

## Raids Blast 2,000 Plants In Germany

### Million Nazis Homeless, Air Minister Declares In Report on RAF

Two thousand German war factories smashed.

More than 1,000,000 Germans homeless—many of them war workers—and as many as 30,000 in one key munitions town alone.

Fourteen thousand tons of bombs dropped on Germany and occupied territory in 38 days—February and the first ten days of March.

One and one-quarter million tons of enemy shipping sunk by air power.

Thousands of acres of industrial Germany devastated by the unending air offensive from bases in Britain; steel output in the Ruhr and Saar cut by 1,250,000 tons, coal output in the same area down one-fifth.

### Hardest Blow of War

That was the picture of the damage brought to Germany's industrial war machine by the RAF which the British Air Minister, Sir Archibald Sinclair, described to Parliament yesterday.

His report on the war in the air came a few hours after aerial photographs of the damage done to Essen, Germany, last Friday night, showed that apparently the RAF had there struck the hardest blow of the war.

The raid on Essen left ruins as bad as those at Cologne after last year's 1,000-bomber raid, the photographs showed. Thirty thousand people there, many of them workers in the Krupp munitions plant, were left homeless, and their number, along with the million left without shelter by earlier blows, has caused dangerous housing conditions throughout eastern Germany, the Air Minister told Parliament.

At the same time, other official sources revealed the existence and use of new air weapons, among them the wingless helicopters as means of guarding convoys from U-Boat attack. It was announced that "numbers of helicopters" are on order from the U.S.

### Weapons to Beat U-boats

Sir Archibald disclosed that Allied aircraft are using "new weapons and many strange contrivances" to beat off U-Boat attacks. "Better bombs and depth charges and navigational radio aids have been introduced," he said.

While the discussion—which brought forth an up-to-date tabulation of the air war's progress to date—was going on, the Eighth Air Force announced that reconnaissance photos had been developed which showed how closely the RAF night raids and the day blows by the USAAF dovetail.

After the RAF raids on Lorient, huge areas were left in ruins, but one vital power station was undamaged, still supplying power to the submarine pens.

The power station was assigned to Eighth Air Force for a pinpoint precision daylight attack. On Mar. 6, a 1,000-pounder from an American heavy bomber four miles in the air exploded smack in the center of the 100-foot square building.

The Air Minister's report also revealed existence of a new Royal Air Transport Command and special squadrons of "tank buster" planes, as well as fighter-bomber squadrons detailed for support of ground troops.

### Fires Still Burning

In "probably the heaviest blow yet struck by Bomber Command," 13 of the main Krupp buildings at Essen were destroyed or damaged, Sir Archibald said. There was damage to at least 40 other buildings, most of them in the steel works. The power station caught a direct hit and across more than 450 acres 75 per cent of the buildings are demolished or gutted. Fires were still burning there Sunday night.

German radio yesterday admitted that fires were still burning in Munich from Tuesday night's raid by the RAF, while on Wednesday the fires from last week's USAAF raid on St. Nazaire were reported still smoldering.

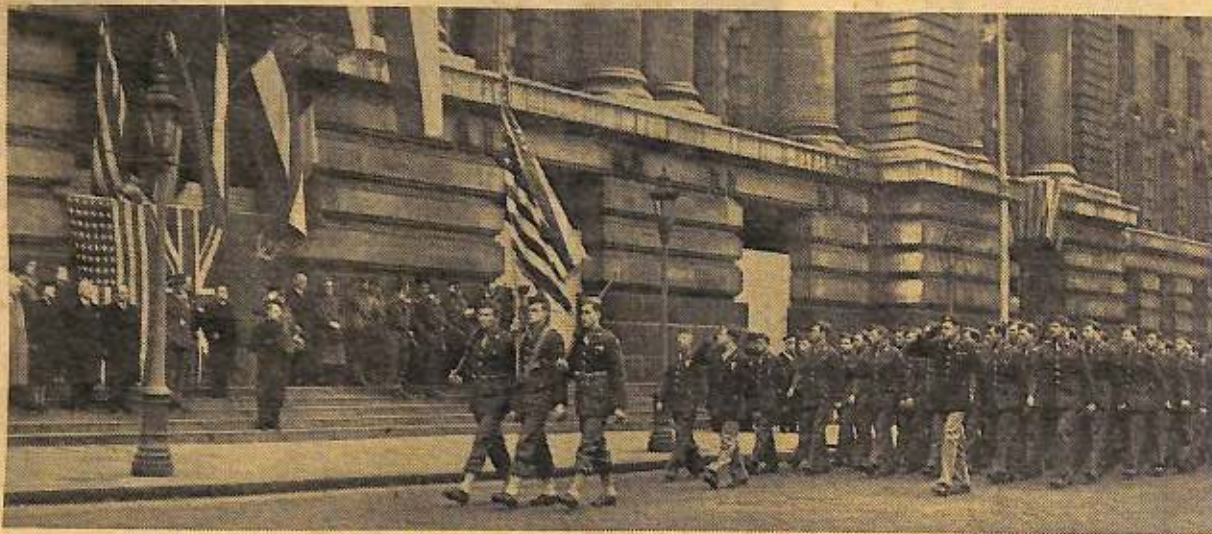
Sir Archibald also pointed out that Italy's war industry had taken a severe beating in long-distance raids from Britain.

