

Allies Speed On From Sousse, Kairouan

Fighters Get 23 Jap Planes At Oro Bay

P38s, P40s, Intercept 45 Enemy Craft in Highest Altitude Battle

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Apr. 12 (AP)—Slashing into what appeared to be the beginning of a Japanese aerial offensive, American P38 Lightnings and P40 Kittyhawks caught a formation of 45 enemy planes in the sub-stratosphere above Oro Bay, New Guinea, yesterday, and shot 23 out of action, with five dive-bombers and 12 Zeros definitely destroyed.

The air battle was the first in the southwest Pacific to be fought at heights between 20,000 and 35,000 feet.

This Japanese raid was the second heaviest on the lovely coconut palm-fringed base on the southeast coast of Papua. Eighty-five Japanese bombers and fighters attacked Oro Bay on March 28, and 25 of them were shot out of action by the Allied airforce.

Fort Gets Two

Ten Zeros attacked a Flying Fortress on reconnaissance off New Ireland, flying at 13,000 feet.

In the first encounter the bomber's guns jammed and the Fortress dived like a fighter-plane to within 200 feet of the water. Fighting back just above the waves, the Fortress shot two Zeros into the sea, set a third on fire, hit and damaged three more and then came safely home.

American Lightnings, which are able to meet the Zeros at any altitude the Japanese may choose, met them in sub-stratosphere dog-fights, and when the Japs were driven downwards they were met by Kittyhawks.

Between them the two types of American planes used eliminated 50 per cent of the Japanese raiders.

Thus, in the last three battles over Oro Bay, Allied fighters have knocked out of action 62 out of 170 Jap planes, which makes the cost of the raids almost prohibitive for the enemy.

Libs Attack in Solomons

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12 (AP)—Liberators attacked Kahili airbase in the Jap-occupied Shortland Islands yesterday, scoring direct hits on the runway and anti-aircraft positions, the Navy Department announced today.

Two attacks on Munda, in the Solomons, were carried out yesterday by Catalina patrol bombers during the night, and Avenger torpedo-bombers in the morning. Fires and heavy explosions resulted from both attacks.

Beer, Whiskey Prices Boosted

Your beer will cost you more, your Scotch will cost you more, and, if you seven packs a week from the PX don't last you, cigarettes will cost you more—as a result of new war-time budget measures taken by the British government.

Yesterday, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer (corresponding to the Secretary of the Treasury in the U.S.) announced increased taxes on luxury items in Great Britain which will raise prices paid by everyone here for such items as whiskey, up two shillings and fourpence a bottle; beer, one penny a pint extra, and cigarettes, up fourpence to 2s. 4d. per packet of 20 for the more popular brands.

Hull Urges U.S. Renewal Of Reciprocal Trade Law

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12 (AP)—Secretary of State Cordell Hull today urged renewal of the reciprocal trade agreements law in order to demonstrate that the U.S. was willing to cooperate with other nations, not only on war but in the peace to come.

Hull declared that repudiation or curtailment of the trade agreements might weaken ties which held together the group of nations with which the U.S. was so vitally associated in the prosecution of the war.

Trade agreements, he continued, had been concluded with 17 countries, and of these "only tragic Finland is at war today with any of our allies, and even she is not at war with us."

Sweep for Last Ditch Fight



Allies capture Sousse and Kairouan, then head for Tunis. British Navy hammers retreating Axis columns along coast road from Sousse. Northern troops continue strong pressure at Mateur and along coast.

MP School for Hand-Picked Soldiers to Open Next Month

A school to instruct hand-picked soldiers in the latest methods of military police and criminal investigation duty will open the first week in May at the American School Center, Maj. Gen. William S. Key, ETO Provost Marshal General, announced yesterday.

Courses will last 30 days with most of the students selected from MP units in Britain and about 20 per cent from other branches of service. Officers as well as enlisted men will attend the school.

Candidates for this specialized training must have an IQ of at least 100, must be at least five feet, ten inches in height and volunteers for the rigid training, according to Gen. Key.

"Graduates of these courses will return to their units and serve as instructors," said Gen. Key. "It is all part of an extensive program to develop model soldiers for MP service."

Gen. Key disclosed there soon will be innovations in MP uniforms but did not make any specifications.

The courses will consist of basic training, physical education and specialized instruction. Laboratory tests which aid criminal investigation are included in the curriculum. Lectures will be delivered by members of the Army's Criminal Investigation Department.

"We aim to make our MPs the best in any theater," said Gen. Key.

In direct charge of the school is Maj. John H. C. Williams, of New York City, West Point class of '15. Maj. V. M. Barnes, of Asheville, N.C., will supervise specialist training, with Capt. Robert Polsgrove, of New York City, West Point '24, responsible for basic training. All are members of Gen. Key's staff.

Soldier Poll Sees War's End in 1945

World War II will last another two and a half years, Germany will lay down its arms in August, 1944, and the Rising Sun of Japan will be eclipsed about a year later.

That is the consensus of American soldiers in the ETO, taken from a poll of 620 men from every State in the Union and all branches of service—men who have already had a crack at the Axis in bombing raids over Europe and North Africa and those waiting for the invasion of the continent.

