

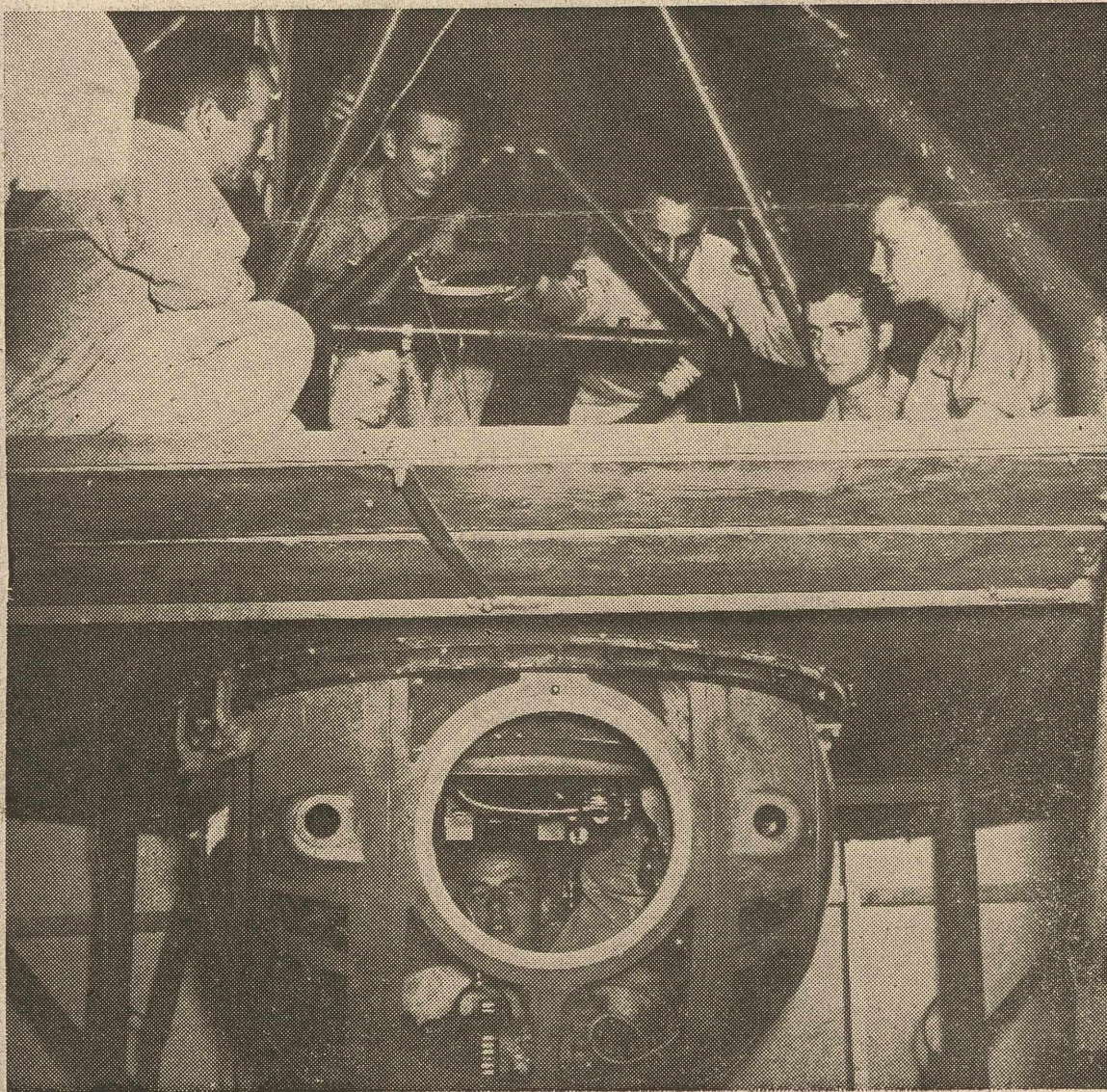
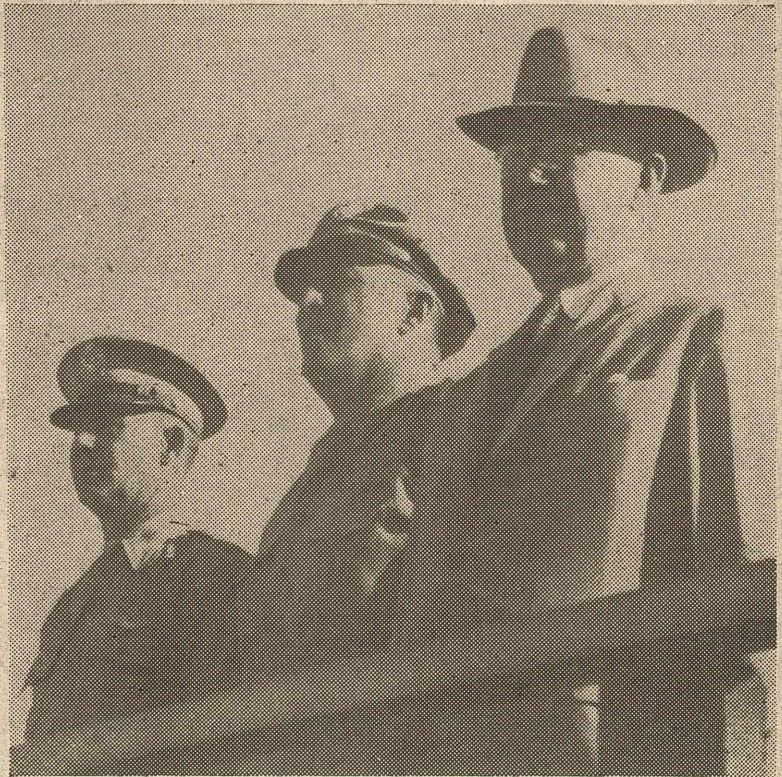
THE RATTLER

Rattlesnake Bomber Base

VOL. 1, NO. 20 PYOTE, TEXAS SEPT. 8, 1943

MC & Colonels View Review

Congressman R. Ewing Thomason of El Paso, 16th District, member of the House Military Affairs Committee, saw Saturday's review with Col. Louie P. Turner, 19th Group Commander (left), and Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt, Jr., Base Commander. Mr. Thomason visited Rattlesnake Bomber Base to see its B-17 crew training program in action. (Story Page 6)



Gunner School: Teaches Trade

PFC Fred J. Withers is learning that the only comfort in the B-17's ball turret is the knowledge of what it's good for. (In turret position, picture to left). Other Basic Gunnery School personnel interested in the training device are, left to right: PFC Harold Hirsch, Jr., Cpl. Thomas J. Like, T-Sgt. Ray A. Kabasta, S-Sgt. H. R. Baradelli, instructor, S-Sgt. Fred Forgette, and PFC Richard S. Brooks. Basic Gunnery School at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base readies would-be gunners for first phase training and a place in a B-17 crew. The new program is tough, but short and interesting—and with tempting rewards.

For story and other pictures, see pages 2 & 3.

GI Gunners By Dozens Finish Basic

No Tease, This Strip



Pvt. William J. Stec (blindfolded: new style) is involved in a rapid detail stripping of

a machine gun, the kind he will use effectively one day in combat in a B-17. Looking over

his shoulder is Cpl. Willis R. Martin, instructor. Other students pay close attention.

Here They Come!



These B-17 gunners to be are learning to estimate range of attacking enemy fighters. The mailbox-shaped range estimating device has model planes inside, reflected on moving mir-

rors that cause them to appear to be real attackers 200 to 1000 yards away. Front to rear, gunnery students are PFCs Jack L. Tuchman, John E. McGuigan, Pvt. James Shahan, PFCs John

W. Doherty, Albert A. Wojcik, Frank Keeney, Stephen Gresh, Barney Lipkin, Cenzil L. Parker, Vincent Romano. In background, other students await their turn.

Gunnery School Uses Complex Training Aids

Graduating its first class of 132 August 31 and with its second class well into the 20-day course, the 19th Group's Basic Gunnery School is accomplishing its purpose: to get more and more B-17 gunners started on their way to combat theaters.

Lt. Jerome F. Blair, school officer, came to Pyote with eight enlisted instructors from Alexander, Dyersburg, Dalhart, and Biggs Field, El Paso. With other instructors drawn from 19th Group Ground Gunnery School here, the basic school—perhaps the only one of its particular kind in the 2AF—was soon preparing men for first phase training with crews, which they will take here at Pyote as well.

The training program is no snap. The Bomber Commands want gunners, and they want them fast. Students, up at 6 a.m., go to school from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and work on the range from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. But the men—all graduates of other technical schools, such as radio, armament, air mechanics—have something to look forward to: promotion to sergeant, certificate of graduation, assignment to a first phase training crew, and an eventual crack at the Japs or Huns with expert knowledge of the best aerial firepower there is.

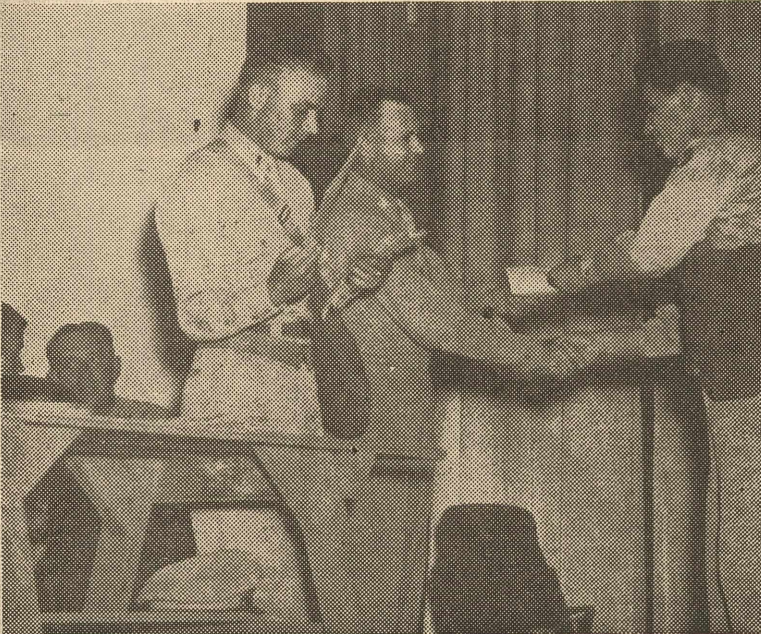
As the men will be assigned to B-17 crews, they concentrate study on that plane's equipment—specialization stepping up training speed. They learn two turrets, the Sperry upper and lower. In the machine gun lab, they study the fine points of the cal. .50 death-dealers. Other subjects are Sperry computing sights, upper and lower, ballistics and fire power.

Ingenious training devices aid the instructors in perfecting the student's gunnery technique, including the range estimating device, panaromic and Jam-Handy trainers. The Jam-Handy gives practice in leading enemy fighters. With a movie projector giving the student the impression that he is in the tail position of a bomber, "planes" attack from all angles—with a ray of light in front marking the target for the lead. This gadget also helps the gunner learn enemy plane identification. (Other two devices are explained in accompanying pictures.)

Like The Real Thing



Now A Sergeant-Gunner



Officers And Instructors Teach Dead-Eye Dick's Theory



Marie Houston, Lyric Soprano, To Bring Songs In Costume Here

Marie Houston, lyric soprano, will present a varied program of "songs in costume" at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Recreation Hall Friday night, September 17, and Saturday afternoon will repeat the entertainment for the patients at the Base Hospital, under arrangement by the Special Service Office.

Miss Houston for many years has contributed her musical program to military camps and bases, Red Cross hospital units and service clubs. All fees received from professional engagements enroute are used to finance her individual entertainment for soldiers.

Singing and travels have carried Miss Houston more than half a million miles to numerous foreign lands. She also has appeared on radio networks and completed recordings.

PFC Abraham Tenenzaph, basic gunnery student, is operating a device called the panoramic trainer, while S-Sgt. Thomas Farrell, instructor, kibitzes. Simulating a B-17 turret in operation, the device's sight box contains a movie throwing moving enemy planes on a screen. Student learns expert tracking, and the machine records bullseyes. Earphones enable student to hear the roar of the planes and the staccato of shots.

Pvt. Oscar Villasenor has a right to be a happy soldier. From Col. Louie P. Turner, 19th Group Commanding Officer, he is receiving (1) promotion to sergeant, (2) certificate of graduation from basic gunnery school, and (3) assignment to a B-17 training crew. Others in the picture, left to right, are Maj. Norman A. Leer, Group Schools Officer; Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt Jr., Base Commander, and Lt. Jerome F. Blair, Basic Gunnery School Officer.

