cross statistics that a person trained in First Aid is a safer and more reliable person than others. Those trained in First Aid are not often involved in occupational accidents or accidents at home and on the highway.

The course will be charted at a meeting Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., 205 East Reynolds Street, Monahans. An invitation to all who want to enroll has been extended. Those unable to attend the meeting may call Mrs. Homer P. Smith, 367-J, Monahans, for full information.

The course will be conducted by Lt. Earl L. Malone, base hospital physical, with assistance of trained hospital personnel. A 3-year certificate will be given those completing the course.

A 10-hour advanced course will be offered at the conclusion of the 20-hour course. This will be open to all holders of the 3-year certificate.

Military personnel and their families are invited to participate.

HARTFORD, Conn. (CNS)—A girl employed in a local defense plant was so upset when her boy friend left to take a war job in Hawaii that her production began to lag. The War Manpower Commission arranged to transfer her to Hawaii so she could work side by side with her feller.

Take Off



ALEXIS SMITH, streamlined Warners' star and an accomplished diver and swimmer, prepares gracefully for a dip into the deep. This build needs no build up, so take it or leave it.

GETTING A FURLOUGH EASY FOR LIND BROTHERS

When the Lind brothers of the 328th Medical Battalion, Camp Claiborne, apply for another furlough, they are very likely to get it!

Uncle Sam and Mr. Morgenthau would very likely probably endorse their applications.

The three Cactus Division privates have come back from a furlough spent in Chicago and Milwaukee. And they did all right in those two cities. In fact, they sold \$143,000 worth of War Bonds, at benefit concerts.

At Milwaukee the concert ad-

mission price was a \$25 War Bond. But after the Lind brothers sang "A Prayer for Peace," a man in the audience put in an order for \$10,000 in bonds. The song was composed by their father, Joshua Lind, a native of Lembery, Austria.

Before they joined the Army, the Lind brothers sang for a living, harmonizing as a trio with Dick Purgens and Eddie Cantor, and with NBC, CBS and MBS.

It's a Royal Flush at poker, a Natural at dice, 13 of a suit at bridge, and it's War Bonds for tops in investment.

FLAG DAY GREETING:

Starlet Sheila Ryan: "Be Brave . . . Come Back Victorious—And Soon"

Monday, June 14, is Flag Day.

Sheila Ryan, Twentieth Century-Fox starlet, remembered this, and she remembered the boys at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base. She had read about the work you are doing here. Her greeting:

To Men at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base—

On this Flag Day I can't think of any of Uncle Sam's boys I'd like to greet personally more than you heavy bombardment crews for the four-motored Bombers that are doing such a swell job in every area of the global war. This goes for the men who keep these crews flying, too.

What all of you have done, are doing, and will continue to do to keep our beloved flag representing the four freedoms is extra special.

Alice Faye, Carmen Miranda, Jimmy Ellison, Charlotte Greenwood, Phil Baker, Benny Goodman, Edward Everett Horton and Eugene Pallette, with whom I'm appearing in "The Girl He Left Behind," join me in salut-

ing you and our flag today.

Be brave, keep safe and well; come back victorious, happy—and soon.

Sincerely yours,
Sheila Ryan.

Miss Ryan is a new face in Hollywood.

In "The Girl He Left Behind," she plays her most important role to date. She is, in the story, the daughter of Charlotte Greenwood, and her part calls for quite a bit of dancing, something she does very well.

For further recommendation, see her picture on the front page. An enlargement of this, autographed to you, will be presented to the new Service Club when it opens.

Soldiers Get Special Treatment In Approved Pay-As-You-Go Bill

Congress last week passed a bipartisan compromise bill to put into effect the main purpose of the hotly debated "pay-as-you-go" national income tax plan advanced by Beardsley Ruml, chairman of the New York Federal Reserve Bank. Servicemen with taxable incomes, now or in the past year, will be effected considerably.

The measure makes the most radical changes in the revenue system since 1913. For most of the 44 million individual income taxpayers, the tax burden established by the bill will be greater, but more convenient to carry.

At this writing President Roosevelt had not signed the measure, but reputedly had indicated he would permit it to become law. Associated Press dispatches explained the bill's provisions as follows:

1. A 20 per cent withholding levy (17 per cent income levy, 3 per cent victory tax) on wages and salaries above basic exemptions of \$12 weekly for single persons and \$24 weekly for married, plus dependent allowances. (The payroll levy will not apply to members of the armed forces.)

2. One hundred per cent abatement for each taxpayer owing up to \$50 in taxes for the one year, 1942 or 1943, in which he had the smaller taxable income.

3. A flat \$50 abatement for each person whose abatement year (1942 or 1943) tax bill is between \$50 and \$66.67.

4. An abatement of 75 percent for all persons with an abatement year bill over \$66.67, with the re-

maining 25 per cent to be paid half on March 15, 1944, and half on March 15, 1945, in addition to current taxes. (Same goes for those in the \$50-\$66.67 classification).

The AP dispatch added:

"Members of the armed forces will get special treatment, with \$2,000 of their basic government pay exempted from tax for single persons, and \$2,700 for married persons, plus \$350 for each dependent."

Income payments made March 15 and June 15 (the latter still must be paid) of this year under the present law will be credited to taxes due on 1943 incomes, making taxpayers current. Persons with incomes outside wages and salaries must estimate earnings and pay quarterly. Later, adjustment will be made for over- and under-payment after 1943 returns shall have been rendered.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Fifteen Marines had a collective date with 875 girl Government workers here. That's 58,333 girls per Marine. Oh boy!

EDITORIAL:

Flag Day: Unity

The United States' traditional Flag Day, June 14, will be observed this year by all the United Nations. Thus, freedom's fighting team will symbolize the unity required of liberty-loving peoples determined to abolish cynical, bestial tyranny from the earth's battle-scarred face.

President Roosevelt: "We know that our flag is not fighting alone. This year the flags of 32 United Nations are marching together, borne forward by the bravery of free men."

The Role of Honor: United States, Great Britain, Russia, China, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iraq, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, South Africa, Yugoslavia.

Some are small; some are overrun by the enemy. But each is determined to do its full part, to contribute its strength in the major battles being fought by the Big Four. In Washington, as in all the United Nations' capitals, this fact is clear:

"A battle lost by any of our allies must be sustained by all of us. A victory won by any member of the team is a victory for all of us."

Throughout the global war, Allied unity is strongly evident: Fighting French, Poles, Czech and Greek units fought alongside the British and Americans in the African warfare.

Americans, Australians, New Zealanders, Dutch and Indian troops joined hands to take Buna and Sanananda Point in New Guinea.

Chinese ground crews, mechanics and armorers serve the American air force in China, which is supported effectively by the yet young Chinese air fighters.

In bomber and fighter planes now attacking "Festung Europa" are Americans, British, Canadians, Russians, Poles, Australians, New Zealanders, Czechs, Belgians, Norwegians, South Africans, and Frenchmen.

Chinese flyers train in the United States; British soldiers cut off in Greece fight with the guerillas; Dutch and Norwegians are in Canadian training camps.

The examples are innumerable; they point up the principle that will win the war.

At the war's beginning, freemen held all the ingredients for victory save one. Theirs were the greatest numbers, the richest resources, the mightiest industries, the most strategic areas, the will to fight for their heritage. They only needed to get together against the common enemy.

Flag Day 1943 heralds that unity—the teamwork which will win the war, the co-operation that must continue if the peace as well is to be won.

THE RATTLER

Published each Wednesday at Rattlesnake Bomber Base, Pyote, Texas

LT. COL. CLARENCE L. HEWITT, JR.
Commanding Officer

Edited & published by and for personnel at the AAB, Pyote, Texas.

Opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the staff members of individual writers and are not to be considered as expressions of the Army Air Forces.