Yesterday there were hit-and-run raids by German planes against the south coast of England, with anti-aircraft fire shooting down one attacker.

### Watch Out For Sunburn

Britain has just completed the mildest winter in 30 years, it was announced yesterday. February was the brightest terday. February was the brightest terday. There London has known since 1902. There were 72 hours of sunshine in the month.

## Americans in 'Wings for Victory' Parade



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photos by Bacon

Joining with troops of seven Allied countries in the "Wings for Victory" drive to buy airplanes, 600 United States soldiers paraded yesterday to Trafalgar Square, where Maj. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, Eighth Air Force commander, and Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, reviewed them. The parade over, Cpl. Bill Reynolds, of New Orleans (left), tells Miss Joan Whatmore, three-year-old London girl, how the shiny tuba works that he plays in the band.



## Allies Repulse New Axis Blow On North Front

### First Army Stops Attack By Tanks, Infantry Near Sedjenane

ALLIED HQ, North Africa, Mar. 11 (UP)—Another Axis bid to break through the Allied lines in the Sedjenane area in northern Tunisia—probably towards Djebel Abiod—has been knocked back by the Anglo-American First Army.

The attack was launched yesterday afternoon, west of Sedjenane. Details of the enemy's losses were not yet available, but they were believed to have been heavy.

Allied fighters, supporting the ground troops, had already carried out many offensive sweeps before the attack was launched. They continued to hammer at the enemy's troop, vehicle and gun concentrations while the attack was being launched.

(In Washington, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson announced yesterday the Fighting French, under Gen. Leclerc, had made contact with other French

(Continued on page 4)

## Rommel's Drive Cost U.S. 2,242 Casualties

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11 (UP)—American casualties during the Allied retreat and initial counter-attacks in Tunisia last month were 2,242, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson announced today.

These figures include 59 killed, 176 wounded and 2,007 missing and probably taken prisoner.

Mr. Stimson said the United States losses were heavier than the British and French losses, but "we probably fared better than the enemy," he said.

## Job Guarantee for Servicemen Asked of Congress by Roosevelt

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11—Congress had before it today two Presidential backed measures to cushion the jolts of a return to peacetime economy. One was designed to assure jobs or adequate unemployment insurance to men discharged from the armed services, the other to extend present social security measures so that every American would be covered from his birth to his grave.

## Hitler's Doctor Reported Called to Berchtesgaden

STOCKHOLM, Mar. 11 (UP)—Prof. Ferdinand Sauerbruch, Hitler's personal surgeon, has answered an urgent call to Berchtesgaden, according to unconfirmed reports here. Sauerbruch performed a delicate throat operation on Hitler in 1934.

The report followed the return of Prof. Herbert Olivecrona, famous brain surgeon, from a three-day visit at Koenigsberg. He has refused so far to reveal his patient's name.

## Organized French Revolt Indicated

A special communique issued in London from "Guerrilla Headquarters, Somewhere in France," claimed last night that more than 250 German officers and men had been killed and "several hundred" wounded in large-scale partisan activity near Chalons in the last few days.

The communique was released through Fighting French Headquarters here and gave the first official intimation that the outbreaks across the channel were organized, coordinated and part of a nation-wide wave of revolt.