Proud of initial achievement in graduating 132 basic gunners to first phase in 20 days and getting the second class well underway are the below officers and instructor personnel of the 19th Group's Basic Gunnery School. Back row, left to right: Maj. Leer, Group Schools Officer, Sgt. Forbis, Sgt. Battreal, Cpl. Bailey, T-Sgt. Amborn, S-Sgt. Barardelli, S-Sgt. Holmes, S-Sgt. Resig, PFC Ranges, Sgt. Anderson, Cpl. Sicard, S-Sgt. (Act. 1st.) France, Lt. Moyer, assistant gunnery officer. Second row, left to right: Lt.

Sears, assistant gunnery officer, Sgt. Eastus, Sgt. Edson Ferguson, S-Sgt. Bradley, Cpl. Brown, Cpl. Bustamante, S-Sgt. Dick Ferguson, PFC Barnes, S-Sgt. Severns, S-Sgt. Wright, Sgt. Ball, Lt. Tabor, assistant Group schools officer. First row, left to right: Cpl. Klingbeil, PFC "Pop" Ranft, Pvt. Galloway, S-Sgt. Michael, Cpl. Schramm, Cpl. Connors, Sgt. Kroening, Cpl. Pitcher, Cpl. Martin, Cpl. Ponchione, Lt. Donahus, Group armament officer and gunnery officer.

Today's Aerial Fighter Needs Wide Range Of Facts

B-17 Crews Better Odds By Study In 19th Group Intelligence School

By CPL. ROBERT NASH

Do you know—

What happened yesterday in Italy? What a Focke-Wulf 190 looks like? How to come in for a landing at Melborne? What to do to escape if shot down over France?

A good pilot or gunner is supposed to know the answers to those questions. On his knowledge may someday depend the success of a mission, a safe return, perhaps even his own life. If he doesn't know it's just too bad. Hang up a rag.

The vital task of supplying this knowledge to all provisional crews in training at Rattlesnake Bomber Base is up to 19th Group S-2. How well the Group Intelligence School is being run is being demonstrated about every day in some combat zone.

A letter written August 10 from a lieutenant in India states "everything I learned (in the 19th's Intelligence School) at Pyote is applicable out here."

There are officers on the base who are alive and fit for duty today because of what they learned in combat Intelligence School somewhere. One of them, shot down in Nazi-dominated France, made it back to safety. He knew enough of what to say, where to go, when to hide and when to run—Intelligence saw to it. That's covered in "Escape Methods," third phase.

"Pilots and crews, when they hit Pyote, are generally just out of school," states Capt. Joseph V. Bolton, 19th Group S-2 Officer. "They're still individuals, thinking and acting for themselves. Our first job is to make them thoroughly 'crew-conscious,' thinking and acting as members of a team."

To this end, contests are held between crews in general intelligence knowledge. Individual standings do not count; only the team counts.

Intelligence training for combat crews is divided into three phases. At this base the first phase is given, which consists of the following subjects:

Safeguarding military information, intelligence procedure, aircraft recognition, naval recognition, maps and map reading, aerial photography, photographic technique, and intelligence resume.

This "intelligence resume" is one of the most important departments. S-2 officers become Kaltenborns, describing and explaining latest military moves and their significance. Large scale "situa-

tion" maps, kept up to date from War Department, army and radio news sources, are exhibited. Daily and weekly intelligence digests from war fronts keep combat crew members posted, so that when they reach a combat zone they know what the score is.

One of the most important things a crew member has to know is: how to recognize aircraft and naval vessels, both that of the United Nations and of the Axis. This study is continuous, from the time an airman enters school until he leaves the Army. Logically enough, a great deal of time is spent here on recognition of enemy fighters.

The method the 19th uses in studying aircraft recognition is a story in itself. It's called the Renshaw system, and was developed by Dr. Samuel Renshaw, of the psychology department of Ohio State University.

Just how a psychology professor came to be involved in a study of aircraft recognition is obscure, but at any rate, the good Professor Renshaw has done his country a great service.

Dr. Renshaw reasoned in this manner: when you see a friend on the street, you don't go through the involved mental process of remembering that John wears glasses, is five and a half feet tall, and has a big left ear. You see John as a whole, and recognize him, not stopping to identify each peculiarity.

At one time, our pilots "identified" planes by this laborious process.

Today planes are "recognized" by Dr. Renshaw's magic system.

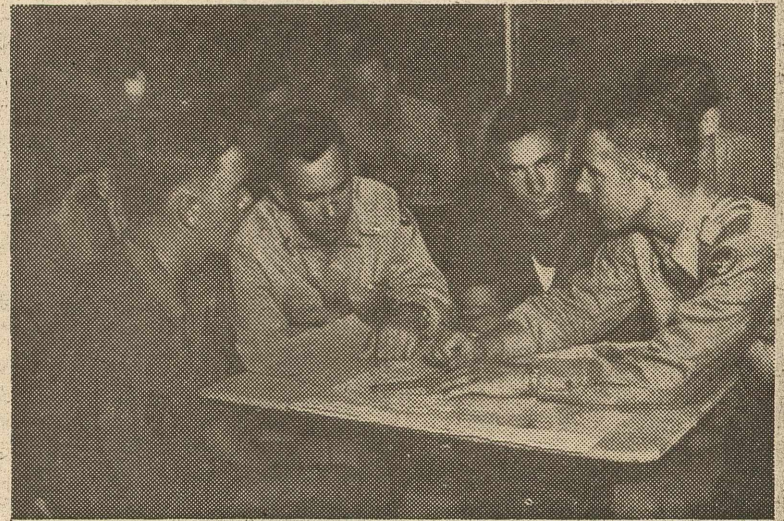
The Navy first picked up the system, and got the professor to develop it. The precious knowledge was disseminated among Army men at an intelligence school in Florida.

That's what is meant by "flash" recognition—picking out in a fraction of a second any combat plane, either Allied or Axis.

Some crew members here become so adept they can name the plane in 1-50th of a second. Others are not so brilliant: it takes them 1-10th of a second.

Ingenious methods of displaying model aircraft for such in-

Studying Map Problem



An upturned chair and a board serve as a desk for this combat crew, studying a mapping problem. Crew members are, left to right: Sgt. R. H. Hilderbrant, engineer; Sgt. A. A. Giles, assistant engineer; Sgt. De Groff, radioman; Sgt. J. I. Green, gunner Lt. C. K. Neiswender, pilot; Lt. J. B. Kyne, bombardier.

Gaining Combat Knowledge



Map interpretation, one of the most important phases of combat intelligence training, is being explained by Lt. Leonard M. Halpern, with ruler in hand. Others in picture are, left to right: Sgt. L. W. Schinke, assistant engineer; Lt. W. N. Lundahl, bombardier; Lt. H. J. Riddle, pilot; Sgt. W. E. Hoverty, engineer. Sgt. T. B. Whitworth, armorer; Sgt. Thomas F. O'Neill, instructor.

struction are used by the 19th. Slide projectors, lamp silhouettes, hanging models, pictures—many of the items homemade out of scrap material by S-2 personnel—are used. Also, each squadron has a "war room" in which is exhibited the same type of material.

Recognizing naval vessels from the air is also a highly specialized art. Instruction for this is based on the principle of finding

a ratio of length-to-beam of the ship to be recognized.

A correct knowledge of signal and approach procedure is one of the handiest things a pilot can take with him when he goes to combat. Complete instruction along this line is given.

One of the last subjects on the agenda, before actually flying combat missions, is "Escape (See Intelligence, Page 13)

LAO: Trouble-Shooting Marksmen

Lt. Orfanello's Topflight Legal Staff Helps EMs

Troubleshooting Headquarters could be another name for the Base Legal Assistance Office. Lt. Frank L. Orfanello, Courts, Boards and Claims Officer, is the chief marksman, and the targets are any troubles snafuing a soldier's efficiency.

More than a month before the War Department decided March 16, 1943, to make Legal Assistance Offices a general thing (more than 600 now), Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt Jr., Base Commander, had concluded that something should be done about the fact that a worried mind is no good for morale. He gave the job to Lt. Orfanello as a "sideline" February 1.

Lt. Orfanello and his staff—of which he is more than ordinarily proud, and for good reason—hear and help enlisted men and civilian personnel with their legal, domestic and other personal problems. On one point, Lt. Orfanello was emphatic:

"What goes on in this office is strictly confidential. Information revealed here while seeking help goes no further, either up or down the line. A conference is as inviolate as a confessional in that regard."

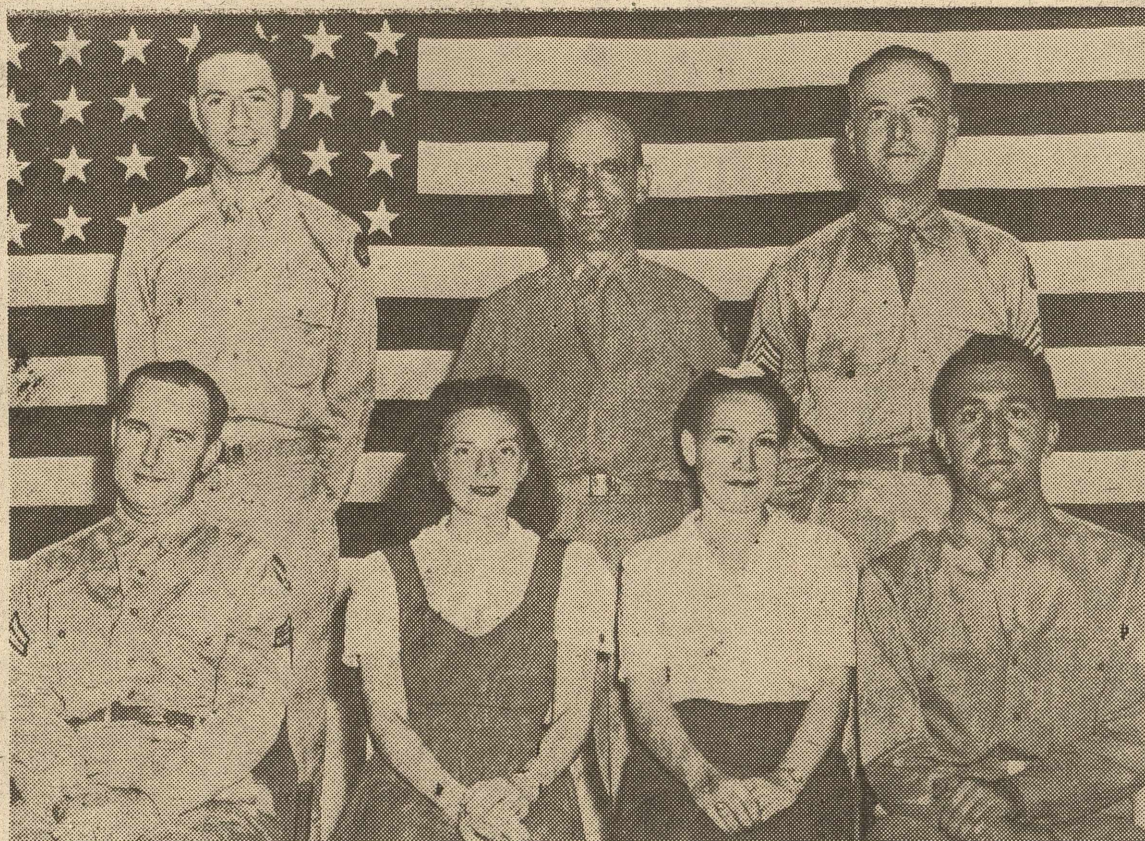
That reputation and results obtained attracts some 200 to 300 trouble-burdened visitors each month. And, if the matter does not require going into court (which Lt. Orfanello and staff are not permitted to do), it's all free. For cases carried into civil courts, the office receives cooperation from state bar associations, which recommend good lawyers available wherever the case is to be settled. In many areas civilian bar association members volunteer their services to help out legal assistance office cases, but here the base staff does practically all the work. Lt. Orfanello says that only about one out of a hundred cases must go to court.

Consider some cases settled by this office:

1. A soldier was hit by a civilian truck. The LAO handled his claims and completed settlement with the insurance company. The soldier got all his money—with no deductions or legal fees.

2. Another soldier was worried about his parents, who lived on a farm and depended on him heavily before he came into the service. LAO contacted the proper Farm

They Make Others' Worries Their Own



Carry your real or imagined troubles to this, the Legal Assistance Office, staff—actually the Courts, Boards and Claims Office personnel, who handle LAO affairs as a "sideline". Begin back row, L-to-R: Lt.

Morris E. Lasker, assistant C. B. & C. officer; Lt. Frank L. Orfanello, "the boss"; S-Sgt. Clarence Bernstein, insurance, bonds and allotments clerk; Cpl. Aloysius Glennon, automobile

accident, investigations and claims clerk; Mrs. Rachel Cohen and Miss Eleanor McKinnon, secretaries, and Pvt. Arthur Constantino, reports of survey clerk.