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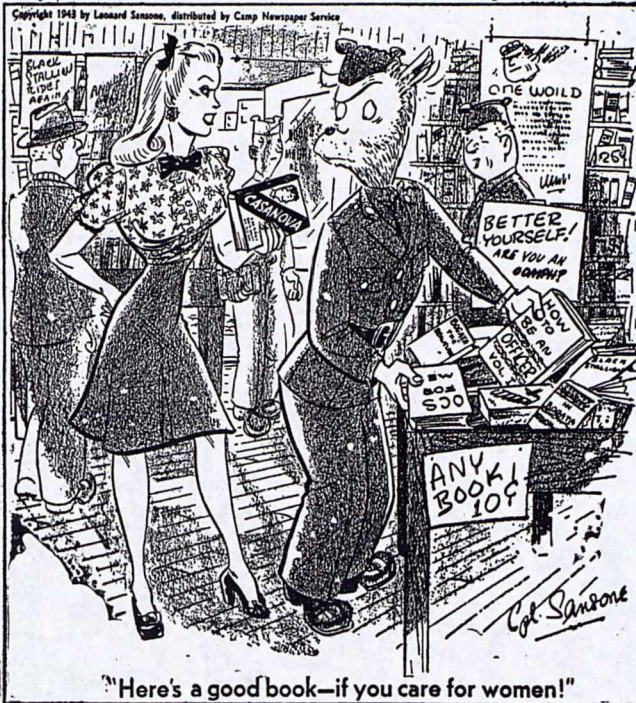
CARTOONISTS: Pfc. Robert Forrest.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: S-Sgt. John Lucas, Sgt. Walter Seefeldt.

The Rattler receives Camp Newspaper Service material.

The Wolf

by Sansone



The Diplomatic Front:

A bombshell burst in Buenos Aires last week. Associated Press flashed:

"Argentine army troops revolted Friday against the isolationist regime of President Castillo, swiftly seized the federal offices in a relatively bloodless march on the capital and set up a provisional military government which was hailed with shouts of 'Viva Democracy'."

The revolt was led jointly by Gen. Arturo Rawson and Gen. Pedro Ramirez. President Ramon Castillo—whose policy of "prudent neutrality" had left Argentina the only American republic maintaining diplomatic relations with the Axis Powers—resigned for lack of any following sufficient for an immediate counter-move.

United Nations' capitals hailed the revolution as favorable to democracy's cause; the reaction throughout Latin America generally was in approval.

Pertinent comment:

Elmer Davis, U.S. war information director: "Even the conservative and military classes in Argentina realize that the Axis is going to lose the war."

Felix F. Palavicini, Mexican ambassador to Argentina: "The immediate results will be more favorable for spiritual unity of the continent, and for Americanism. The logical thing is that the new Argentine regime will break diplomatic relations with the

Axis."

Lord Beaverbrook's London Evening Standard: "The Argentines have struck a fierce diplomatic blow and sounded a warning which other politicians still sitting in neutrality's saddle would do well to heed."

The Castillo regime only weakly tried to prevent Axis activities based in Argentina. He had prevented popular discussion of Argentina's interest in the war by muzzling the press with a "state of siege." He had tried to throw a monkey wrench into all machinery for Pan American co-operation. He had kept a reactionary regime in power, despite popular opposition, by preventing the free working of the democratic elective process. In short, he had it coming.

Whether the new regime will measure up to first expectations, by breaking relations with the Axis and beginning a program of political and economic co-operation with the United Nations and particularly the other American republics, remains to be seen.

If the new government stands and proves itself favorable, the Allied war effort will be materially strengthened. Even more important in the long run, Western Hemisphere solidarity in the post-war era will have better chance to become a thriving reality granting ever greater results in New World peace and prosperity.

THE CHAPLAIN SAYS -



Have you read "The Robe?" It is as thrilling a book as has come to my attention in a long time. The story is laid in the time of Jesus. One of the main characters is the Roman officer who supervised the Crucifixion. It is not of that, however, that I wish to talk.

One of the characters has a problem much like those that face us today. It is a young lady named Miriam. She had suffered paralysis, and was unable to walk. She knew several people who had been healed of their diseases by the Great Physician, but He didn't heal her. He had, however, done something for her that was more valuable than physical healing.

Miriam had for months lain in bed, moping and bemoaning her lot. She had made herself a burden to her father and mother by her "gripping." Then she was visited by Jesus. What He told her, just what He did for her, she called a secret. It made a great change in her life, whatever it was. When she first appears in the story, we hear her singing in the city square. Singing the great songs of faith of her forefathers. So sweet was her voice, and so confident her faith, that she attracted great throngs of people each evening that she sang. She couldn't walk, but she could fly. Her body was crippled, but not her spirit.

Suppose Jesus had healed her. She would have been grateful, and would have expressed her thanks to Him. But would she ever have thrilled others with her marvelous voice? She hadn't known that she could sing until she felt the yearning to do something for her Lord, and was kept from what we would call active service by truth that many are delivered in their infirmities rather than from

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sunday: Aviation Squadron Service, 0900.
1030, Base Chapel
1930, Base Chapel
1430, Hospital Service
Wednesday: Bible Study Class, 1930.
Thursday: Chapel Chorus Rehearsal, 1900.
Community Sing, 2000.
Motion Picture, 2030.

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Sunday Masses: 0600, 0800, and 1615.
Weekday Masses: every day but Thursday, 1730.
Hospital Mass: Thursday, 1500, in Hospital Mess Hall.
Evening Devotions: Tuesday, 1930. Friday, 2100.
Confessions: Saturday, afternoon and evening to 2100.
Sunday, before the Masses.

JEWISH SERVICES

Friday: Sabbath Evening Services, 1930.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

Sunday, 1715.

them. She was made stronger than she otherwise could have been, because she had a handicap to rise above.

All this goes to prove that happiness should not be dependent on externals. Men have come to me with the sad tale that this camp was "getting them down." Then, within fifteen minutes, another man would come in saying how much he enjoyed being here, and what a fine bunch of officers and men there were on the Base. What determines your attitude toward life? Is it something outside of you, or something inside? Miriam found that it was something inside, but she didn't make that discovery until she had met Jesus. Might not the same thing be true with us today?

—Chaplain Edwin W. Norton

SPECIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Army Emergency Relief Program Supplements Red Cross Work

During the past five months the Army Emergency Relief has been giving assistance to the men at Pyote Army Air Base, and to their dependents.

The Army Emergency Relief is closely associated with the American Red Cross, and its intention is to supplement the welfare activities of the Red Cross but not duplicate. It serves those cases where the Red Cross is unable to render adequate and timely relief or where the Red Cross is not permitted to make loans in accordance with its regulations.

Assistance and loans are made by the Army Emergency Relief after investigation and when it is felt that the soldier or his dependent needs the assistance. The Special Service Officer, Lt. George A. Hoffmann, is in charge of the Army Emergency Relief on the Base.

Legal and advisory service is also a part of the Army Emergency Relief. Assistance to dependents in securing family allowances, pensions, compensations, insurance, allotments or other authorized benefits is extended through the Base Office of Courts and Boards.

Kermit Lions Club Donates 200 Books

To the constantly growing collection of books at the Base Library, the Kermit Lions Club lately added 200 volumes, gathered through donation by Kermit citizens.

The Special Service Office also has received for the Library a complete, up-to-date set of the Encyclopedia Americana, standard reference work of 30 volumes. The Library, with reading space, is backstage at the Rec. Hall. Book-lovers find the run of titles surprisingly good.

YANK CAPTURES COUSIN

SCRANTON, Pa. — Pvt. John Pehanick captured his first cousin, Andrew Petach, of the German Army, in North Africa, he revealed in a letter to his mother. He asked her to send him a list of all his cousins "still on the other side." He wrote, "I want to catch them all."

The Army has more truck drivers now than it had soldiers when war began.

English Classes For Men Here Start June 14

English classes for Base personnel will start June 14, Lt. George A. Hoffmann, Special Service Officer, announced last week.