The Germans were killed, the communique said, when the "Raynal Detachment, operating in the region of Chalons, blasted off the rails at Chigny a train full of German troops who were travelling Eastward."

"The operation was well carried out," the communique said, "at a chosen spot when the train was going at full speed. More than 250 Germans were killed and hundreds wounded."

"Two other trains were wrecked in the Cote d'Or (Mediterranean Coastal area). The first, carrying war material, was completely destroyed," the communique claimed, "and 22 trucks of the second, carrying coal to Italy, were destroyed."

"From these operations our Guerrillas and Partisans withdrew without loss."

The communique was signed: "High Command, French Guerrillas and Partisans."

Paris, Brest, Lyons, St. Nazaire and dozens of smaller cities.

What touched it off was Pierre Laval's action in cooperating with German labor demands for the conscription of French man-power for German factories.

The wave of popular rage, as trains loaded with Frenchmen started under armed guard for Germany, apparently convinced the underground leaders that the time had come for them to use their hidden stores of firearms, hand grenades and demolition charges.

Altogether, Fighting French Headquarters estimated, 14 trains have been damaged or wrecked completely in the last few days, ten "informers of French nationality" have been executed by

(Continued on page 4)

## Nazis Halted, Reds Await Kharkov Bid

### Red Star Explains Soviet Retreat from German Drive in Donetz

MOSCOW, Mar. 11 (UP)—Russian troops have checked the vicious German counter-attack in the northern Donetz region, Russian communiques asserted today, and now are awaiting another southwest of Kharkov.

Elsewhere along the huge Eastern front, Red troops pushed on in their great offensive which, Premier Stalin said, is planned to destroy every German now on Russian soil.

Along the Kharkov line, the Germans were reported to be probing for "soft spots" in the Russian position, seeking a point at which they could throw in superior manpower for a spearhead drive which they might turn into one of their favorite encircling maneuvers.

"They will not succeed," says Red Star, Soviet Army newspaper.

### Soviets Exposed Flanks

Red Star said that the Soviet setbacks in the Donetz and Kharkov areas resulted when the Russians drove deep wedges into the German lines, exposing their own flanks. When German troops on either side of the breaks could not be quickly driven from their positions, the Russian salients became dangerous.

At this point the Germans rushed picked troops against Soviet units which had taken Izyum, Barvenkovo, Krasnoarmeisk and Pavlograd, forcing them to fall back.

Using those towns as springboards, the Germans then launched counter-attacks in the hope of exploiting their local successes into a drive to regain Kharkov.

Soviet units fell back in a series of fierce delaying actions which enabled them to consolidate along the banks of the Severyn Donetz River, where the German advance was stopped dead.

On the Vyazma sector the story was the other way around—and with a different ending.

### Poised for Final Dash

Pushing slowly and carefully ahead from three positions, down narrow roads knee-deep in melting snow, Russian troops have reached positions dominating the town and are poised for the final dash, last minute dispatches to Moscow said tonight.

At their nearest point the Russians are only 12 miles from the center of the city and the great German stronghold appeared to be doomed.

Other Russian forces, moving in on Smolensk, captured the town of Byeli with much abandoned German equipment.

A cold wave added to the difficulties of Soviet fighters in the Staraya Russa zone and a radio bulletin from Vichy, France, which probably was German-inspired, said they were apparently trying to bypass the strongly-fortified German position there.

Along the Central Front, where the German retreat is unchecked, blazing villages mark the path the Russians must follow. Fleeing Germans are applying the "scorched earth" policy, used against them so effectively when the Russians fell back in the early days of the Russo-German conflict.

## Report LaGuardia Wants Libya Administrator Job

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11 (AP)—Mayor Fiorello La Guardia of New York was reported today to be interested in going to North Africa, possibly as administrator of the former Italian colonies in Libya.

Well-informed persons whose names cannot be disclosed said that La Guardia would work both with and behind the United Nations' armies in North Africa, and would take part in propaganda work directed at the Axis forces from points in the fighting zone. At present La Guardia speaks to Italy over the short-wave radio for OWI.