Bureau, which quietly arranged to see that the farm family got along all right. The GI was informed and his worries were over.

3. A soldier's wife prior to her death had divorced him and obtained custody of their child. Her grandparents kept the child after the mother's death, and were not taking proper care of it though they received an allotment. Through the Red Cross and local authorities, the LAO managed to re-place the child where it would receive the best of treatment until the soldier-father could return.

4. Another soldier's younger brother was arrested for a serious crime, and the GI was ready to "go over the hill" to try to help him out. LAO, however, arranged an emergency furlough and letters that reduced the punishment to probation—at no cost and to the great relief of the soldier.

5. A girl civilian employee's husband deserted her. LAO examined the case, found the man

had committed bigamy, and helped her get an annulment. Cost of a divorce was avoided.

If you are one of the several hundred a month going to the Legal Assistance Office for help, you probably will talk first with Miss Eleanor McKinnon, veteran of government service, efficient and sympathetic. She often finds a line five or six deep waiting for her, and works into the night (Once she worked five weeks with a broken leg).

Your problem finally will go to Lt. Orfanello or his assistant Courts, Boards and Claims Officer, Lt. Morris E. Lasker. With 20 years legal experience, Lt. Orfanello is a member of the Massachusetts and the United States Bars; the latter qualifies him to practice before the U. S. Supreme Court. A deep human understanding and easy sense of humor make him easy to talk to. Or, if Lt. Lasker handles your problem, it will still be in good hands. A Har-

vard and Yale Law Schools man and a member of the New York Bar, Lt. Lasker formerly was with the Truman Senate Investigating Committee.

Others keeping the office running smoothly are Mrs. Rachel Cohen, secretary, and wife of Sgt. Harry Cohen (28th Bomb Squadron); S-Sgt. Clarence Bernstein, insurance, bonds and allotments clerk; Cpl. Aloysius Glennon, automobile accident, investigations and claim sclerk, and Pvt. Arthur Constantino, reports of survey clerk.

Sgt. Bernstein, member of the Illinois Bar, formerly headed the Western Adjustment Insurance Company's Indianapolis Office, and has had nine years legal experience. Cpl. Glennon, seven years a lawyer and member of the New York Bar, was assistant corporation counsel, Queens County, New York. Pvt. Constantino, member of the Rhode Island Bar, graduated from Georgetown University.

Congressman Sees Review As Medics, 93rd Win Awards

Congressman R. E. Thomason of El Paso, member of the House Military Affairs Committee, Saturday observed Rattlesnake Bomber Base soldiers pass in review, occupying the stand with Lt. Col. Clarence L. Hewitt Jr., Base Commander, and Col. Louie P. Turner, 19th Group Commander. His visit was to see the Pyote training program in action.

Two awards were presented at the Saturday ceremony. The 93rd Bomb Squadron won first place in the 19th Group's monthly award for overall squadron administrative efficiency, with the 30th, 435th and 28th placing in that order on the banner presented (see adjacent photograph).

The Medical Detachment won first place in the review judging, with other organizations placing as follows: Aviation Squadron, 93rd Bomb Squadron, WAC Company & Marshall Airdrome Squadron (tied), 28th Bomb Squadron, 435th Bomb Squadron, Hess Airdrome Squadron, and Base Headquarters and Air Base Squadron.

A permanent board of judges—four executive officers of the 19th Group, and four Base officers—now determine review winners on a systematic point scoring plan. Main points on which each organization is rated are as follows: Movement to final assembly line, grading in height, execution of commands (including parade rest, etc.), turns, proper distance while marching, covered in file, proper dress, cadence, and especially passing in review before the stand properly. The judges will be located at various points on the parade ground to observe organizations from all angles.

Movement in ranks, particularly at parade rest, was given as one of the worst faults of the past reviews.

Review winner each week gets a ribbon for its guidon, to be presented the following week, and can use it at any ceremonies during that time.

Also it is planned that detailed scorings each week be sent to organization COs for their information and correction.

Judges are Maj. M. W. Heath, chairman, Maj. Ralph O. Apperson, Maj. William T. Hudson, and Capt. Henry E. Bergschneider, 19th Group, and Lt. Charles H. Blankenship, Lt. Harold Jacobs, Lt. Peter R. I. Smith, and Mr. Richard M. Fillmore, base officers.

El Paso, Tex.—Francisco Vega of Juarez, Mex. was sentenced to 60 days in jail for attempting to smuggle bobby pins into the U. S.

Overseas Buddy's Christmas Gift? USO To Help You

Rattlesnake Bomber Base soldiers who may want to send Christmas packages to their buddies already overseas will find a helping hand at the Monahans USO Club. Edward A. Palange, director, announced last week.

Soldiers may use the club facilities for preparing packages here for overseas mailing, and will find complete information there regarding postal regulations. Volunteer USO workers will assist them.

September 15 to October 15 has been designated as Christmas Mail Month, and every attempt will be made to deliver packages mailed during that period on Christmas Day. During that 30 days packages may be sent without the usual request, okayed by his CO, from the soldier overseas. The service is sponsored by the Army Postal Service.

Packages must not be more than 15 inches long, nor more than 36 inches in combined length and girth, nor weight more than five pounds. They must be substantially wrapped and tied and bear the name, rank, serial number, service organization or unit, and A-PO number of addressee and post office through which the parcel is to be sent. Only one package may be sent by anyone to the same soldier within any given week.

SOLDIER (NUDE) FEARS GALS MORE THAN BOMBS

AIR BASE, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH (CNS)—Low point in Cpl. Carl Sokolitsky's career as a radio-operator-gunner in the Mediterranean area came one day when he stepped out of an open air shower into an entrenchment occupied by a bevy of Army nurses, who had been driven there by an air raid. Sokolitsky grabbed a towel and beat a strategic retreat. Recently he returned to this base as an instructor.

93rd Bomb Squadron Leads



Capt. James A. Ferguson, Acting Commander of the 93rd Bomb Squadron, receives the new monthly award for best squadron administration from Col. Louie P. Turner, 19th Group Commander. Presentation was made at Saturday's review, and the winner is determined by a point system covering maintenance, sanitation, and other factors of all around efficiency. As the flag indicates, other squadrons in the 19th competition placed in this order: 30th, 435th, 28th.

Monahans USO

Wed.—Sunflower Night: honoring all men from Kansas, others invited, too. Special program, junior hostesses, dancing and games.

Thurs.—Finger painting—it's fun! Just use your fingers and paint; no brush needed. You may be an artist.

Fri.—Bingo! Your brand of cigarettes for prizes. Dancing.

Sat.—Back to school and its memories. Sing college songs. Sports quiz. School girl hostesses. Dancing and games.

Sun.—Coffee and doughnuts, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Read the Sunday papers. Quiet games.

Mon.—Steak barbecue at the park. Register here now if you would like your name in the pot.

Tues.—Games and dancing. Jr. hostesses.

Men from New York were honored at last Saturday night's party

at the USO Club, occasioned by the anniversary of the 1609 discovery of the Hudson River. The club was decorated appropriately with signs indicating prominent parts of New York City and other cities of the state. Junior hostesses were dressed formally, and others with costumes depicting various periods in the history of New York.

Rattlesnake Bomber Base soldiers provided entertainment, under the direction of Cpl. Fred Hirsch and S-Sgt. Mike Casrella. Music was furnished by PFC Walter Mistic, accordionist, PFC Tony Wallace, guitar player, Cpl. Hirsch, pianist, and Pvt. Mario Territo, rumba slinger, S-Sgt. Lotito, vocalist, and PFC John Philips, trumpeter.

WINONA, MINN. (CNS)—The weekend soldier influx from nearby Camp McCoy, Wis. has made town hotel facilities so overcrowded that visitors are now permitted to sleep on the floor of the jail.

MEET YOUR BUDDIES:

Dit Dah Is Music To Code-Happy Farmer, Pyote Ground Operator

By SGT. SID KANE
435th Bomb Squadron

You'll agree, I'm sure, that the proper training of air force radio operators is quite important. Here's your chance to know a chap who is playing an important part in that training, right here at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base.

Meet Sgt. Mark Karas, an ex-farmer from Delmont, Pennsylvania. Entering the service in July 1942, Mark went to Miami Beach, Fla., for his basic training. This completed, he was selected to attend the course for radio operators at Scott Field, Ill. At the completion of his studies there, Mark expressed a desire to be an aerial gunner, and he was sent to Harlingen, Tex., so that he could fulfill that desire.

Here, Mark really suffered a heartbreaking experience. After earning some of the highest marks during the five weeks gunnery course, he went up for his last flight before graduation. He just didn't get enough hits on the towed sleeve that day, and so, he was finished as a gunner. Leaving Harlingen, Mark was sent to 2nd Air Force Routing Pool at Salt Lake City, for reclassification and additional processing.

Retaining his ready smile, and his radio operator classification, he beat a path through the sagebrush (what a beating) and arrived at the railroad station in Pyote. He took one look at our pretentious main street, and made a mad dash for the safety that our base afforded him. He hasn't ventured out since.

Assigned to duty with the Air Base Squadron, he was quickly transferred to the 19th Group, and put to work in the Group Ground Radio Station. The ground station is responsible for all coded communication with our planes during flight. This is carried on around-the-clock.

Each aerial radio operator before flight reports to the station and takes aloft with him a copy of the signal operating instructions for the day, which are prepared for him by the personnel of the station. Once in the air, the flying operator is required to initiate radio contact with the station and to renew that contact at least once every hour. At this time he sends a position report of the aircraft to Mark or one of the other ground operators. In addition to being an excellent safety check, this position reporting is a very effective training aid for the nebulant flight operator.

The 19th Group Ground Station, which is operated entirely by group personnel, consists of 20 crackerjack operators, most of whom have seen actual combat. All are under the very able di-

rection of M-Sgt. R. C. Brown, 19th Group Chief Operator. Mark, like the rest of the personnel, is an A-1 radio man, and can handle coded communication like a veteran.

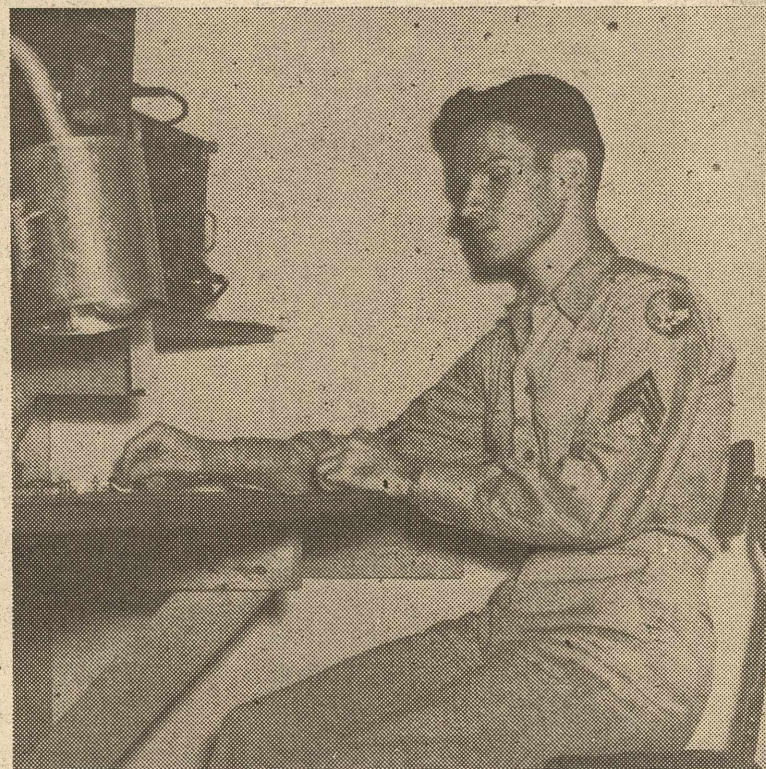
He has had a varied assortment of interesting experiences in the Ground Station, too lengthy to re-tell here. However, like all radio operators, he's "code happy." That goes without saying, and dit dah, dit dah, is music to his ears.

Sgt. Mark Karas and the other ground station operators are adding immeasurably to the actual combat training here.