Through the co-operation of Major John B. Nelson, S-3, the classes will be taught by three college graduates with civilian teaching experience: Sgt. Gilbert H. Reynolds, S-2, Sgt. Paul J. Moore, Administrative Inspector's Office, and Sgt. Paul von Krum, Special Service Office.

The Special Service Office reports that there are "quite a few men on the Base who do not speak and write English." Men who attend will have an opportunity to better themselves for the work that they may do in civilian life as well as help themselves get a better rating and become more effective soldiers.

Men interested in the classes should turn in their names to the Special Service Office.

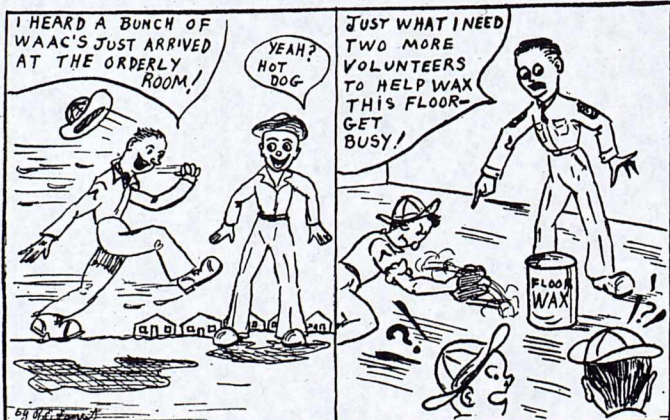
Base Band To Play For EM Dance

The weekly enlisted men's dance at the Base Recreation Hall, Tuesday from 8 p.m. to midnight, again will feature the Rattlesnake Bomber Base's own dance band.

There will be lilted tunes for those who like to lilt, and jive numbers for the rugcutters. All girls of the Base are invited, and urged to see that their girl friends attend as well.

"GOING TO TOWN" COMING TO PYOTE

Camp Shows Inc. is scheduled to present "Going to Town"—classified a Grade "A" show, full of fun—at the Recreation Hall Monday, June 14, at 9 p.m.



A A B SPORTS

Baseball Doings In The Majors

BY PFC. HYMAN BROOK
Sports Editor

AMERICAN LEAGUE. — The York Yankees still held the top position in the American League, with the Washington Sen. right on their heels. Both the Yanks and the Senators won doubleheaders in Sunday's games. The Yankees got a lucky break in Thursday's game, playing the St. Louis Browns' and nosing them out by the score of 2 to 1, after Bob Muncief forced in the winning run. Ernie Bonham chalked up another win.

Washington Senators, who are making their bid for first place, went ahead to whip the Detroit Tigers in both ends of a doubleheader Sunday, by the scores of 5 to 1 and 8 to 4. The Senators blasted the Cleveland Indians for 13 runs in Wed. game. It looks as if the Washington ball club means as much business as those boys in the White House.

What's happening to those Cleveland Indians shouldn't happen to a dog. They got blasted by every team in the East, and finally came through to split a twin bill with Philadelphia, after Jack Salveson, a rookie, gave up only 4 hits. The Athletics took four out of their five games with the Indians.

The Chicago White Sox were going like a house afire all week long until they were stopped in both ends of a doubleheader by the Boston Red Sox to lose both games by the slim margin of 1 run. However, the Sox moved up to fifth place.

NATIONAL LEAGUE. — Well! Well! those Brooklyn Bums finally got put out of first place after Saturday's game. The Dodgers went down to the bats of the Cubs to lose by the score of 3 to 2, and lose the lead to the St. Louis Cardinals. They also got trounced by the Cubs in Thursday's game, 8 to 1. The Dodgers won their Sunday's game from Chicago after 11 innings of play to the tune of 4 to 3, with Wyatt doing the hurling.

Stan Musial's single in the sixth inning drove in the winning run to defeat the Phillies, 1 to 0, but there was more to it than just winning the game: it put the St. Louis Cards in first place, also making it Stan Musial's 22nd

game of hitting consecutively. Now if he can continue his batting streak for pust 33 more games he will tie the record for consecutive hits. At the present time Joe DiMaggio holds the record with 55 games. It looks as though the Bums and Cards will continue to have their ups and downs for first position.

The Pittsburgh Pirates belted the New York Giants in both games Sunday by the scores of 18 to 1 and 7 to 0. Carl Hubbell of the New York Giants, veteran artist, chalked up the 250th win of his career, when he stopped the Pirates in Saturday's game 5 to 1, giving only one hit.

The Cincinnati Reds took the opening game of what was supposed to be a doubleheader to the tune of 4 to 3 after 14 innings. Riddle was in the box for the Reds, while Andrews suffered the loss of the Braves. The second game was called because of rain.

Standings

TUESDAY:

National League			
Clubs	W	L	Pct
St. Louis	26	14	.650
Brooklyn	28	17	.622
Pittsburgh	22	18	.550
Cincinnati	21	19	.525
Boston	17	19	.472
Philadelphia	18	22	.450
New York	16	27	.372
Chicago	15	27	.357

American League			
Clubs	W	L	Pct
New York	23	15	.605
Washington	24	18	.571
Detroit	20	19	.513
Philadelpha	22	21	.512
Chicago	17	18	.486
Cleveland	20	22	.476
Boston	20	23	.465
St. Louis	13	23	.361

On May 1, 1920, the Boston Braves played the Brooklyn Dodgers the longest game in history of baseball. The game was called on-account of darkness after 3 hours and 50 minutes of play. The game went for 26 innings, ending with a 1 to 1 score. Batteries were Cadore and Elliott for Brooklyn; Oeschger and Gowdy for the Dodgers.

Count Fleet Now Century's Wonder Horse

It was just another day of racing at Belmont Park Sat., but it was more than that to Count Fleet, the wonder horse of the Century.

Count Fleet—having won the Wood Memorial at Jamaica, the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, the Preakness at Pimlico, the Wither's Stakes at Belmont, and now coming through to cop the richest of all Belmont stakes of \$35,000—is perhaps the most famous thoroughbred in the history of racing. The only other horse ever to accomplish this glory was Sir Barton back in 1919.

The Count ran the mile and a half in 2:28 1-5, being 3-5 of a second short of the record for that distance. However, he did break the track record by chopping 2-5 of a second off War Admiral's record made six years ago. Count Fleet led from beginning to end, to cross the finish line as much as 25 lengths in front of Fairy Manhurst, second place, and Deseronto, third.

It was the smallest field ever to be entered for such a race. The victory was worth \$35,340 to Mrs. D. Hertz, to bring the Count's earnings past the quarter of a million mark. The pay-off for Count Fleet's victory was the legal minimum of \$2:10. No place or show money was bet because of the small field. The 19,200 fans who saw the race topped the all-time high on any one horse by betting off a quarter of a million dollars on the Hertz Hurricane. The previous record was held in New York, when \$196,192 was bet on the Count at the Wood Memorial Stakes. The betting resulted in a "minus pool" of \$15,912.

Undefeated Medics Again Challenge Any Base Softball Team

In a well-played game with the 93rd Bomb Squadron, "G" section, the Medics again scored a victory, 5-to-1. Oakley's home run put the Medics in a secure position and neatly over the top.

Wednesday the 435th Bomb Squadron bowed to the undefeated Medics by a high but very close score, 17-to-16. The challenge to any team on the Base for games with the Medics still holds good.

Freddie Archer, the former Newark, N. J. welterweight, who twice defeated ex-champ Beau Jack, — is at a Sea-Bee base in Rhode Island.

Ring Notes

NEW YORK, June 5 — Veteran Chalky Wright knocked out Phil Terranova in five rounds at Madison Square Garden, in a scheduled 15-round bout. The victory may qualify Wright for another crack at the lightweight title which he once held, but lost to Willie Pep.

OAKLAND, Cal. — John Thomas of Los Angeles beat Jimmy Florita in ten rounds. Jimmy Brooks, also of Los Angeles, beat Charley Early of Oakland in six rounds.