## American in Canadian Artillery Awarded DSO

Capt. George Alleyne Browne, an American serving in the Canadian Army, has just been awarded the British Distinguished Service Order by the King for "gallant and distinguished services in the field," the nature of which was not disclosed.

Born in Washington, Capt. Browne enlisted with the Canadians in 1939. He is an artilleryman.

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Casualty Lists

A decision has been made to lift the ban on the publication of nation-wide casualty lists. This represents a victory for public opinion over the experts who believed the American public "couldn't take it."

No question of secrecy was involved in the determination to permit publication only of local casualties, nor was there any question of security at issue. The original step was taken solely to prevent depressing public morale. Now the public is going to get all the facts.

We have always contended the American public "can take it," and that withholding war information was detrimental to the folks at home rather than helpful. Our people have always been able to stand the shock of the daily toll of death and injury resulting from traffic accidents, and war casualties to date have been far less than peace-time motor casualties. Moreover, America, through all its history, has been able to take the bad news with the good and to assimilate both without undue flinching.

President Roosevelt recently warned America that the period of heavy casualty lists was fast approaching. America must be prepared under the new ruling for news which may be startlingly bad at times; but our folks at home are entitled to know the whole truth at all times, and they can take all the Axis gangsters can dish out—even though they may sneeringly refer to us as that "decadent democracy."

Army Conservation

The Army's rubber conservation program has reduced use of crude rubber in war materials by 45 per cent on the basis of the amount of rubber used in the same material as on Dec. 7, 1941.

Under the conservation program the Army conserves rubber, in whole or in part, in many different ways. These methods include design, construction, compounds, factory inspection, packaging, procurement, storage issue, application, preventive maintenance, reconditioning, reclaiming and coordination.

Under design, items may be eliminated entirely, reduced in size or replaced by non-strategic materials. There are hundreds of examples of how this first principle is carried out. Pedal pads and mats in trucks have been eliminated, airplane vibration pads have been made round instead of square reducing rubber volume, resins have replaced rubber for insulation on cable and electric wire and Buna S is replacing rubber in tires.

Under factory inspection, specifications have been relaxed to accept blemishes and seconds, and under packaging, wrapping and packing for both domestic and overseas shipments have been designed to provide protection without use of rubber.

Under each phase of the program, the system of conservation has been developed broadly to insure that crude rubber is used only when needed. Each new suggested measure of conservation is carefully examined and then given a practical test. When proved of value it is added to the growing list of rubber conservation methods.

Army leaders firmly believe that brain-power as well as man-power will help win this war, and are calling on all service personnel to adopt conservation methods quickly to speed the war effort.

It's the old rule, "A penny saved is a penny earned." This time, however, it is vital war materials, and the reward is victory.

Price Control

Office of Price Administration experts in America believe living costs will not be held at present levels but will continue to rise gradually under OPA controls.

Experts claim a slow, gradual increase of about one half of one per cent a month (six per cent a year) in prices will probably continue. This price increase will result from a number of factors including increasing labor shortages.

In the first year of war, according to Department of Labor statistics, the cost of living has increased 8 1/2 per cent. This rise includes the five months period before general price controls were set up by our government.

Since September 1, 1939, food prices have risen 39 per cent; but food prices rose 110 per cent during the First World War when no general price controls were in existence.

Under the program of rationing and price control now operating in America, our Government plans to protect the consumer; but the price brake will not be so severe as to stop or freeze costs and wages for the duration.

Hash Marks

Overheard in the que: "See that medic over there?" queried a GI. "He's a bone specialist." "You mean he sets 'em," asked his pal. "Naw, he rolls 'em."

Here's another dream blasted. The picture page of the Monday issue of S and S featured the photo of "Miss Air



Force of New York" and we'd like to wager that clippings of that pic are hanging on the walls of every Nissen hut in the United Kingdom. Here's the story behind it all. Cpl. Leo Bender found the picture of the lovely girl in a New York subway. In hopes of meeting her some day he entered the picture in the contest to select Miss Air Force of N.Y. The entry won and still Bender didn't know his dream girl. Today we got a clipping from T/Sgt. Rosenbaum of a hq. co. informing us that Cpl. Bender finally met the love of his life—but too late; she was a bride of six weeks. As slight consolation Bender got to attend the premiere of the movie "Air Force" with his beauty choice—and her husband.