Sanitation Standings

Bomb. & Gun. Range	96.3
Lt. H. B. Montgomery	
PX Cafeteria	96.0
Capt. W. O. Hedley	
Altitude Training Unit	95.7
Lt. J. H. Hafkenschiel	
WAC Company	95.3
Lt. Edith Haslam	
Guardhouse	94.5
Capt. S. B. Lang	
Medical Detachment	94.3
Lt. B. S. Igou	
93rd Bomb Squadron	92.7
Capt. R. T. Hernlund	
30th Bomb Squadron	92.3
Capt. Edson Sponable	
435th Bomb Squadron	92.0
Capt. E. C. Steinemann	
Aviation Squadron	91.0
Lt. F. W. Thacker	
Base Hq. & AB Sq.	90.7
Maj. Ernest Swingle	
QM Detachment	90.3
Lt. George Frick	
28th Bomb Squadron	90.0
Capt. R. W. Beckel	
Airdrome Squadron	89.3
Capt. J. J. Hess Jr.	
Airdrome Squadron	89.0
Capt. F. B. Marshall	
Officers (Block 700)	89.0
(BOQ & Latrine)	
Officers (Block 400)	88.3
(BOQ & Latrine)	
Service Squadron	88.3
Capt. M. A. Diedrichs	
Guard Squadron	86.0
Capt. S. B. Lang	
28th Trainees, Barracks	80.0
Lt. Col. P. Preuss	
93rd Trainees, Barracks	65.0
Maj. W. A. Butters	
30th Trainees, Barracks	63.0
Major D. Boss	
Officers (Mess Only)	51.0

Maintains Contact With 17s



Sgt. Mark Karas was once a Pennsylvania farmer, but now it's code rather than cows that occupy his attention. His job is to maintain communication between the 19th Group's Ground Radio Station and the Flying Fortresses in training flights.

Base Sanitation At Record Level; Bomb. & Gunnery Range Sq. Leads

Highest sanitation standings in the current competition were recorded last week, with a majority of the scores in the 90s bracket for the first time, according to the report by Capt. James K. Taylor, Base Medical Inspector.

All but three scores were 80 or better, making the sanitation range generally good to excellent.

Competition was becoming so close that anything below 90 was no longer in the running, and the consistent leaders were finding it difficult to hold their places. Even the scores in the 80s bracket were mainly in the upper half, and slight improvement in one of the components of the average—barracks, mess, or latrines—would push them into the excellent field.

The Bombing and Gunnery Range Squadron can take a bow with what is believed to be the highest average set in the sanitation competition.

The 19th Group's four bombardment squadrons all placed in the 90s for the first time, with the 28th trailing the 93rd, 30th and 435th—the latter in a close race in that order.

Base Headquarters Squadron also has improved steadily last week to merit a score in the 90s.

PX Cafeteria gets a pat on the back for a 96 mess score, equaled last week only by the WAC Company mess hall.

Officers BOQs were scored 90

for the first time, a considerable betterment over previous weeks, but the two blocks latrines pulled those averages down into the 80s bracket.

Officers Mess continued to have the worst score on the Base, even falling from 53 to 51 last week. A column of type would be required to list the things wrong as noted by the inspector.

19th Group trainees barracks crowded the Officers Mess for cellar scores, failing to improve over the previous week. However, the 28th trainees (with an 80) were far better than the 30th's and 93rd's.

With 13 scores in the 90s, seven in the 80s and only three below 80, the Base last week could take pride in an important job well done, keeping the installation clean and healthy.

Genesco, Ill.—Ira Wert, a filling station attendant, vulcanized a girdle for a customer.

EDITORIAL:

Free Labor's Day

Monday was Labor Day. Never before in this country's history had United States working men and women more cause for pride; nor were there ever so many of them—more than 60 million: irreplaceable able-bodied men, men not up to service requirements, girls, married women, even grandmothers.

America kept on its overalls Monday; there was no time for celebration. Labor only had begun its biggest task. But it was a task well begun. Output from the "Arsenal of Democracy" was smashing wide a bridgehead, successfully invading Italy, one of the unholy three that had threatened world freedom. Russian, British and other United Nations armies were drawing the steel noose tighter around the international gangsters' necks—with strength born in Detroit, Seattle, Mobile, Pittsburgh . . .

In one year American workers had turned out the stuff needed by her own and her Allies' fighting men to move from the defensive to a global offensive, to turn the tide of the war. Some strikes and bickerings may have marred the surface, but underneath lay the solid proud truth that the mass of American labor was doing its job. As Gen. George C. Marshall, U. S. Army Chief of Staff, declared:

"Quantity production is now in full blast. The enemy's initial advantages in men and guns, and in ships and planes, has been overcome."

A few facts indicate the mighty effort required for that achievement:

Each soldier sent overseas necessitates between five and ten tons of equipment.

An armored division uses more than 600 tons of ammunition in a day's action.

Altogether, the Army requires more than 700,000 different items, provided by labor.

Production records have fallen like wheat stalks before a scythe: miners last year dug 92 million tons of iron ore (25 million more than in 1940); more than 7,000 planes now are being produced each month (compared with 10,143 built during the first whole year of the defense program), Flying Fortresses are coming off the assembly lines four times faster than originally estimated.

Furthermore, American labor had to build in its peaceful nation the world's greatest war plant before it could start breaking those records—while organized labor also contributed two million workers to the armed forces.

As the Allies' offensive spreads, ever greater effort must be put forth by American labor to meet the military needs. President Roosevelt has said truly of the home front and the fighting front: "The two of them are inexorably tied together."

We in the Air Forces know we can count on American labor for the war machines and equipment we need; labor can count on us to use them for the earliest complete victory possible.

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.

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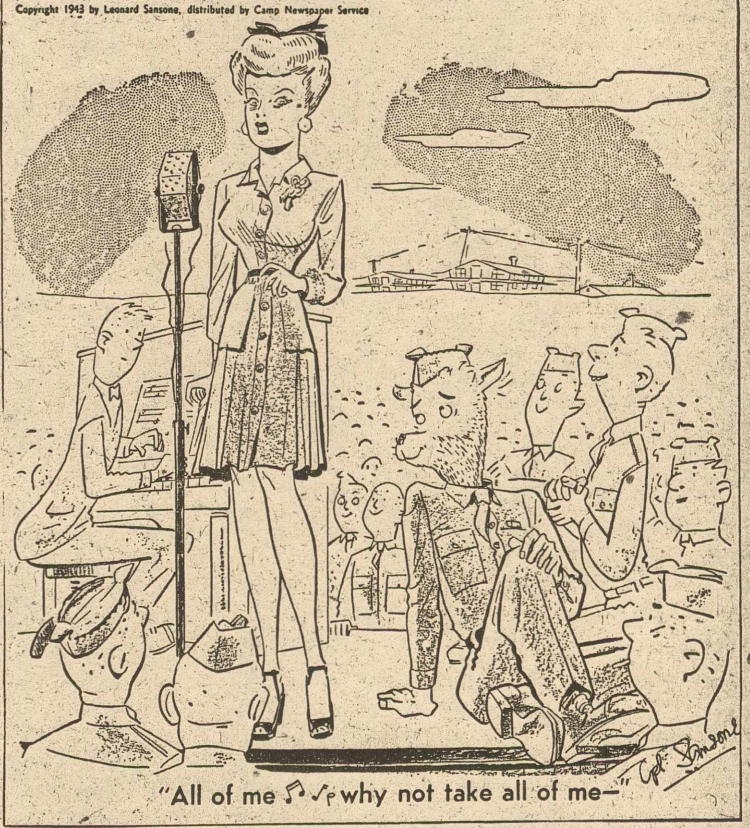
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The Rattler receives Camp Newspaper Service material.

The Wolf

by Sansone



THOUGHTS OF OTHERS

Begged, Borrowed Or Stolen

If we want peace, we must treat other nations in the spirit of democratic Christianity. We must make our religion practical. In our relations with China, for example, we must act in such a way as to enhance the material as well as the spiritual well-being of her people. So doing will not only be of spiritual advantage to ourselves, will not only do much to prevent war, but will give us more material prosperity than we can otherwise enjoy. And in saying this, I do not speak in the missionary spirit as a forerunner of a new imperialism.

Nearly half the people of the world live in eastern Asia. Seventy-eighths of them do not know how to read and write, but many of them listen to the radio and they know that the world is on the move and they are determined to move with it. We can at their request help them to move in knowledge toward a higher standard of living rather than in ignorance toward confusion and anarchy.

Throughout history, every big nation has been given an opportunity to help itself by helping the world. If such an opportunity is seized with a broad and generous spirit, an infinitude of practical possibilities opens up . . . Bread

cast upon the waters does return. National friendships are remembered. Help to starving people is not soon forgotten.

We of the Western Democracies must demonstrate the practicality of our religion. We must extend a helping hand to China and India; we must be firm and just with Prussia; we must deal honestly and fairly with Russia and be tolerant and even helpful as she works out her problems in her own way; we must prove that we ourselves can give an example, in our American democratic way, of full employment and full production for the benefit of the common man.

By collaborating with the rest of the world to put productive resources fully to work, we shall raise our own standard of living and help to raise the standard of living of others. It is not that we shall be taking the bread out of the mouths of our own children to feed the children of others, but that we shall cooperate with everyone to call forth the energies of everyone, to put God's earth more completely at the service of all mankind.

Henry A. Wallace,
March 8, 1943.



DEGREES OF GOLDBRICKING

Most of us are guilty of goldbricking to some degree; small time goldbricking, wherein we put off until after lunch the job that we could very easily do before lunch. Or we make a job that we find pleasant last twice as long as it should. This is small time stuff, it is true: it's one of those human weaknesses that we must be constantly working on if we wish to make any progress in the job of self-improvement.

Then there is the big-time goldbricker, the dyed in the wool, fourteen carat variety, who spends more time figuring the angles whereby he can get out of work than he does working. This fellow has really got something basically wrong with him. He has no pride in himself, no ambition for the future, no deep love for anyone that might prompt him to get ahead in the world. Unless you can find some way to snap this lad out of his irresponsible attitude, he is sunk. Sometimes one wonders if he is worth the trouble of trying to snap him out of it.

GOLDBRICKING WITH GOD:

Just as the Army goldbrick is trying to get his pay and his stripes and his furloughs without working for them, so the spiritual goldbricker expects a comfortable existence, good health, good fortune, a ripe old age, and an eternal bliss in Heaven without putting out for them.

Here again we find degrees. There is the halfway goldbricker who sets aside for God forty-five minutes out of a 10,080 minute week, is very devout and prayerful during those forty-five minutes, and spends the other 10,035 minutes of the week ignoring God and breaking God's laws. Yet he is the first one to howl if God doesn't "come a-running" with a ready-made miracle when he is in trouble. And he is quite confident that pay-day will come when he dies, and God will feel honored to fix up for him an eternity of happiness in Heaven.

And we find the fourteen carat spiritual goldbricker too. He's the fellow who blusters: "Sure I believe in God. Sure we are fighting for the freedom to worship God. Maybe I don't go to church; but I'm just as good as a lot of people who go to church. I treat my fellow man right, play the game square. I think God will take care of me all right."

The champion goldbrick! Blissfully he refuses to turn his God-given intelligence to the things of God. He's too busy with the things of man. Blithely he lets God alone

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sunday: 0900, Aviation Squadron Service; 0900, 19th Group Service; 1030, Base Chapel Service; 1930, WAC night.

Wednesday: 1930, Service Men's Christian League.

Thursday: 1900, Chapel Chorus, Rehearsal.

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Sunday Masses: 0600; 0800; and 1615.

Confessions: Saturday, 1500 to 1730; 1900 to 2100; Sunday, before the Masses.

Weekday Masses: 1730, daily except Thursday.

Hospital Mass: Thursday at 1430, in Red Cross auditorium.

Evening Devotions: Tuesday, 1930, Novena; Friday, 2100, Novena.

Study Club: Monday, 1930.

First Friday Masses: 0600 & 1730.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Sunday: 1715, Base Chapel Services.

JEWISH SERVICES

Friday: 1930, Base Chapel.

G. I. Q.

By Camp Newspaper Service

These questions are so easy even a second looney can answer 'em. Can you? Mark your answers to each then see if they check with the right ones. Peeking in un-GI.

1. An island in the Aleutian chain which we found the Japs had left undefended when we arrived was—

A—Kiska () B—Agattu ()

2. One of the United Nations which is sponsoring classes to "orient" girls who have married its soldiers in England is—

A—The U. S. B—Canada ()

3. A former heavyweight boxer who is now in the Army and is touring camps giving exhibitions and physical fitness pointers is—

A—Cpl. Billy Conn () B—Sgt. Joe Louis ()

Answers: 1-A; 2-B; 3-B

in His Heaven, never bothering to offer Him even a moment's praise, thanksgiving, or atonement.

Yet he is confident that pay-day will come. And oh how he'll howl at the injustice if it doesn't come. Even though he had his chance as well as anyone else to read the warning of Christ: "He that confesseth me not before men, neither will I confess him before my Father Who is in Heaven."

—Chaplain Bernard J. Gannon

The Inquiring Line

Q. In wartime is fraudulent entry into the Army considered grounds for dishonorable discharge?

A. No enlisted man will be discharged because of fraudulent entry unless at the time of his entry he concealed a previous desertion or an unauthorized absence from the armed services, concealed a previous separation from the armed forces with a form of discharge certificate other than honorable, or concealed a criminal record.