ELIZABETH, N. J.—Lulu Costantino, New York, stopped Gus Levine of New York in two rounds.

Jimmy Bivins of Cleveland will tangle dukes with Lloyd Marshall in a light-heavyweight bout Tues., June 8, in the Cleveland Stadium under lights. The winner will be considered as the title-holder for the duration. Jimmy Bivins, who has been having a little trouble keeping his weight down, will go into the ring at 175 without any trouble. Already, Promoters Bib Brickman and Larry Atkins have received an offer from England to match the winner of the Bivins - Marshall fight, for a late summer bout in London with Freddie Mills, who is regarded in London as the British Isles light-heavyweight champ. Bivins is a 2-to-1 favorite over Marshall.

Amado Rodriguez, middle weight champion of Mexico, has been signed by matchmaker Jimmy Erwin as the main event in the opening of the first outdoor bout of the season. The bout will be held in the Juarez Bullring, June 11. The challenger has not been named at yet.

Texas' Heavyweight title will be at stake June 10 in Dallas. Buddy Scott and Jack Marshall, both from Dallas, will tangle fists for 15 rounds. Buddy Scott the veteran of the two, will be an 8 to 5 favorite.

The St. Louis Cardinals won the National League pennant (Sept. 27, 1942) the last day of the season, and for the first time since 1908 that the pennant had been decided in either the American or National League on the final day.

Lou Zamperini, who used to chase Don Lash home in the two-mile is still chasing Japs around in the Pacific.

Atley Donald, the Yankee pitcher holds the world record for pitching speed. On Aug. 30, 1939, in Cleveland Stadium he threw the ball at a rate of 139 feet a second, or 94.7 miles an hour. Previous record was held by Dee Miles, of the Phil. Athletics at 136 feet a second.



Headquarters

BY JOHN BOGARD, ET AL

Several changes have been made in Headquarters recently. Deane Blakeny got the creative urge and transferred from Payroll Department to the drafting room at Sub-Depot Engineering. Evelyn Shelton transferred from Personnel to Payroll and will do her bit there to see that everyone gets his pay check on time.

Betty Hussman from out Idaho way began working Thursday, June 3, as Headquarter's messenger. Betty is making her home in Monahans.

Helen Baldwin of Wickett began working last week in the property and supply department of the Sub-Depot Signal Section.

Marjorie Hitt of the statistical department got away from it all Saturday, leaving for Houston to spend several days of her annual leave.

Major Saenger went to San Antonio Friday on matters concerning supply.

And our pretty blonde in personnel department has the following verbatim statement to make regarding rumors of weddings, love triangles and quadrangles, etc.:

"To all readers of the Rattler: I'm not responsible for any remarks that might be printed about me in this paper. Floryne Preslar."

Supply

BY LOW-SCORE FOUR

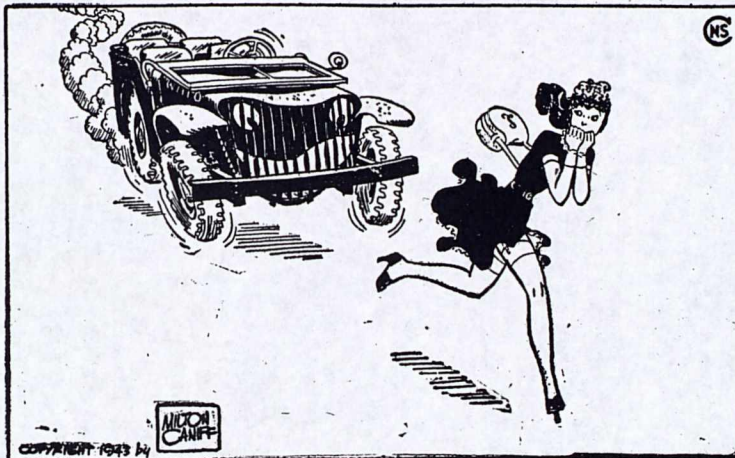
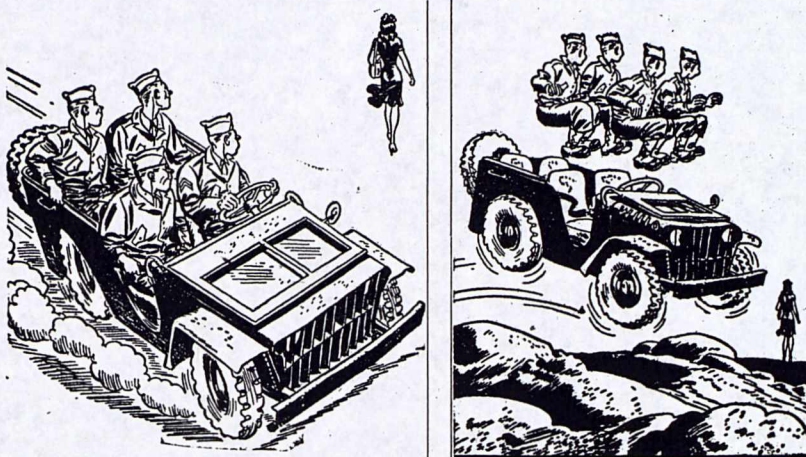
Fair and warmer weather is predicted for Connecticut according to all predictions by Lt. Willard E. Lawrence, former Pyote Base Weather Officer. This is no secret, for as cause for this prediction is his approaching marriage to Miss Lulu Williams, the belle of Sub-Depot. Our congratulations to Lt. Lawrence, known as "Lover", and our best wishes to Lulu.

First June Bride of Sub-Depot is Mrs. Sherman Simms, the former Miss Marjorie Ellis, who was married in the Base Chapel June 1st. The wedding was to have taken place at 6:15, but it is rumored that the organist over-slept, causing the ceremony to be about 45 minutes late. Lucky Marjorie, it's usually the groom who doesn't show up.

"Everything-Happens-To - Me" Means now reports she is an authority on How to Change a Tire in Thirty Minutes or More. She claims "Suzy" has betrayed her. Special precautions are taken

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BY
MILTON
CANIFF



to keep Hugh "Hot Water Bottle" Moore out of the rubber room these days. He's seeking anything to keep him afloat since he's discovered that stoppers will come out of hot water bottles even in the middle of the night. Sounds rather awkward to us hitting himself on the knee with a hammer. Maybe he was envious of all the attention being bestowed upon Lt. Wyper in his limping condition.

The Stacey-Darby affair seems to be getting bad. Marie spends most of her time these days in Stock Record Section Two, supposedly checking records.

Suggestions are being made that Not-In-Stocks be made on "Popcorn." All contributions splashed our way will be appreciated. How about it, Blackburn?

An innocent bystander watching the be-crutched and be-slung procession to breakfast from Rabbit Hutch No. 5 would think he had run into the casualties returning from a Combat Zone. Lt. Wyper, the be-crutched, and Capt. McCrosky, the be-slung, will maybe some day learn to take their sports moderately and in their own league.

We've noticed a sad, forlorn look in "Jughead's" eyes since his bud-

dy-chum Sgt. Swan has gone.

Dwees "Why-So-Soon" and Nina Gramling are on a no-dateless-night campaign. Slow down girls, there'll be more when these are gone.

Lt. Frisinger has just returned from a three day conference trip to San Antonio. Much to his sorrow he reports nothing accomplished except lots of work. It seems all his buddies have gone to Galveston.

One of the most excited persons to receive an invitation to the Base N.C.O. Dance was "Miss" Vivian R. Neblett of Warehouse No. 3. "Miss" Neblett is an attractive blonde, blue eyed, six feet two inches tall, complete with one each mustache, hand trimmed. Much astonishment would have been felt by "her" more intimate friends to have seen "her" come swaggering in on the arm of some uniformed romeo.

ALLIANCE, Neb. (CNS)—Geronimo, dog paratrooper of the Air Base here, soon will get his sergeant's stripes. Geronimo hit the silk for the fifth time during a recent mass parachute jump.