A M/Sgt. of World War I vintage was sounding off in a pub the other night about the many various feats he had performed, man and boy, civvie and soldier. Finally one GI got fed up and said, "Listen, buddy, just tell us one thing you can't do and I'll be glad to do it for you." "Good, my boy, good," beamed the M/Sgt., "Just pay for this last round of beers."

A night-shift war worker, continually bothered by peddlers, finally gained uninterrupted sleep by tacking this sign on his apartment door, "Small Pox—Walk In."

"I swerved my car to avoid hitting 20 drunks who were crossing the road in a continuous line"—that's what a man arrested for reckless driving told the judge. "How did you know they were drunk?" queried the Law. "Because I was the only one sober," was the reply. But the judge thought otherwise, fined the guy \$80 and put him under a personal prohibition law for two years.

Nope, there's not always honor among thieves. A young man walked into a New York police station and complained



that three burglars had cheated him. They promised him share of a \$500 booty taken from a warehouse a few days previously for letting them tie him up. He was night-watchman of the warehouse. J. C. W.

Rest Cure for Air Combat Jitters



When you've been on enough missions to rack up the score painted on the A20A's fuselage, and when you've picked up as many as the 76 holes they've chalked up the notice about, you begin to look like these U.S. fliers in the desert and you go to the rest home. Left to right: S/Sgt. T. E. Rhame, Winnfield, La.; 1/Lt. R. M. Lynch, Hagerstown, Md.; 1/Lt. C. W. Gustafson, Worcester, Mass.; Sgt. R. K. MacCatherine, Sheridan, N.Y.

Camp in Africa Is GI Dream of Heaven Come True

By Ralph G. Martin
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

ORAN, Mar. 11—Pilots and bomber crews who get the jitters after days of action are being sent to a rest camp near here which is almost a GI dream of Heaven come true. There's no discipline, military or otherwise; there's no bed-check, no restrictions and no formations.

A man who wants to just lie around in the sun finds plenty of soft chairs available. If he wants to work up a sweat he can play baseball, football or volleyball; go swimming or climb into the ring for a couple of fast rounds.

It doesn't sound much like the Army—and it isn't, by the deliberate plan of the commanding officer, Maj. Worth Harper, of Beckley, W. Va.

"These men are smart enough," the Major thinks, "to know what they need most. The least we can do is to be smart enough to give it to them."

Best Chow in Africa

Chow here is among the best in North Africa simply because these men deserve the best. Main speciality of their French chef is something called camouflaged spinach. Spinach is something the airmen just don't go for, and since the doc says they should have it, the chef chops it up very fine together with some sausage, wraps it up in dough, bakes it and serves it with tasty gravy. Nobody knows what it really is and they all eat double portions.

Officer in charge of getting food is Maj. W. A. Nusser, Monessen, Pa., ranking veterinarian down here. He gets food where nobody else can. He even got a

hay priority for the seven-year-old horse that the pilots take turns at riding. One thing that tickles him is that some of the pilots, who would think nothing of diving into a bunch of Me109s, turn pale when somebody suggests horseback riding.

For entertainment they've got movies twice a week, occasional vaudeville shows and dances to which they invite nurses, Red Cross workers or French girls.

During the dance, it isn't at all unusual to see a sergeant tail gunner cutting in on a major—something no sergeant in his right mind would normally do. But that's another thing about this place—nobody pulls any rank.

Sometimes a whole outfit will come here at once, but more usually they dribble singly, or in plane crews. Those who do come alone usually meet guys who went to flying school with them, or who used to be in their outfit. Friends are made quickly because they've all got uncommon experiences in common. Nobody is by himself, unless he want to be.

All Have Medals

Everybody here has some kind of medal and behind each medal is usually a damn good story about a piece of war hell. But they don't like to talk about it except to each other. One of them bailed out of a burning P38, another crashlanded into a concrete wall, a few others are a single crew fresh from a hospital after getting hit by flak busting through the belly of their B26. Those coming from hospitals use this place as a midway stop-gap until they're fully recuperated.

Doctor who decided if they're ready to leave is Capt. Anthony Sweeney, of Chicago. According to Sweeney, "It doesn't take too long before they lose their pale nervous look and even put on some weight. Most of these guys aren't physically tired as much as they're mentally tired."