Q. I'm a WAC. My husband is out of work. Can I get a dependency allowance for him?

A. No. You may apply for family allowances for dependent children, your mother, father, brothers, sisters and other specified relatives. Only your husband is left out. He doesn't get a dime.

Q. What are the physical requirements for Aviation Cadet training?

A. Requirements for Aviation Cadets have been relaxed a bit. You can get in now if your vision is 20/30 correctible to 20/20. Hearing and dental requirements have also been lowered. You're eligible if you're between the ages of 18 and 26. If you want to know more, write to the Adjutant General in Washington for the booklet Air Cadet Training.

Q. I want to vote next month in my home state. How do I go about it?

A. The first thing you do is find out if your state is holding an election this year. Illinois, for instance, has no election scheduled for 1943. Congressional elections will be held in two congressional districts, the second in California and the second in Kansas. Many other states are holding local elections. If you are qualified to vote in these your first sergeant will give you a form post card with which you may apply to the secretary of state in your home state for an absentee ballot.

GI RESCUES HEN FRUIT FROM NO MAN'S LAND

SICILY (CNS) — Sgt. Edmund Bastien of Brooklyn was sitting in a fox hole when he spied a basket of eggs way out in the middle of no-man's land. He crawled from cover to cover to within arm's reach of them.

As he put out his hand for the prize a sniper's bullet whizzed by his elbow. So he spent the next 45 minutes trying to outguess the sniper. He finally succeeded, picked up the eggs and brought them back to his company area. Tasted good, too.



Wed. & Thurs.—"Heaven Can Wait", Don Ameche, Gene Tierney, Charles Coburn (Technicolor). Short: Paramount News.

Friday—"Submarine Base", John Litel, Fifi D'Orsay; "Honeymoon Lodge", Harriet Hilliard, David Bruce, Ozzie Nelson & Orchestra, Double Feature.

Saturday—(Revival) "For Me and My Gal", with Judy Garland, Gene Kelly. Short: The Uninvited Guest.

Sun. & Mon.—"So Proudly We Hail", with Claudette Colbert, Paulette Goddard, Veronica Lake. Short: Paramount News.

Tuesday — "Spotlight Scandal", Billy Gilbert, Frank Faye, Bonnie Baker, Henry King & Orchestra. Shorts: "Seeing Hands", "Jim Jams at the Stage Door Canteen".

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.

FAMILY AND GI SON NEVER WRITE

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. (CNS)—Cpl. Vance Jackson, who came home last summer on leave only to find that his folks were en route to Camp Carson, Col. to visit him, got another furlough recently. He arrived home again, found that his parents had sold their home and moved to Camp Carson for good.



General trouble bothers Cuthroat Adolph, the paper hanger, these days. He's had to slap Field Marshal Gen. Walther von Brauchitsch into a "Nazi Fortress" which is just a propaganda-ish way of saying the old gink is in the clink. You may remember Walt. He used to be chief Reich general until he and addled Adolf had different ideas about how to win the war. Then, too, the Munich maniac is having difficulty with one Friedrich Christeansen, another problem general. He commands the German forces in Holland. Freddy has been court-martialed for "cowardice" according to reports. Yep! It's a wise German who knows his own generals.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

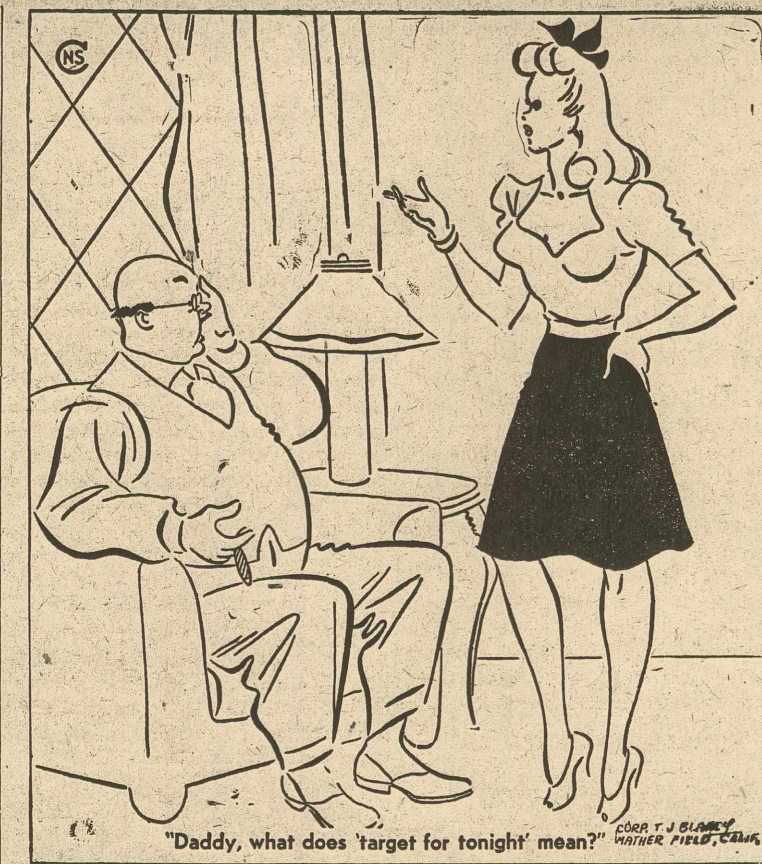
BY S-SGT. LAWRENCE SHIPP

How very short a month can be when measured in terms of "that period of time elapsing between physical achievement tests." Yes, for some of us it comes around entirely too fast; and what a show! It's just like a 3-ring circus; there's so much happening simultaneously that you can't see it all.

Just a few observations; perhaps you too saw the same. Did you see that "human mountain" rising when Cpl. "Fats" Hagendoerfer was participating in the set ups? Did you by chance notice "Crimson Face" Larry (Flat-Foot) Timmons beat the old Texas earth as he forged down the well-beaten path like a stampeding elephant? Still he came in for last place. Did you too discover why Sgt. "Skeeney" Houseknecht came in for first place—ah! but he forgot to run the last two laps, so there's the answer. Anyway, walking wasn't crowded, was it "Skeeney"? And who could forget that swift stride of "Athlete" Louis Spini! We never thought you had it in you, Lou.

Soon-to-be Officer Candidates Pilon and Riley were really given a sendoff the other night when the "Swan Room" at the Aztec again served as the old meeting place. A large number of the Medics turned out for the occasion and were in a purely festive mood. And again more surprises and more hidden talent were uncovered (so was a cardboard box). It never fails to happen, does it? We'll have to admit, fellows, we can really make a lot of noise under certain conditions. These two Sgts. can really go east on the T & P knowing full well that the Medics' are behind them 100%. Oh yes, in all your life did you ever see such a rosy bald-head as the one Sgt. Pilon possessed?

From all reports we're hearing from Sgts. Schurr, McBride and Kluczycki the Ranchers' Rodeo and Barbecue was really "tops". The enthused representatives had a real taste of West Texas hospitality, and they are all very grateful for the unusual event. Modest S-Sgt. Schurr was selected to accompany the "Dutchess" of the Rodeo. And all he had to say was "I got off the truck and they grabbed me; I guess I was the right size." Yes, Jim, they saw you first! "Unidentified" Sgt. McBride was there, but definitely; how could they miss—Oh, now we know it's Macs' new office that has brought on this strange malady. Sgt. "Wolf" Kluczycki was



really thrilled, for he was a guest in the beautiful home of the Wolf family. No, we're not wolfing, for it's really a fact; and Sgt. Kluczycki is really appreciative of the splendid hospitality shown him. Texas isn't so bad after all, is it fellows?

If it's a transfer to William Beaumont Hospital and there's a WAC involved PFC James Fisk is really interested. Yes, yes, from the looks of that embrace on the front porch PFC Kathryn Lawhorn really must have liked Jim as her ward-boy. See, even the ward boys get their reward, too. Be patient, fellows.

For first class baking you can't beat him, but of late the great Piere Bloom has been picked on. How pathetic! Abe doesn't object to hard work, but oh! those interruptions! Think nothing of those 6 P.M. meetings, you're so young and so healthy Abe! (Who said he has been talking to himself?)

All S-Sgt. Arnold asked for one morning was a grunt, but no, not even that. Oh well, you didn't want to go anywhere for four nights did you? Now the good Sgt. knows who his friends in the 2nd Platoon are!

Now can anyone beat this one? Cpl. "Fats" Hagendoerfer, that Pittsburgh "Juke Box King", has 8 months service and of that period has had 6 months of KP! How do you like that? Just think, pilot of the China Clipper all that time and still full of fun. What a character!

OK, Pvt. Nassif, quiet please! Can't you see he wants to sleep! When you quit the coyotes take

over. Yes, never a dull moment at this intriguing place.

Something resembling a soldier stepped into the hospital the other day and after close observation who should we recognize in that semi-disguise but our own Cpl. Warren Nichols. Apparently he rode in the coal car or the coach directly behind the engine for he certainly resembled a coal miner! Ah, the good old T & P—the only avenue of escape.

Now PFC (the real thing) Askin is happy for he's on his way up! See, Sid, all good things come to those who wait.

PFC Sanders and Cpl. Manion are back from New York City and are again on the job. We know they wanted to return so badly but when there's no room on the train in St. Louis there's no choice is there?

Now the Medics are really on the beam, for our morning calisthenics (in the darkness) are now the super-deluxe type. No one would think of missing them now, for we have real live "demonstrators" and from now on fellows there will be no gold-bricking either! Ah! what a wonderful way to build up our bodies. We never had it so good.

SIMPLIFIES KP

ENGLAND (CNS)—Most ingenious GI at one Flying Fortress base here is Cpl. Archie L. Morris of St. Charles, Mo. Told to flatten 100 tin cans by dropping a 20-pound weight on each one, he completed the job in one minute by getting the operator of a steam-roller to run over them.

Altitude Training

By PFCs GARCIA & MINKIN

As fast as greased lightning were the ATUs on the night of Sept. 2. A victory in baseball was the aim. The score of 21 to 2 turned it into a massacre for the mixed baseball team of the Medics. Even a few of the star Medic baseball team failed to pull them through. The only thing that they can use now is a plaster cast to hold their head high. It would be an impossibility otherwise. How about some ball, you star Medic team? A game anytime would be most welcome, or have you lost face already?

Our winning was due to our calisthenics every morning by our coach. He is also the captain of our baseball team. Yes, sir, Sgt. Sidney Blumenthal is the guy. A little more practice and more free time and we'll meet all challengers on the base. How about it fellows!

True to form, as we always are, Ahem! we have gotten into first place for our sanitation averages. How could it be any different with all the aces of the Medics transferring into the Air Force, of which the Altitude Training Unit is a big part. Naturally we are proud of our front yard. Who wouldn't be with a little praise from the Base Sanitation Officer. Our cactus garden is under the supervision of Lt. Blair. So far it has received recognition from all those who have seen it. Even mother nature thinks quite a lot of our landscaping. The birds have adopted some of our cactus as the site of their home. How can they be blamed with such beautiful scenery as an invitation?

Well, fellows, it finally came Thursday morning at about nine o'clock. All of the boys from the ATU gathered in barracks six for one of those parties from which no one is omitted. Almost everybody brought something to eat. Some brought GI brushes, others brooms, and a couple of fellows even brought hoses. With a little work and five bosses we finished in the record time of 45 minutes.

Say, fellows, what odds are you giving on Sgt. Freas? Will he or will he not come back from his furlough married? Or do you think maybe some 4F has beaten him to her?

By the way, does anybody have any extra hair they would like to donate to a worthy cause? PFC Moralez, did you have to pay for it?

It is now our privilege to extend our heartiest congratulations to S-Sgt. LeRoy Echols, Sgts. Sidney Blumenthal, Robert Freas, "Hank" Spas, Robert Natusch and Cpl. "Chuck" Metz on their new promotions.

SOUR AND SWEET

Band Notes

BY SGT. ERWIN WERTHAMER

We have had a few new additions to our happy family, and it begins to look as if we might get this outfit to full strength one of these years. We are a bit handicapped as yet. And as a consequence must draw musicians from other organizations on the base to help out at formations. But slowly we are building an organization.

However, with all our various and assorted handicaps we manage to throw at least one good party a month. And last week we had one that was really on the ball. Ed Christensen, Paul Schuman and Connell Zerman deserve the honors for putting this one over. It was primarily a watermelon party, although the men did a pretty good job on other attractions. The watermelons were yellow, and as most of the men had never heard of yellow watermelons they were a bit wary of them at first. But, as soon as they found out how good they were, they proceeded to wash their faces in them.

Among the "victims" were Paul Schuman, Bill Ross, George Wiles, and Lyle Glazier. Lyle gave us a particularly interesting demonstration.