Rattler Postage Rate Goes Up

The Rattler may be mailed first class (sealed) for 6 cents or third class (unsealed) for 1½ cents.

Postal regulations prohibit mailing newspapers under servicemen's free mail privilege.

The Rattler's extra four pages this week upped the first class postage required.

OH WELL, IT WAS WORTH LOOKING INTO

CAMP PICKETT, Va. (CNS)—Sgt. Hank Brennecke got his laundry back from the Post concession last week. Inside was a note written in a feminine hand describing in tempting detail the furnishings of an apartment. At the bottom was a girl's name.

Brennecke ain't slow on the draw. He wrote the young lady at the laundry, complimented her on her taste in apartments and mentioned, casually, that he was single and willing.

He got a prompt reply. She told him over the phone that she was insulted and that he had no business reading her mail.

SERVICE SQUADRONS

Diedrichs' Outfit

BY SGT. ROY A. WORTENDYKE

Pvt. Walter Horoshak, the tailor, has things humming around the day room now that he has the Singer sewing machine to aid him in keeping the squadron properly uniformed. The men in barracks No. 3 are wondering, since they all lost, who won the post-pay-day crap game. Sgt. Clyde Tyree is vouching for the statement that Sgt. Charles Wooley "drank a quart of goat's milk and was, within the hour, out grazing . . ." In well-modulated tones and with controlled diction, Sgt. John Brank speaks from his radio-equipped jeep to the control tower "Testing, one, two, three, four, testing." Contrary to expectations Pvt. Pencho Gospodinoff did not get married during his recent trip to Tischoomingo.

Cpl. Ted Sutherland and his lady friend in Wickett find it necessary to communicate by air mail. Upon his return from his furlough, Cpl. Frank Zuri will be applying for a family allotment for the former Miss Billie Glass of Arlington, Texas. The frequency of Sgt. Orin Morgan's visit to Monahans 5 & 10 is causing comments by his barracks mates.

Pfc. Edward Oman has had KP so often that he is beginning to believe that he is the mess sgt. Cpl. Russel Lawson's barracks mates report that the tears in his eyes when he found that he could not go home on his furlough by way of Chicago were genuine.

The squadron welcomes Pfc. Raymond Lefleur, Michael Twardos, Weldon Skinner, Pvt. Carl Vaughn, Raymond Turner and Arthur Clark and says "So long" to Pvt. Charles Oare and Cpl. William Jennings. Pvt. Cannon has left for Buffalo, N. Y., to assist the war effort as a civilian. M-Sgt. Robert Connors and S-Sgt. Karl Weller thank the men of sub-depot supply for their cooperation during the absence of M-Sgt. Jack Yaros, the boss.

Lieutenant Diedrichs received thanks from the Base Custodial Office last week for the loan of ten men and ten trucks from the Service Squadron to accommodate the incoming WAACs.

Genter's Outfit

BY CPL. LLOYD K. PEARSON

Busiest place in the Genter Squadron now is the Orderly Room where amid sweat and tears the 055 boys (better known as clerks) toil. Rivalling the Orderly Room in activity is Pike's Depart-

Good Deal



PERHAPS IN gratitude for American lend-lease, Britain sends us winsome Evelyn Ankers, now a Universal starlet and on her way to citizenship with first papers. How about settling the whole war debt that way?

ment Store, sometimes called the supply room. Here you can get any size clothing you want, but it will always be too large or too small. Their motto is: The customer is always wrong, or, Do it the Army way and remain happy.

Overheard Sgt. PeeWee (Snuffy) Smith and Private Dunlap discussing the possibilities of visiting Alpine, Texas, and the number of WAAC's they knew who were stationed there. How about letting up in on these ideas and give the rest of the boys a chance? In the past month the alumnae from Dear Old Blue Room have steadily been disbanding and of the few who are left there is one who is still true blue. Dewalt, we salute you!

Aside from a few bruised shoulders and scratched elbows the weekly rifle practice has made remarkable progress. If this keeps up much longer we can change our status from a service squadron to a Commando unit.

Wonder what Cpl. Casey is doing after his sorrowful departure from the city of Pyote. Pvt. Peters, his successor to the dispatching department is still surrounded by Casey's Gas House Gang and is doing an excellent job in keeping their reputation alive. The only man who appreciates our new steel helmets is Cpl. Potthast. After assigning KP's and CQ's, that helmet will be good protection.

Would like to welcome Sgt. George Daher on his arrival back in Sunny Texas from a furlough in Sunny California. Now there's



30th Squadron

BY S-SGT. KENNETH WALKER

HISTORY OF THE 30TH

The 30th Bombardment Squadron (H) was originally organized on June 13, 1917, at Kelly Field, Texas, as the 30th Provisional Aero Squadron. On June 28, 1917, its designation was changed to 30th Aero Squadron (Service).

The Squadron served overseas in the World War from August 23, 1917, to April 4, 1919. It was not engaged in active service. The 30th Aero Squadron (Service) was demobilized at Garden City, Long Island, New York, April 14, 1919.

On March 24, 1923, the Aero Squadron (Service) was reconstituted on the inactive list of the Regular Army as the 30th Bombardment Squadron. On June 24, 1932, it was made active and assigned to the 19th Bombardment Group, Rockwell Field, Colorado, California.

Ordered to March Field, Riverside, California, 1935. Redesignated 30th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) 1939. Ordered to Kirtland Field, Albuquerque, New Mexico, May, 1941. Ordered to proceed to foreign service, Clark Field, Pampanga, Luzon, Philippine Islands, October, 1941.

With the outbreak of war on December 7, 1941, the 30th Bombardment Squadron served in the Philippines, Java and Australia until December, 1942, flying hundreds of combat and reconnaissance missions.

War Department records show that members of the 30th Bombardment Squadron received 4 Distinguished Service Crosses, 120 Silver Stars, 18 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 55 Purple Hearts and numerous Oak Leaf Clusters. Also each of the 30th combat crews have flown sufficient hours to receive the Airman's Medal.

In December, 1942, the 30th was ordered back to the United States along with the rest of the 19th Bombardment Group and is now stationed at Rattlesnake Bomber Base, Pyote, Texas, training new combat crews with the valuable

a man who should really appreciate the sun, but me, I'll take the north, and like it.

Saw a clipping the other day announcing the engagement of Cpl. Burrill Bunim to a lovely South Carolina belle. May we extend our hearty congratulations and wish you the best of luck.

experience gained while in the combat zone.

THE 30TH INSIGNIA

The 30th's insignia was designed by Ad Carter, well known cartoonist:

On a white disk "Sergeant Branner" swinging his baton in proper colors within a black border, a plie at the "east," "south" and "west" cardinal points and fleur-de-lis at the north point, all green.

The squadron is "on the beat" along the coast, prepared to do its duty of protection as befits a good policeman. His jaunty attitude as he goes about his duty is one which the squadron may well emulate. The circle represents a compass card having thereon the four cardinal points of a mariner's compass, the fleur-de-lis bellis has the additional value of portraying the fact that this squadron saw service in France during the World War. The squadron must ever be proficient in the science of navigation, stationed where its objectives will be at sea and where its ability to go to and from those objectives will be as good as its efficiency in the use of such instruments as the compass. The blue and gold of the policeman's uniform are the present colors of the Army Air Forces. The black and green of the compass card were the old colors of the Air Corps. The whole, against a background of white, makes the design more easily recognized.

Community Sing, Films On Program At Chapel Thursday

The weekly Community Sing will begin at the Base Chapel Thursday at 8 p.m., with the motion picture program following at 8:30 p.m., Chaplain Edwin W. Norton has announced.

All Base personnel is invited, and the men are urged to watch the Chapel bulletin boards over the Base for details of the weekly programs.

The Base Chaplain's Bible Study Class meets at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, and the Chapel Chorus meets in rehearsal at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Lewis E. Lewis of Lewisport, Ky. turned up at the induction center here. He was assigned to Ft. Lewis, Wash.