One of the stories, typical of the others, is one that S/Sgt. Nolan Parsons, of Brookside, Okla., had to tell. Nolan was a radio operator in a B26 that crashlanded near Gabes some weeks ago. The crew of six spent the night in an Arab village and next morning they found themselves prisoners of four Italians and one German who had driven up in two jeeps. The six were then piled in the back of the other jeep and the not-too-intelligent Nazi drove the car and the Arab, sitting up in front with him, held a tommy gun.

It wasn't long before Pilot 2/Lt. George Ogburn Meridean, Miss., conked the Nazi driver, shot the Arab who was trying

to maneuver the tommy gun and then shot the German who was reaching for his. By this time the unpiloted jeep, which had been swinging and swaying all over the road, finally hit a bump and stopped.

The sextet then requisitioned a canteen, loaf of bread, two cans of rations and two blankets from the unprotesting German, shoved the jeep down a cliff and started walking. Next day they bumped into an Italian outpost who started throwing bullets all over the place. The six divided in half, one group heading for the hills, the other going in an opposite direction. After almost a week of living on hard bread and water, when they could get it, three came back. Besides Ogburn and Parsons, the other one was S/Sgt. Howard Snedigar, Louisville, Ind.

Blew Up Tanker

Similarly typical is the story told by T/Sgt. Richard K. Ferrill, Framingham, Mass., of his ninth sortie in a B-26 on a sea-sweep mission. Cruising at 270 m.p.h., 60 feet above water, they suddenly saw a big oil tanker off Bizerta. Flak came up fast straight up so they sailed right into it. A 40-mm. shell burst in the cockpit, badly wounding both the pilot and co-pilot about the face, arms and legs. But they kept flying and the bombardier, Capt. Tom C. Griffith, got a direct hit on the tanker which blew up, parts of it hitting the plane.

By this time the left engine was badly hit and smoking, the runner was shot away, the right prop governor was hit, hydraulic and oil linings and electric lines were gone and the bomb-bay doors wouldn't close and there was a hole a foot in diameter, six inches from the gunner's head. All the while, Griffith was applying first aid to both pilots and the plane was still flying.

It flew for twenty-two minutes after that and then it crashed into the water, breaking into three parts. Thirty seconds later, after everybody had gotten out, everything sank. They were a half mile from shore, and when they all got there some Arabs built a fire and dried them out. Griffith walked 30 kilometers to a French marine camp to get help and finally at midnight, a British field ambulance pulled up. Five days later, Griffith, Ferrill and S/Sgt. Everett C. Hunt, New Orleans, La., were all back at their base.

Pilot and co-pilot are still in hospital, the co-pilot having lost sight of his left eye.

The rest home is full of airmen with experiences like that. And they all think that the place is wonderful, the food is swell, the setup is perfect—but they want to get back.

PRIVATE BREGER



"Quit worrying! Didn't the Trojans get away with it?"

ARMY POETS

These There Were
There was DeValera, O'Mahoney, Sturtevant and Strong,
McPherson and Van Brummel, Siskovitch, McGee and Ong.
There was Larsen, Schmidt, Rinkowski, Martinez and Callahan,
Fairfax, Goldberg, Pocoloupos, Campabossa and McMann:
These were they who hurried forward at the call for Volunteers,
Whom the captain studied proudly through a mist akin to tears.
Overhead Old Glory fluttered in the battle-scented breeze,
As he muttered, "Oh, America—Thank God for men like these."
Pvt. Vagn Al Arnold.
Not Alone in War
We run into Isolationists
Not only in war's dark days,
We often meet people who think like that
In devious other ways;

Spiritual Isolationists
Who feel that their fellow man,
And what befalls or betides him,
Is none of their own lives' plan.
It isn't only in times of war
Isolationists make themselves known,
Even in times of peace they stand
Remote, aloof, alone;
Selfishly guarding their own small ends,
Whatever their sphere may be,
With never a thought among the lot
For what happens to you or to me.
Jazbo.
Must Be Love
I love the little smile, Dear
That's truly all your own.
I love the tender whispers
You keep for me alone.
I love the joy you bring me
And everything you do.
But first and last and always
My Sweetheart, I love you.
Pvt. Foster S. Bussinger.