And what man in this outfit thought that he was good enough to roll a cigarette while his car was in motion. Nope, he wasn't hurt, but his car will need a new spring, fender, and shock absorber among other things. Experience comes expensive sometimes.

And Bill Ross has informed me that he shall in the future concentrate on Wink. But you can't

Seven EMs Qualify For Cadet Training

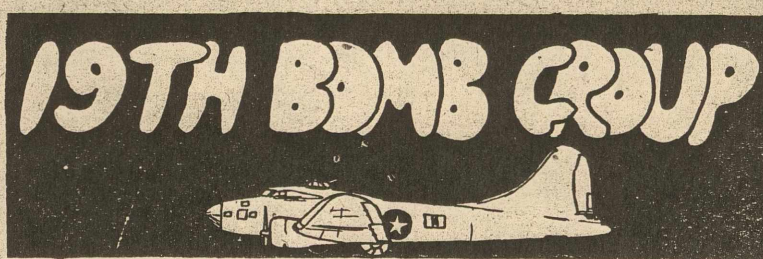
Seven Rattlesnake Bomber Base enlisted men last week were found qualified for Aviation Cadet appointment and were ordered to AAFBTC Amarillo Army Air Field, Amarillo, Texas, for Pre-Aviation Cadet (Air Crew) basic training.

Those going were Sgt. Paul A. Morelock, 28th Bomb Squadron; Sgt. Theodore B. McKenzie, 30th Bomb Squadron; PFC Walter L. Willson, 93rd Bomb Squadron and Sgt. Howard P. Moss, Sgt. Daniel Lapin, Sgt. Orion A. Dunbar, and Sgt. Calvin H. Cerniway, Base Headquarters and Air Base Squadron.

take the guy seriously, his mind is almost as changeable as a woman's. At any rate the "city" of Wink should be seeing his face on her fair streets more often.

That's about all for this week, so until next week just steer clear of the sharpster who tries to sell you a homestead in West Texas. He's the same guy who tried to sell the Brooklyn Bridge a couple of years ago.

Deserving a pat on the back from the regular band boys, and the Base generally, are the several men who are practicing evenings with the band and helping out in the Saturday reviews—in addition to their other duties as mechanics, gunners, etc. These are PFC Moe, S-Sgt. Roche and Sgt. Parent, Diedrichs Service Squadron; Sgt. Lord, 93rd Bomb Squadron; Cpl. Fisher and Cpl. Murray, Base Headquarters Squadron; Cpl. Pride and Sgt. Bronkart, Marshall Airdrome Squadron.



Gypsy 93rd

BY CPL. IRVING J. PACKER

We welcome into our midst Major William A. Butters, who, as Commanding Officer of Butters' Provisional Group, has been with us several weeks. Although this welcome is a bit belated, the old adage "Butter late than never" is just as good today as it was in the days of yore.

Never saw so many smiling and anxious faces waiting to get their shots. It seemed that some of the boys were afraid they would miss them and so they all tried to mooch their way up in front of the line. While waiting his turn, one of the boys from Intelligence finished reading a 450 page book entitled "Spies and Their Intrigues". What did he expect to find—a spy in the hypo needle?

S-Sgt. Harold E. Schroeder, who recently had the nuptial knot tied while home on furlough, is in the hospital. Let us hope that his ailment is nothing worse than love sickness.

In many large cities one day a year is set aside as "Boys Week" in which boys are permitted to carry out the duties and functions of city officials, such as Mayor, Comptroller, etc. May I suggest that we inaugurate a somewhat similar idea on this base whereby enlisted men carry on the duties of officers and likewise officers carry out the duties of the enlisted men. By having the officers do the work of KPs, latrine orderlies, etc., there, no doubt, would be a better understanding of the problems and gripes of the EMs. By the same token, an enlisted man who takes over the duties of a CO would also be in a better position to know his problems.

Now let us see how this would work. Captain Meat Ball is dishing out the meat in the mess hall. Private Chow Hound complains to him that he can't understand why he doesn't receive more than a pound and a half of meat per meal. Pvt. Hound's beefing certainly deserves a little consideration—very little.

Now we have the enlisted man acting as CO. Cpl. Ima Hogg asks for a ten day furlough plus two days traveling time. The CO after studying the matter conscientiously, decides that the importance of Cpl. Hogg's work as a latrine orderly makes it imperative that his furlough time be cut in half—so decides to give Hogg a five day furlough plus seven days traveling time. Hogg is probably stunned by

the CO's drastic action in cutting his furlough time to five days but he will no doubt accept it graciously and leave the CO's office satisfied that his brother soldier has acted fairly.

There is another angle to this suggestion which I believe should not be overlooked. From time to time a soldier can be heard to say, "If I were CO I would see to it that reveille started at 10 in the morning, that breakfast would be served in bed and that on every second day, a three day pass would be issued." Personally, I am in accord with this soldier's proposal, except I would have reveille at 9:30 in the morning so that the boys would have enough time to shower, shave, and get ready for the afternoon repast. If this fellow were a CO for a day he would soon learn that a CO's job presents itself with many difficult problems and really is no bed of roses. He would then pass the word around to all EMs and they all would be glad to be what they are. No longer would you hear them say, "If I were CO, etc." This attitude would be quite a morale booster.

Now, fellows, what do you think of this suggestion? Would be glad to listen to all comments anywhere except in the mess hall. Frankly, I am allergic to overripe tomatoes.

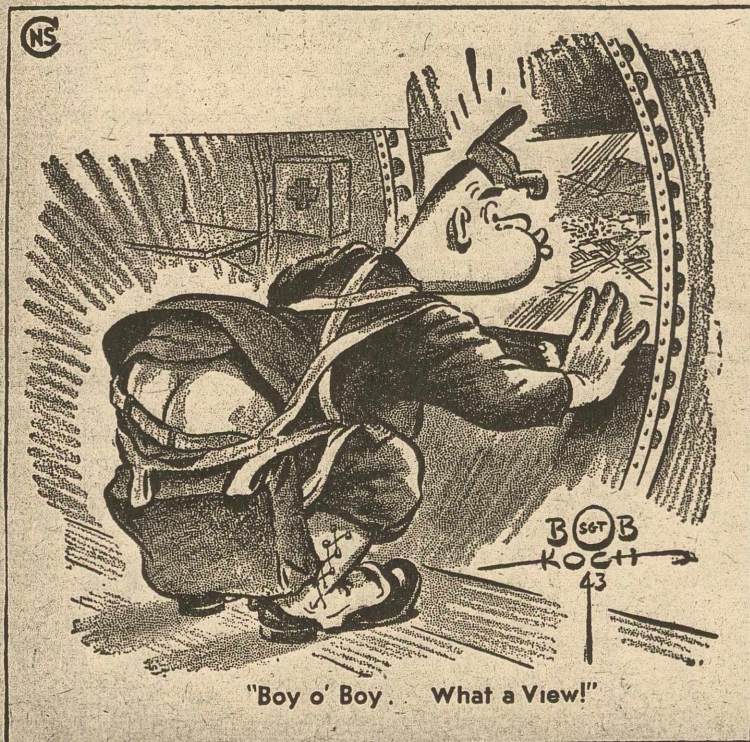
NOTE: The characters of Cpl. Meat Ball, Cpl. Ima Hogg and Private Chow Hound are purely fictional and any similarity to any persons, living or dead, is just too bad.

INDIAN 'FORGETS' NAME AND INDUCTION DATE

DENVER, COL. (CNS)—Pvt. Melvin Forgets-Nothing, a Black-foot Indian, hasn't a very good memory despite his name. When asked why he showed up late for his induction here, he explained that he forgot.

SOLDIER GIVES BLOOD TO SAVE CHICAGO GIRL

CHICAGO (CNS)—Pvt. Valentine Godkin is a walking blood bank. Godkin, who recovered from staphylococcus septicemia, a rare blood disease in 1938, has been giving blood to other sufferers from the disease ever since. Stationed at San Antonio, Tex., he arrived recently to give a transfusion to Marie Barker, 19, latest victim of the disease.



"Boy o' Boy... What a View!"

A A B SPORTS

Pyote AB Soldier-Hunters Told Texas Game Laws

Laws for hunting game, both on and off military reservations in Texas, have been released by the Eighth Service Command for guidance of military personnel.

Hunting on a resident license (fee \$2.00) will be allowed to soldiers. Non-resident license costing \$25.00 is not required of military personnel stationed in Texas.

The shotgun load limit is three shells. Prohibited practices include: hunting from an automobile, shooting from a public road, shooting after sundown, and hunting on private property without permission.

On military reservations within Texas, there is no open season on mourning doves, white-winged doves, ducks, geese, plover, woodcock, jacksnipe, coot, rails, gallinules, swans and cranes. On other game same regulations apply as in state generally.

Open seasons and bag limits are: Quail, all species—Dec. 1-Jan. 16, inclusive, 12 daily bag limit and 36 weekly bag limit and total possession limit; ducks, geese and coot—from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day, Nov. 2-Jan 10; 10 ducks daily, all kinds, 20 in possession, but not more than one woodduck or three redheads and buffleheads together for season; two geese daily; except blue goose, four additional or six if blue geese only; coot and sora, 25 daily bag and possession limit; rails and gallinules—Sept. 1-Nov. 30, 15 daily bag and possession limit.

Mourning doves or turtle doves—In Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, Comal, Hays, Travis, Williamson, Bell, Falls, McLennan, Hill, Navarro, Kaufman, Hunt, Hopkins, Delta and Lamar counties, and also in counties north and west thereof, one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day, Sept. 1-Oct. 12; in remainder of state sunrise to sunset each day Sept. 20-Dec. 19; 10 daily bag and total possession limit.

White winged doves—From 12 o'clock noon until sunset Sept. 13-19, 10 daily bag, 20 total possession limit.

Wild turkey—Nov. 16-Dec. 31, three gobblers a season (except some counties' closed, some limited to two. Consult local regula-

tions).

Deer—two prong-horned bucks a season. (Some closed counties, local regulations.)

Bear—one a season.

Collared peccary or javelina—Nov. 16-Dec. 31, two a season.

Rabbits—no closed season, no bag limit.

Squirrel—season and bag limit vary according to locality. Some counties, no closed season. (Consult local regulations.)

Prairie chicken, pheasants, partridges, antelope, bighorn sheep—no open season.

The open seasons on deer, bear, turkey and quail apply east of the Pecos River only. West of the Pecos, open seasons will be provided by regulation of the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission.

Softball League Goes Into Second Half Of Play

Second half of the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Softball League was well underway last week, with the 435th Bomb Squadron taking the lead, Lt. Charles F. Yeager, Base physical training officer, announced.

The Medics, winners of the first half of the series, were still hot, however, and promising to give the other leaders trouble.

The Rattlesnake Softball Trophy, a very fancy gadget indeed, will go to the winner of a 2-out-of-3 playoff to be held between the two teams winning the first and second halves of the series. Should the Medics win the second half as well, they would get the trophy automatically; but their chances are not too good, as all the other teams are gunning for them.

The Warm Bench

BY SGT. FRANK DE BLOIS
(CNS Sports Correspondent)

Remember Baker Field in Philadelphia where the Phillies used to play? Smallest ball park you ever saw in your life. It was so small, in fact, that you could lean out of your seat in the center field stands and stick your finger in the umpire's eye.

One day when the Giants were playing the Phils at Baker Field, old Buzz Arlett, who used to play right field for the Phils, got the fat part of his bat next to a three and two pitch and hammered it into the stands. He started to trot around the bases but when he reached third, he tripped on the bag and fell flat on his face. Sore as a boil, he got to his feet and bee-lined it over to a customer's box behind third. A mild looking guy was sitting in the box, just watching the ball game.

"I seen youse trip me," yelled Buzz. And he punched the guy in the nose.

Harry Ruby, the song writer, is the hottest baseball fan alive. One day a fellow said to him: "Harry, if your father and Joe DiMaggio were about to fall over a high cliff and you could save one but not both, which would you rescue?"

"Are you nuts?" said Harry. "My father can't hit the size of his collar."

Babe Ruth never turned down an appeal in his life. When Ed Barrow, president of the New York Yankees, phoned the big guy and asked him to manage a team of Yankee and Cleveland all-stars in a benefit game against the Chapel Hill (N. C.) Cloudbusters, the Babe shouted "You can count on me, Eddie."

The Babe is the only person alive who calls tough, beetle-browed Barrow "Eddie," but he's giving his old boss a big break at that. All other men he calls "kid" and all women are "sister" or "mother" to him.

The big fellow never could remember names. Once he was invited to dinner by Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford, who were mildly surprised when Ruth called him "kid" and her "sister" all night.