AT THE THEATER

Top billing at the Base Theater this week goes to Director (now an Army major) George Stevens' "The More the Merrier" (Sunday and Monday).

Time terms the Columbia film "a smart, civilized comedy about wartime Washington's nationally famous housing shortage." New Yorker comments: "A funny, if not exactly definitive treatment . . ." Newsweek: "One of the gayest and most lighthearted . . ."

Jean Arthur, office worker, sub-lets half her apartment to Charles Coburn, retired, cupid-playing industrialist who sub-lets a quarter of the quarters to Joel McCrea, an aircraft technician. Yes, Joel gets Jean, but only after several reels of complications designed to push wartime troubles out of mind.

One of the better war films hits the Base Wednesday for a two-day run, "Crash Dive," a 20th Century-Fox vehicle for Ty Power, now a Marine. Time liked it:

"Technicolored submarine story which should appeal to the boy in every man who wants to be an officer and a gentleman. The best parts of the film are its scenes of serious submarine business."

A return run of "Across the Pacific" comes here Saturday, and if you haven't seen it, do so. It's mainly Humphrey Bogart, of whom Gilbert Seldes says in Esquire:

"Bogart just goes on being the best man in his field . . . the grace of a panther . . . a good voice . . . tempo; no merely timing of shots, but a rhythm in which he works."

The cast is that of "The Maltese Falcon" and again as good, except that "Pacific" can't match the "Falcon's" plot. Bogart's role hardly is as good as in "Casablanca," but still of the best.

Friday's "I Escaped from the Gestapo" probably is about what it sounds like. Tuesday's two features, at 7½ cents apiece, should be worth the money if you have the time.

This Week's Schedule:

Wed. & Thurs.—"Crash Dive," with Tyrone Power, Anne Baxter, and James Gleason. Paramount News.

Fri.—"I Escaped from the Gestapo," with Dean Jagger and John Carradine. Shorts: "Plans for Destruction" and "Super Rabbit."

Sat.—"Across the Pacific," with Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, and Sydney Greenstreet. Shorts: U.S. Army Band and "Plenty Below Zero."

Sun. & Mon.—"The More the

She Never Forgets Her Lines—Who Would?



GENE TIERNEY, 20th Century-Fox star, poses prettily before one of Hollywood's more glamorous bathtubs. Miss Tierney is well on her way toward being one of the film city's most accomplished actresses. As the saying goes, art is okay in art's place, and Miss Tierney's very special brand of art is alright inside the above compatible swim suit.

Merrier," with Jean Arthur, Charles Coburn, and Joel McCrea. Paramount News.

Tues.—"Follow the Band," Leon Errol and Mary Beth Hughes. Second feature: "High Explosive," with Chester Morris and Jean Parker.

Show Time:

STARTS	ENDS
1:30 p. m.	3:30 p. m.
5:30 p. m.	7:30 p. m.
8:00 p. m.	10:00 p. m.
10:15 p. m.	12:15 a. m.

Soldiers Prefer War-Theme Films

The United States Army shows a distinct preference for war pictures with the 900 camp theaters turning in these choices lately as determined by box-office receipts:

1. 'Air Force' (WB).
2. 'The Desperadoes' (Col).
3. 'Happy-Go-Lucky' (Par).
4. 'It Ain't Hay' (U).

5. 'Random Harvest' (M-G).

Scanning the favorites over a 15-month period, the results show that pictures with a service background come first with the uniformed movie-goer. Second, they like to laugh, with comedies and musicals next in favor.

IDAHO FALLS, Ida. (CNS) —

Miss Neda Young got a letter from a sailor. A censor had cut out one sentence, but in the margin he wrote: "Kisses. About a million I guess."

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

By S-Sgt. Lawrence Shipp

The V for Victory slogan has become international and may be seen and heard anywhere. To the United Nations it is especially significant. All of us have seen this famous symbol displayed in hundreds of different ways, but Thursday the Medics saw a "V" they will never forget. Private Barocas from the Guard Squadron was the bearer and the few remaining tufts of coal black hair formed a perfect V. What a spectacle to behold! Wouldn't it be interesting to see the expression on Captain Lang's face when Private Barocas goes back on duty?

Now the Medics have seen real WAACs; in fact have eaten in the same mess hall with them. Their fine demonstration of marching is certainly to be commended.

The "Boy Scouts" of Barracks 6 are no more. The death knell to that infamous organization was sounded when all occupants were ordered to move into new quarters. Is it true that Private Rufo is taking a correspondence course to finish High School? They're certainly taking them young, aren't they, Rufo?

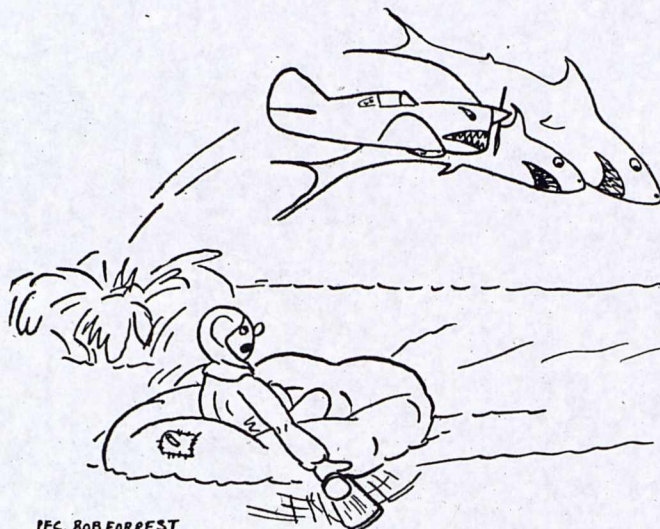
Can you feature Pfc. Pietrusinski doing K. P.? It could be a reality some of these days. Wonder where he'd look best—pots and pans or dishing potatoes?

They say Sgt. Riley's lemonade is really something to rave about. Incidentally, Sergeant who is this Texas Belle you've been seeing so much of lately?

Beds no longer fall in Barracks 4. Now it's the floor! "Skinny" Houseknecht walks, the floor gives, the boards crack, and the result is indoor fox holes for O'Neil, Scarfone, Valco, and Russell. Woe to the night owls who come in late; their chance of falling into the traps are excellent. Soon your worries will be over, Corporal McAuliff.

Lt. Tesitor has returned from Denver—still single—and reports that Colorado never looked better. East met West when Lt. Igou arrived in El Paso. Could it be St. Louis no longer rates? Was it three more days that Captain Pierce wanted? There's nothing like it!

There are a number of questions that the entire detachment has been concerned about of late: Of all people, what behooved Corporal Buc to raise a mustache. Where is the office of the Night NCO? Who is Martha, the new sensation in S-Sgt. Sohurr's life? Nothing like a teacher, eh, Sergeant? And lastly how much fatter is Louis Aldridge going to get?



Pfc. Bob Forrest

"Now I've Seen Everything!"

Temporary USO To Open Soon

As work progressed on the permanent USO building near Monahans City Park, announcement was made today that temporary USO headquarters and lounge will be opened next Tuesday, June 15.

The temporary lounge will be located at 500 E. Sealy St. (about four blocks past the Corner and Monahans drug stores on the highway to Odessa).

Accommodations will include a lounge, library, and snack bar, with facilities for quiet games, letter-writing, reading, and music (piano, radio & phonograph).

"We'll begin roganizing our corps of junior and senior hostesses from this point," Edward A. Palange, director, said. "Meantime, we want the men at Pyote to come see us at our temporary headquarters." He pointed out that work on the permanent building is progressing rapidly.

LAST STRAW

Two Americans in Egypt had been living on dehydrated beef, dehydrated milk, dehydrated butter and dehydrated vegetables for months.

One day they visited a museum and saw their first mummy . . . "Look, Fred," said one, "they're even dehydrating women now."

The Detachment Commander has officially notified us of another big Detachment Party in the near future. Let's make this a greater success than the last one. Scouts are out looking for the "hidden talent" and fellows, let's not "keep our light under a bushel"; let's make this a party that will really make history.

M.P.'s Check GI Speeding; Civilians Must Cooperate

Complete cooperation of all personnel, military and civilian, in observance of war-time regulations in commuting to and from the Rattlesnake Bomber Base was requested today by Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., base commander.

Col. Hewitt pointed out that the speed limit on highways leading from the base is 35 miles per hour.

"Our Military Police are doing a very excellent job of crecking on military vehicles and cars driven by military personnel," Col. Hewitt said. "But we must depend on our civilian employes to voluntarily give us cooperation. State and county police of course, are checking civilian drivers."

Laff Of The Week

There is a story going the rounds about a WAAC who won her first stripes. For an hour she tried to sew them on her blouse. Finally she gave up.

The next night she sought the sewing advice of a male soldier who took her blouse to his barracks and returned the following day with a perfect job.

MON'TREAL (CNS)—The MPs are having a lot of trouble these days with Laurent LaCroix, 22, a local draft dodger. AWOL from his draft board for weeks, LeCroix was picked up by the MPs at his wedding. He pleaded with them to give him a few minutes alone with his bride. The MPs gave in but when they broke into the room after a lengthy wait they found that both LaCroix and his bride had escaped through a second story window.

On The Range

Bombing & Gunnery

BY PFC. TED SNYDER

Guess many of the GI's back at the Pyote Air Base would like to know about some of the activities of the Bombing Range Squadron.

On May 5th, 12 men from the Headquarters Squadron were the first to arrive at the range.

For the first few days the water wasn't clear, as we have a newly built water tank. Water was taken from an outlet of a windmill pump used to provide drinking water for the cattle that roam around the camp area.

The sun is very strong here; it didn't take the men very long after their arrival to put on their shorts to feel comfortable and to get a nice sun tan.

Some fine athletic equipment was issued by 1st Lt. Charles F. Yeager of the Special Service Office.

The GI's spend most of their time when in town swimming in the beautiful pool located a few blocks from the business district.

Being from New York City it was quite an experience to spend a day at the sheep ranch of Senator H. Winfield who lives in Fort Stockton.

The most popular GI in camp is Pfc. Edwin Herbel, who makes daily trips to the Pyote Air Base to bring back food supplies—and, most welcomed by all, the mail.

Thanks go to the cooks, Cpl. Roy O. Butler, Pfc. Alfred W. Conkright, Pfc. Benjamin S. Fajkowski and Pvt. Herbert A. Oder, who try a little home cooking touch when they prepare the meals.

Also thanks and appreciation for their splendid work go to 2nd Lt. Elmer C. Siemon now Commanding Officer, and 1st Lt. William H. Steward, the Commanding Officer who is now away on temporary duty.

COLOSSAL CONCEIT

Victor Mature, who went off on his Coast Guard ship some time ago, phoned to New York from a distant port, and requested one of his friends to do a favor for him. "Get in touch with Rita Hayworth," Mature instructed, "and see if you can get back for me the cigarette lighter I gave her—the one which has my name on it."

The friend promised to convey that message to Mature's recent fiancée. "But what reason shall I give her?" he asked . . . "Tell her that when she's lighting a cigarette for some new guy," Mature explained, "I don't want him to know that he's stealing Victor Mature's girl."

BASE HEADQUARTERS

BY PVT. SAMMY KAPLAN

Lately there has been little or no mistakes in the payroll. Can it be that Cpl. Heckler, our payroll clerk, has gotten on the beam since he started working together with a WAAC? If that is so we will all get a WAAC assistant. Don't be mad, Cpl. Heckler. I know the truth hurts.

Who is the new flame of Jean King, the typist who works in the Adjutant's Office. Could it be our special order clerk, dear Sgt. Nicholas. I thought she only went for bombardiers. I guess we all have a chance now.

Charlie Semira, who works for Sgt. Lambert, taking care of the service records, hopes he can be CQ every day, the reason for this being that he wrote about ten letters and had a good rest when he was on duty last week. If you want it, Charlie, we can arrange it for you with the greatest of pleasure.

Since acquiring the name of Mussolini, our own Sgt. Moon, who is loved by everyone (am I telling the truth?), has been walking in a different way by using the goose step. It really is remarkable how he changed overnight—Heil, Musso, Heil.

Cpl. Landry is tired of being tied up in a chicken coop all day giving out messages, has asked for a transfer. We don't think he should get it until he has served his sentence. My tongue is tired of gossiping so until next time cheerio—and don't be mad.

Oh, yes, Cpl. James W. Drewry, Jr., is having the pleasure of entertaining his mother who is visiting him from Roanoke, Va.

FLAMELESS LIGHTERS

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Cigaret lighters which require no fuel and don't flame will be available overseas soon according to the War Department. The device is a chemically treated wick, a holder and a flint. A spark from the flint ignites the wick to a flameless glow. Wind only makes it work better.

NEW BOOK IDENTIFIES INSIGNIA OF SERVICES

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A 72-page volume on service insignia, which reproduces 654 indentifications of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard and 337 others that adorn military and naval aircraft, has been prepared by the National Geographic Society. Copies will be given to servicemen.

Couldn't Blame Adam



AN APPLE a day keeps the doctor away, or so they say. In this case, it is feared it would take more than an apple—at least a steel grill fence. If this is the sort of thing Adam was faced with, no wonder the poor fellow succumbed to temptation.

\$\$\$ Financiers \$\$\$

It was hello to Pfc. David W. Bell, who was home on sick leave, and a hearty send off to Lt. Taber and Mrs. Sally J. Smith who left for home on a furlough . . . The train ride home is indeed a pleasure . . . But the return trip back to Pyote . . . Ask anyone who has been away.

That long grind to Kermit had it's effects on S-Sgt. Nevinger last week . . . He had to go on sick call, and spent three days in the Base Hospital recuperating . . . In spite of our advice the Sgt. still makes that long voyage frequently . . . Chez 'a Le Femme! . . . Other steady visitors to Kermit and Wink are Pfc. Tepe, Pfc. McDonald, Pfc. Miller and Sgt. Gurney . . . They say the swimming pool in Kermit is the attraction . . . I'm sure Miss Sue Westbrook knows the real attractions very well.

Mr. Thomas S. Kleppe, Corporals Gardiner and Strader, and Pvt. Dominik can't wait till they board that train for home . . . That guy from Maine, Cpl. Clay, is back on the job again, but Madeline is still in Boston . . . Sgt. Shaw is being roundly kidded about a certain incident that happened last Wednesday night.

Why does that gal in Enlisted Pay Section insist that she does not go out with boys? No not much!

Sounds In The Night: The steady drone of the B-17's overhead . . . they seem to lullaby the boys to sleep . . . The footsteps of men returning to their barracks after spending a futile night in search of entertainment . . . The shrill sound of whistles in the early A.M. calling the boys out for calisthenics . . . It would be much better if we could awaken to a bugle call . . . That juke box in Mess Hall No. 1 blaring away all hours of the night . . . The distorted harmony of the men full of spirits. . . .

For Crab Cakes Deluxe, Heed Dick Tracy, Jr.

Just where you'll get the crabmeat is your problem, but from an old connoisseur of crabmeat comes this recipe for crab cakes. He is Lt. Francis P. Raffetto, assistant Base S-2—better known to fellow officers as Dick Tracy, Jr.

One pound of crab meat; 1 teaspoon salt; 1 teaspoon pepper; ½ teaspoon dry mustard; 2 tablespoons vinegar; 1 teaspoon lemon juice; 1 tablespoon catsup; 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce; 3 tablespoons chopped sweet pickle; 1 tablespoon chopped onion; 2 tablespoons or more fine cracker crumbs;

Flake the crabmeat, carefully removing all tendons. Combine with other ingredients and mix thoroughly. Form into balls. Roll in cracker crumbs and fry in deep fat. Put some cracker crumbs in mixture before forming cakes or they will fall apart. In fact, use all the cracker crumbs in mixture. (Shrimp may be substituted for crabmeat.)