Softball League

Team	W	L	Pct.
435th Bomb	2	0	1000
Base Flt.	1	0	1000
Medics	2	1	666
Avia. Sq.	2	1	666
Diedrichs	1	1	500
93rd Bomb	0	1	000
Base Hq.	0	2	000
Hess Aird.	0	2	000

AB Tennis Fans Now May Use Monahans Court

Tennis fans at the Rattlesnake Bomber Base may now use the courts at the Monahans High School, Lt. Charles Yeager, base athletic director, announced last week.

All military personnel and their wives may use the courts Monday through Friday after 4 o'clock in the afternoon and all day on Saturday and Sunday.

A limited number of racquets and tennis shoes are available for loan at the school's athletic department.

Soldier Sports

Capt. Ray Barbutti, former Syracuse University quarter miler and Olympic champion in 1928, has recovered from an attack of sand fly fever and returned to duty in North Africa.

Pvt. John Mellus, ex-Villanova and New York Football Giants end, is stationed at Camp Davis, N. C.

Newest 4Fs in baseball are Joe Schultz, St. Louis Browns catcher, and Rufe Gentry, ace pitcher for the Buffalo Bisons in the International League. No reason was given for their rejection.

S-Sgt. Tom Smith, former Louisiana College track star, cracked his own Keesler Field (Miss.) javelin mark with a 206-foot, 9½-inch heave at the third summer track and field meet held at the Base recently.

Bob McLeod, ex-Dartmouth grid great, who downed four Jap planes over Guadalcanal, is now a Navy instructor at Pensacola, Fla.

Jim Castiglia, Georgetown football star and later catcher for the Philadelphia Athletics, is Lt. James V. Castiglia now, and is stationed at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Chalky Wright, once featherweight champion, gets his pre-induction physical soon. Wright wanted to join the Maritime Service but his draft board's "greeting" beat him to the punch.

Wilmer Allison, who outstroked the great Fred Perry to win the national tennis championship in 1935, is a lieutenant colonel and his old doubles partner, Johnny Van Ryn, is a lieutenant in the navy.

IRAN (CNS) — Temperatures of 130 degrees F here force buglers to cool mouthpieces in water before tooting.

SERVICE SQUADRONS

Diedrichs' Squadron

By S-SGT. WARREN E. KEYS
S-SGT. ROY E. WORTENDYKE

For better coverage of the news your correspondents made a tour of the various Sub-Depot departments to get the lowdown on their fellow GIs. In the limelight lately has been S-Sgt. John "Scotty" Milroy and his "Bataan Crew" who rather enjoy working with improvised tools. "Who cares if the Tech-Orders say you can't fix a B-17 with a crowbar," they say; "we do it, but good." Smallest man in the crew is Pvt. Bill Williamson who is able to squeeze into spaces where only Gremlins could heretofore live. The propeller shop reports that Sgt. Leroy Wanasek is still trying to sell that "good" watch even after a month of refusals. When he puts a strap on it and adds the mechanisms which make up a "good" watch, maybe someone will buy it.

Word comes from the engine installation dept. that S-Sgt. Allen Lieberman, after having been treated to a dinner by "Tonie," was hospitalized. The true cause, though, was not the dinner, but a previously infected finger. The glamor boys in the instrument dept.—practically all the men on the A-shift have had their eyebrows plucked (whew, whew)—relate that S-Sgt. Irvin Abrahams has been entertaining "Zombie" lately.

The recently procured billiard table is having some pretty fancy capers cut on its surface by such sharpshooters as S-Sgt. Pete Zachary, S-Sgt. Bill Erwin and PFC Loyce Simmons. The little man wearing red bathing trunks with a white GI border is S-Sgt. Bridaine Heineman, using his talents as a carpenter to build, he says, "fences around the barracks to keep the WACs out." Of course the fences will also hold bedding for airing.

From the electrical dept. comes confirmation of the statement that "live wire" S-Sgt. Bruno Tabacci is wolfing his way around the trailer camp. The radio shop is installing a radio in M-Sgt. Howard's jeep. So, whenever aero repair puts wings on it the Sergeant may earn his wings.

The long pans around the squadron area belong to the softball players who, in a desperate effort to attain first place in the league, have been turned back by the Medics and sat on by the Base Flight teams. A "slight misunderstanding" nearly resulted in the men of the B-shift taking unscheduled physical fitness tests! A 19th

Group officer who had seen them double timed to the obstacle course and then go through the course proceeded to line them up for the tests. Only M-Sgt. Jack Yaros' explanation that the men were not of the 19th Group prevented what might have been an embarrassing situation.

His barrack mates say John Longard has improved in slinging the bull since his recent trip to Juarez to see how the Mexicans do it. Pvt. Wilfred Lohse is the proud father of a new daughter. Cpl. Bob Blackford returned from furlough with the news that he finally married "the girl." Congratulations to both soldiers. Pvt. Charley Scott has gone back to farming with an honorable discharge in his pocket. Also discharged was Pvt. Leo Belez. Who saw who home from Pyote one night last week, Pvt. George Masi? Please don't ask Sgt. Phil Crooks either!

LOS ANGELES (CNS)—A cop, raiding a bookie's office, picked up the phone when it rang. "This is Whitey," said a voice. "Put \$50 to win and \$50 to place on Profile in the Seventh at Arlington." The cop took the tip, won \$295.

M A L E C A L L

BY
MILTON
CANIFF



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Intelligence—

Methods. Of course it's better if you don't ever need to apply this bit of knowledge, but it comes in mighty handy in a pinch.

Each class finishes its Rattlesnake Base training with a written examination. Passing is not required: tests are given to further instill crew-consciousness.

Effectiveness of the training is illustrated by the fact that intelligence personnel from other groups and bases frequently visit Rattlesnake Base to get information and ideas for their own training programs.

Credit for the way in which the training "clicks" here is given by Capt. Bolton to "the perfect manner in which all the organizations and officers on the base have cooperated with us." Lt.-Col. Clarence L. Hewitt Jr., base commander, was given particular credit for his interest and assistance given to all S-2 matters.

Capt. Bolton, like most other commissioned intelligence personnel, has a legal background. He spent 22 years practicing law in Chicago, amassing a

wide experience including service as corporation counsel and assistant state's attorney.

Other officers in 19th Group S-2 include: Lt. Gerald W. Allaben, former mayor of North Miami Beach; Lt. Walton Morrison, former judge of Howard County (Big Spring) Texas; Lt. Leonard M. Halpen, assistant to comptroller, New York City; and Lt. Roger C. Kelly, Texas state senator from Edinboro.

T-Sgt. Howard A. Heuser heads the staff of enlisted men. Sgt. Heuser, whose religion is the fighting variety, was a missionary for the Mormon church in the South Pacific for three years before he joined the Army, spending most of this time in Tahiti. After enlisting in 1940, T-Sgt. Heuser went over with the 7th Bomb Group, joined the 19th when Java was evacuated, and has been with it since.

Soldier Buys Barrage Balloon

LONDON (CNS) — A GI in London put spot cash on the line for post-war delivery of a barrage balloon. Wants it sent right to his door. Didn't say what he planned to do with it.



Headquarters

Another week rolls around and all is quiet at Headquarters. Anita Piney has been trying to add a little excitement around by showing the other employees what it means to really work, and make a joke of it at the same time.

Don't reckon that the heat, dust, flies, and what have you can keep people from enjoying themselves. From all reports of the Ground Gunnery School's picnic at Odessa last week, a good time was had by all. You can tell Jean Williams is a true Texan from all the ranch style beans she ate. She was trying to show the "furriners" what real food was like.

John Bogard hasn't been skating here of late. He says that the next time that he tries it, that he is going to sing "Coming In On A Wing and A Prayer", and see if that helps matters.

Earlene Senter has "up and left us". The girls here really do miss her. If they couldn't catch a soldier in their own bear trap, there was always the chance that Earlene caught more than one, and would divide with the rest of the girls. But now—Poor girls.

Since we have a cute little nurse at the Sub-Depot Dispensary, the male patients have increased considerably.

Helen Reese believes in doing her part to help build the morale of the GI world. Any time of the day, she is entertaining two or three at her desk. We should have more like her, then the Base would run on a more even basis. Give the rest your formula, Helen.

And so this ends another very uneventful week for Sub-Depot Headquarters. If our readers will be so kind as to bear with us, maybe someday they will be surprised and really get some news. Until then . . .



Stout Field, Ind.—During maneuvers here one (1) soldier was sent to the WAC barracks to tell the gals they were captured. The WACs, who take maneuvers seriously, fittered among themselves and then rebelled openly with the attitude that it would take more than a single soldier to capture them. Before the captor knew what was happening the WACs had rushed him, thrown him to the floor and he was begging them to give him back his rifle.

Anne Sheridan: Inviting 'Eyes'



Bottles, Bottles, Who's Got The Bottles? Kick In

The bottle part of the old expression, "We'll split a cold bottle and a hot bird," is about to go the way of the bird part, according to Post Exchange officials who are making a concerted effort to continue keeping a "cold bottle" handy for Pyote's soldiers.

The reason: There's an acute bottle shortage.

To prevent further loss of bottles in the PX tap room and patio, first sergeants from all organizations will take turns in policing the PX beverage area between 5 p. m. and closing time each day.

First sergeants on duty will prevent destruction of furniture, glassware—and bottles. No bottles—

Listen, 'You All'

(Editor's Note: This unsigned Southern masterpiece comes to us from the Camp Howze Howitzer via the Camp Swift Baron. Texans hereabouts will appreciate all "invaders" from north of the Mason-Dixon line taking note.)

Come all you folks from other parts,

Both city folk and rural;

—And listen while I tell you this: The word, "You All" is plural.

When we say, "You all come down"

Or, "We all shall be lonely."

soft drink or beer—will be taken from the area. All organizations will see that all bottles in squadron areas are turned in.

Conclusion: No bottles, no beer!

We mean a dozen folks, perhaps, And not one person only.

If I should say to Hiram Jones, For instance, "You all's lazy" Or, "Will you all lend me your knife?"

He'd think that I was crazy.

Now if you'd be more sociable And with us oftener mingle You'd find that in the native tongue, "You all" is never single.

Don't think I mean to criticize, Or act as if I knew all; But when we speak of one alone, We all say "You" like you all.

DENVER (CNS) — Johnny Brown, caddy at a fashionable golf course here, testified that strip golf, in which losers in a mixed foursome discarded one garment on each green, was a popular practice at the club.

Loose Link Talk

BY PFC CLYDE W. HECOX

Pay day has come and gone again and with it the great financial deals that are the natural aftermath. The Link Department is no exception; in fact, Pvt. Anthony Waligorski had his own "supplementary pay roll" to be signed by all and sundry concerned. It was as promptly signed as any GI pay roll and just as promptly paid off. Oh well, Tony, only three more weeks and the eagle soars again.

The huge map of continental United States which graces almost the entire north wall of the Link Department is an object of much interest to all who see it. It is actually not one map, but all the regional aeronautics charts pieced together and the whole makes a very complete and unusual map. Its chief interest to officers and men besides aiding in the planning of instrument flight is the ever burning question—how far am I from home?

Sgt. J. H. Van has left for a couple of months to attend classes in advanced instrument flying as concerns Link trainer at Randolph Field. Sgt. Arthur Newlin, who is now attending the same school, should be back with us soon.

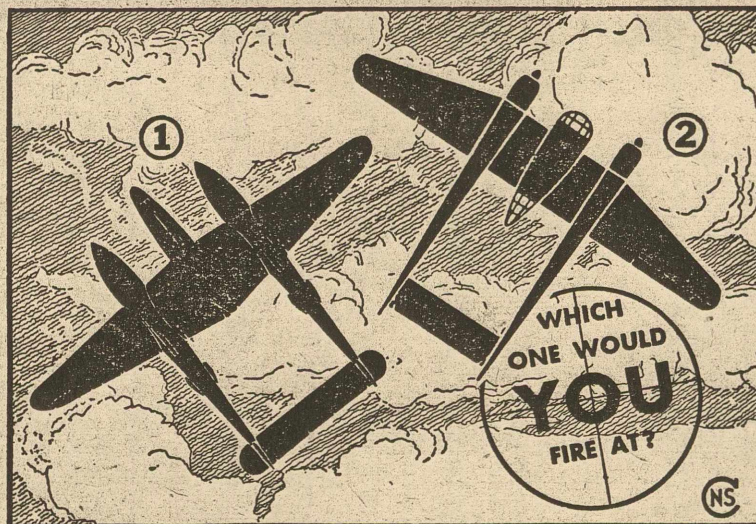
Several of our Link instructors who came here from the Link school at Chanute Field via Salt Lake City had a pleasant surprise the other day. When they left Chanute they bid farewell to their buddies thinking never to see them again, but it seems quite a number of them are now stationed at nearby Pecos in the Link Department there. This would seem to call for some kind of a reunion if the local spots ever get the where withal.

PFC Elmer Betty and Pvts. Don Alberico and Wm. Maupin have returned from their furloughs, while Cpls. Williard Molinare, Clarence Zimmerman, and Glen McElhinney and Pvt. Paul Cosgro have taken off on theirs. Molinare goes to Kansas, Zimmerman to Ohio, McElhinney to Washington, and Cosgro to Massachusetts. The men of the department hail from almost every state in the Union, but the New Yorkers and Californians lead the list with four men each.

By the way, the department now has a volley ball team and challenges all comers. Any resemblance between this aggregation and a professional volley ball team is strictly a coincidence.

WAR PRISONER WANTS BEER

NEWARK, N. J. (CNS)—A local brewery received a V-Mail letter recently from a U. S. lieutenant now reposing in a German prison camp. The letter said, "Send me 25 cans of beer each month and send the bill to my father."



NOT AT NO. 1! It's our P-38 "Lightning", a two-engine, single-seat high altitude fighter and bomber escort plane. The pilot's nacelle projects ahead of the engines but does not extend behind the trailing edge of the wing. Both edges of the wing tapers to narrow rounded tips. The tailplane, which is set between the slender, twin tail booms, has straight edges and rounded tips.

FIRE AT NO. 2! It's the Nazi Focke-Wulf Fw. 189, a high-wing, twin engine ground attack plane. The center section of the wing is rectangular and the leading edge of the outer sections is swept back to rounded tips. The two engines are forward of the nose and the crew nacelle extends behind the trailing edge of the wings. The tail-plane is set between the booms.

Courtesy Harcourt, Brace Co., pub. Aircraft Spotters by Lester Ott.

Soldiers' Wives Offered Complete Free Maternity Aid—Good Deal

Hey, soldier! If you expect a little gold brick in your home, you won't have to worry about the care your wife will get, because she'll receive the best—for free. Write her to get in touch with the director of maternal and child care in your state health department back home.

Complete maternity care for wives of enlisted men below the first three grades in any of the armed forces can now be provided without cost through the State Health Departments under a plan recently approved by the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor.

States providing these services are:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, District of Columbia, Alaska, and Hawaii.

In these states and territories, wives of men in the fourth, fifth, sixth or seventh grades of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard are eligible for these benefits as long as similar services aren't available through medical or hospital facilities of the Army or Navy or through official state

or local health agencies.

Forms for requesting care are made available by the State Health Departments through local health and welfare agencies, local Red Cross chapters, prenatal clinics, military posts and through local physicians.

USO-Camp Show Scheduled Soon

A compact USO Camp Show unit, "Steppin' High", will entertain Rattlesnake Bomber Base soldiers free at their Recreation Hall Thursday, September 16.

Emery Evans, singer and eccentric dancer, is master of ceremonies and straight man for Sandy Burns, veteran vaudeville comedian with a zoot suit routine.

Derby and Frenchie, song and dance team which recently concluded a five months' engagement at New York's Ubangi Club, do the high stepping. Husky-voiced blues and rhythm songstress completing the unit is Victoria Vigil.

WAC Flak

By CPL. SYLVIA WEXLER

The WACs sure took over at "Pyote Joe's" last Saturday night when we gave a farewell party for our departing CO, Captain Moran, who is now well established in El Paso. If you missed being present at the Aztec that night, you sure missed a good time. Wherever the WACs are, there is sure to be fun.

And now we welcome Lt. Edith Haslam as our new CO. Congratulations, Ma'am, and the best of luck.

What's this we hear about Cpl. Armstrong visiting the hospital twice a day? Could it have some connection with that good-looking S-Sgt. from the House on Stilts being a patient there? We must look into the matter and get him out real soon, or she'll fade away to a mere shadow.

Say, who was that M-Sgt. we saw holding your hand in the Pyote movie house last week, PFC Bledsoe? Must be someone special 'cause she put an air-mail stamp on an already stamped envelope when he walked into the Post Office the other ayem. Course, she insists it was only a slip of the lick, and if Bledsoe sed so, it must be true!

PFC Edna Collins returned from her furlough with a bang—she no sooner reported to her desk in S-4 than she toppled over backwards in her chair causing four GIs to run to her rescue. It sure was a good way to let everyone know she was back, but seems to us you could have tried a more safe method—like hanging from the chandelier or sumthin'.

Things are humming once again in the jitterbug circles now that PFC Eleanor Plouffe has returned from her furlough. It didn't take the GIs around here very long to find out she was back. They can think of more reasons for going into Base Files!

We've been trying to find out who that Sgt. is that walks PFC Assante home from the Base Theater almost every morning—but we haven't succeeded as yet. We haven't had a chance to see him in the daylight—or maybe there's a "method to her madness" and she's just making sure we stay in ignorance of his charms.

In answer to all the inquiries she's had this past week, PFC Lila Piercy would like you-all to know that she wasn't on the stage before entering the Army—don't let that blonde hair fool you. She says she was "just a commercial artist."

PFC Amy Poole's heart can't be on ice as we thought, seein' as how her fella is now stationed in Iceland, 'cause we saw her out to the Aztec the other night in the company of four handsome GIs.

New Offensives Build Momentum -- Where Next?

Allies Unlock Southern Door Of Axis 'Fort'

By CPL. TOMME CALL
Rattler Editor

The Allies celebrated the fourth anniversary of World War II with that long-awaited event, British-American invasion of the European mainland. Target: Italy's "toe".

Encountering surprisingly weak resistance, the invasion forces were rapidly widening the bridgehead at week's end. General conclusion was that southern Italy would not be strenuously defended, particularly by the Germans—who apparently plan to take their main stand along the Po River or even in the Alps.

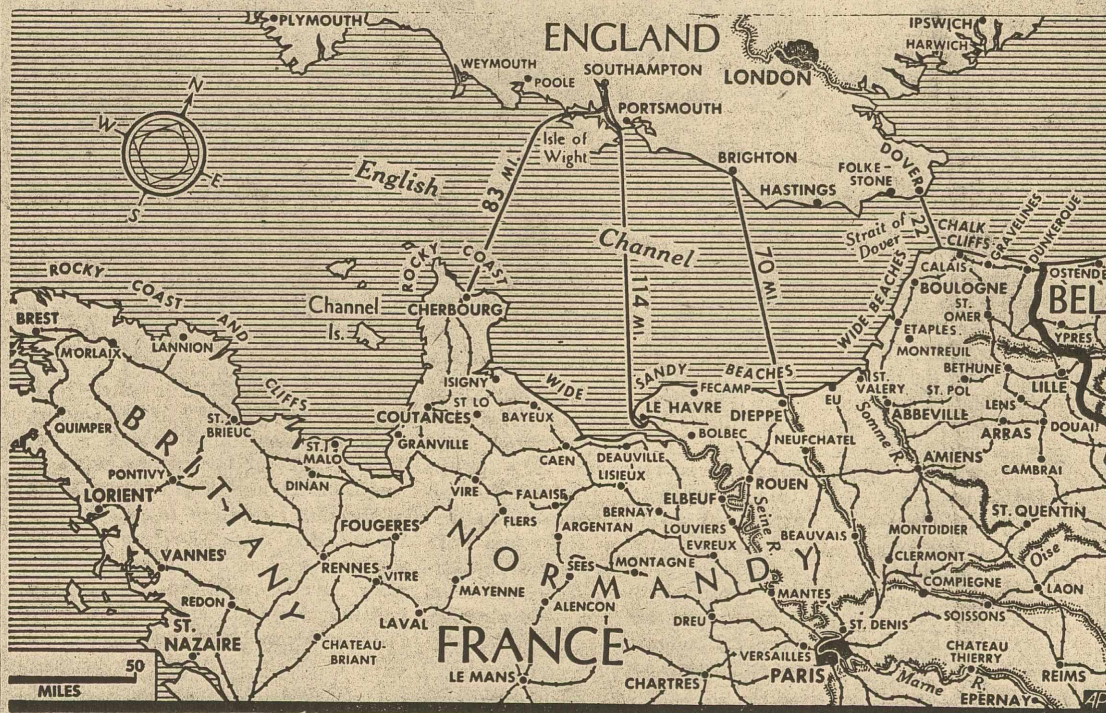
Allied airpower has wrecked southern Italy's meager communications system, perhaps largely accounting for the ineffective defenses. Italy's inspired spokesmen continued to plead for an "honorable peace", but Allied massed might rendered it unnecessary for Washington and London to consider less than unconditional surrender.

Nor would Russia care to settle for less, and the Soviet Union now had a say in Mediterranean affairs, with the establishment of a tri-power commission to handle political matters in that theater. The commission should lay much of Moscow's discontent over political affairs, as the invasion should remove its pressure for a "second front". Relations with Russia appeared to be improving rapidly—whether from pressure or plan, no matter—with the result necessarily bad news for the Nazi gang.

As Italian invasion progressed, the Russians' powerful offense swept toward the Dnieper, and Allied bombers pulverized the industrial interior of Hitler's cracking fortress, the big question was—"Where next?"

Forces of secret strength waited in the British Isles, perhaps to leap into northern France (see adjacent map), or anywhere up to Norway. Other armies were in North Africa, ready to reinforce the Italian invasion or hit southern France or the Balkans. The latter also were possible targets for the quiet Allied armies in the Middle East. The blow would come with shocking surprise, and with power certain of success.

So Near, Yet So Far: Channel Invasion Route

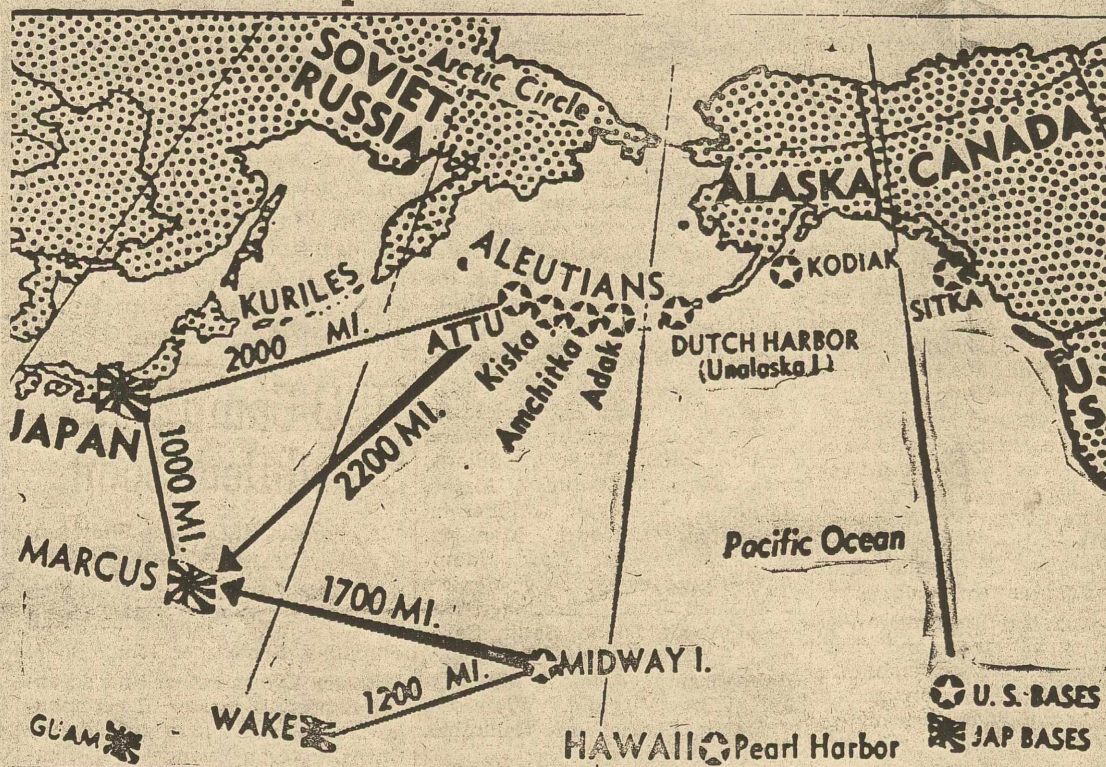


Powerful combined forces are poised in the British Isles for the invasion of

Western Europe. Shown here are feasible jumps, but extremely heavy enemy forti-

fications may cause the Allies to take longer yet less costly roads to Berlin.

Shortcut To Japan: Island Air Bases



Capture of Kiska leaves United States forces free in the Aleutians to prepare bases for an offensive down the Kuriles to Japan proper. America's Navy, feeling its

strength, may spearhead attacks to take Wake, Guam and Marcus, the latter lately boldly assaulted. At any rate, each island base cap-

tured places American heavy bombers that much nearer to the promised devastation by air of Japan's homeland military objectives.