Lt. Charles Yaeger, the physical training director, says the recipe is all right—but use plenty of cracker crumbs.

Base Flight Engineering

BY A. PINCH-HITTER

Pattie Myers is so busy and Fern Hunt is so excited about her trip home that Yours Truly has to pinch-hit this week—so, kindly be lenient.

With the contemplated system on work orders, the enlisted men will be glad to know, we will have three girls instead of one.

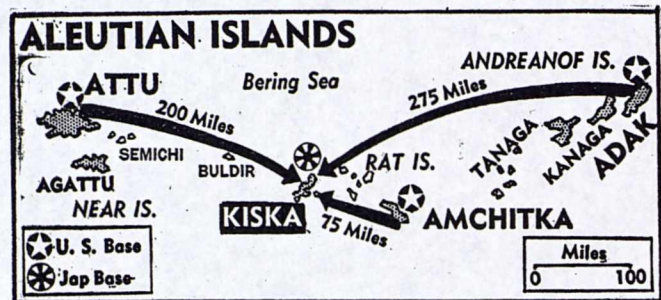
T-Sgt. Sullivan, the Engineering genius, has returned from his extended furlough—yep, New York. Additions to our midst: Miss Moore, an Oklahoman, and Frank Williams, who has been at this base since the first stake was driven. Frank will assume duties as Engineering Chief Clerk.

Results are being noted in Sheet Metal and Aero Repair, under the untiring efforts of Messrs. Green, Wheeler, Pleasanton, and Akers, instructors from Kelly Field. Much is expected of the speeded up program initiated in Sub-Depot.

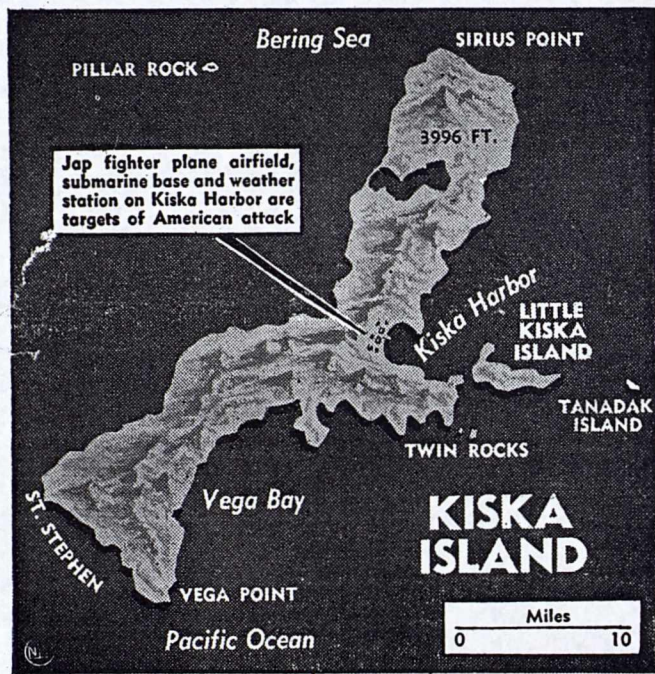
A. (Bub) Abbott is on a little vacation—paint Tucson red, boy! With Jack (Toothless) Walzel returning to the day shift, things in AR have begun to buzz. S-Sgt. Frank (ladies' man, he thinks) Longlois is at a loss without his buddle in crime, T-Sgt. Lutsky—Get us all a Jap, fellow.

No Side-Show: War In The Far East Flames Hotly

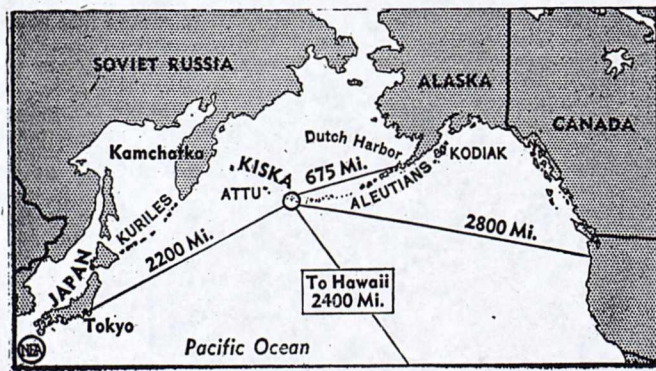
Now Surrounded



. . . . Enemy-Held Kiska



. . . . Is Step To Japan



China Scores Greatest Victory Of Six-Year War In The East

BY PFC. TOMME CALL
Rattler Editor

Weather-beaten United States troops last week completed possession of Attu in the Aleutians, island walkway toward Japan's northern defenses in the Kuriles.

The Japanese, as in previous stands in the Southwest Pacific, preferred death to surrender. Some 2,000 of them were reported dead at the campaign's end, with only a handful of prisoners taken.

Announced American Army casualties: 1,535, with 342 dead; 1,135 wounded, and 58 missing; others suffered weather disabilities.

Next step in the north probably will be an assault to retake surrounded Kiska, as illustrated on the adjacent maps. Kiska's facilities would be needed by American forces in any attempt to place Japan under bombardment from the north or to attack the Kuriles with amphibious forces. The island already has been placed under heavy bombardment, and the Attu base should facilitate its recapture.

Enemy-held Kiska's defenses now appear hopeless against a determined American attack, but Japan can exact a price—as at Attu—and probably will. Japan must prevent or delay with all possible means Allied attempts to bring its home islands within bomber range.

Richard Tregaskis, INS war correspondent who wrote the vivid "Guadalcanal Diary," reported that fighting men in the Southwest Pacific must be happy about the Attu victory and the probable recapture of Kiska. As he interprets their attitude:

"Why don't we use our strength in the North Pacific? That's where this island-to-island advance would pay off."

The island-to-island route from Guadalcanal to Tokyo is about 6,000 miles, but only 2,200 from Attu to Tokyo. The logic is obvious, though weather and terrain are obstacles in the north. Russo-Japanese neutrality is the imponderable in future American strategy against Japan; Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula would be of great use in such an action.

Meanwhile, Chinese forces scored what they called the largest and most significant victory of their six-year defensive war against Japan. The Ichang battle, perhaps saving the Free China capital of Chungking,

was the week's big war story.

A Japanese spearhead of more than five enemy divisions with an aerial umbrella lunged from the stronghold at Ichang on the Yangtze toward Chungking, less than 300 air miles away. That was nearer than the Jap ever before had come to the Chinese capita.

This week, however, the stubborn, hard-fighting Chinese turned the tide. Claiming thousands of Japanese casualties, abandoned enemy equipment and the routing of all five enemy divisions, the Chinese at week's end reported they were throwing the Japanese back all along the upper Yangtze front and threatening Ichang itself.

Doubtless a major reason for the Chinese Army's success was effective air support. American and Chinese airmen were reported exacting a toll of 14 to 1 against the Japs, and dominating the Central China skies.

China's defense and subsequent counter-offensive against the enemy's Yangtze drive indicated what support the Allies can count on once Burma has been cleared. Presumably holding up such a campaign are an adverse weather season and lack of adequate seapower in that theater, for probably enough land forces and airpower now exist in India, Australia, and China to retake Burma.

Clearing the Mediterranean may release more Allied naval power for use in the Far East. Aerial bombardment and naval action continued against the enemy's Mediterranean islands last week toward that end, Pantelleria particularly taking a beating from the air and from warships.

On the Eastern Front, the Russians and Nazis traded air blows and engaged in local ground actions, the main fight being for the Caucasus bridgehead. A mid-week lull marked the aerial offensive over Western Europe, but there was no lull in speculations on imminent invasion of the continent. As for that: anywhere, anytime.