Taken at the American Red Cross Mostyn club by William B. Cruise, of Passaic, N.J., club director, the poll was begun Mar. 22, and will continue until 2,000 predictions are registered in a book at the club's information desk.

Percentages compiled after 510 men registered revealed that 54 per cent selected 1944 as the victory year in the ETO, 28 per cent saw the end of hostilities this

Planes, Ships Help In Blasting Rommel From Central Tunisia

British Push North from Sousse on Coast; Kairouan Folk Dance as Allies Enter; Axis Last-Ditch Fight Ahead

The Allies captured Sousse and Kairouan Sunday and swept on toward the final last-ditch fight of the Axis in the northern tip of Tunisia.

All of central Tunisia was in Allied hands, leaving the Axis only the northern half of the country—a steadily narrowing belt between the west and the sea to the north and the east, it was clear last night.

In 16 days the Allied armies—the Eighth Army driving from Mareth, the Americans, British and French pressing eastward on the flank—had captured more than 16,000 square miles, an area one-third as big as England.

North of Sousse, which was captured Sunday morning, the British forces were reported last night to be moving steadily northward along the coast. Massive air operations were supporting the Allied ground troops, and in addition the Royal Navy was hammering the retreating Axis columns with shells lobbed in from ships in the Gulf of Hammamet.

A record number of air sorties was made Sunday—more than 1,000 in a single day—in which 41 enemy aircraft were brought down against 14 losses by the Allies, according to Allied headquarters.

Kairouan was captured at 11 AM by the First Army, made up of American, British and French units, who thus beat the Eighth Army in a race to reach the town first. Its fall was a certainty after American and British forces broke through the Axis minefields and defensive positions in the Pichon-Fondouk area and swept down on the open plain leading to Kairouan—an area hard for the Axis to defend.

Reds Launch Air Offensive Against Nazis

MOSCOW, Apr. 12 (UP)—Russian bombers renewed large-scale air attacks on Germany over the weekend as mud slowed land fighting on the eastern front to a turtle's pace.

Koenigsberg, the great East Prussian port through which pour most German supplies for the eastern front, was the target for a Saturday night raid which left the city burning in scores of places, Soviet communiques said.

Russian planes returned without loss. The air raid against Koenigsberg was the first time in nearly eight months that Russian bombers have carried out a full-strength attack at an objective far behind the fighting lines. There was no indication that the Koenigsberg raid was an isolated attack, and it was expected here that there would be additional raids on Germany from the east, as British and American heavy bombers are pounding the enemy from the west.

The Germans made another unsuccessful attempt yesterday to smash the Russian bridgehead on the Izyum salient, south of Balakleia. Reports from the front said German tank and infantry forces were hurled back after they managed to force their way into the Russian lines at one point.

The battle, starting with an assault by 15 tanks and a German infantry regiment, developed into a series of German thrusts made, the Russians said, with no regard for casualties.

In the last few days, Russian commanders estimate approximately 2,500 German troops have been thrown away in attacks on the strategic bridgehead.

The Russians reported local successes on the Kuban and Syevsk fronts yesterday and claimed the capture of a fortified height south of Byelyi. Scouts crept forward, reports from the front said, and wiped out German advance posts before they could give the alarm. On the Smolensk front, Russian infantry engaged a company of German infantry with small arms, wiping them out. Five German batteries were silenced by Russian counter-battery fire.

New Bomb Built To Sink Warships

DETROIT, Apr. 12 (AP)—An armor-piercing bomb that can drive through the protective decks of a battleship and explode in her interior was described here today by Rear Adm. W. H. P. Blandy, chief of the U.S. Navy Ordnance Bureau.

The new bomb is the answer, Rear Adm. Blandy said, to the problem of sinking heavily armored battleships, and was especially designed for the job. He added that to attain the ability to drive through half a foot of armor plate explosive power had to be sacrificed.

The principal features of the new bomb were a delayed-action fuse, a very thick wall and a heavy nose, and, consequently, a small bursting charge. It must have plenty of striking velocity, which could be achieved only by dropping from a high altitude or diving at an extremely high speed. In either case, the ordnance chief said, accuracy was hard to achieve.

Trieste Is Sunk, Photos Disclose

Aerial reconnaissance photographs revealed yesterday at Allied headquarters in North Africa that the Italian cruiser Trieste, bombed at La Maddalena, Sardinia, on Friday, had sunk.

Another cruiser, the Gorizia, which was hit in the same attack by Flying Fortresses under Maj. Gen. James H. (Jimmy) Doolittle, was still afloat but badly damaged. Several tugs were lying alongside her and oilslicks were spreading from the injured ship.

Completed in 1928, the 10,000-ton Trieste mounted eight eight-inch guns, 12 3.9 inchers and 18 AA guns of smaller caliber. In a still later blow at Italy's port facilities, Liberators of the U.S. Ninth Air Force on Saturday again raided Naples, it was announced yesterday in Cairo. Two moles were damaged and direct hits smashed the Galato Pollene quay, the communique said.

Third OCS Class In ETO To Get Bars Tomorrow

AMERICAN SCHOOL CENTER, England, Apr. 12—The third class to be graduated from the Officers Candidates' School, ETO, will get their second lieutenants' bars tomorrow. Among the 66 graduates will be Edwin D. Jones, of New York City, a former staff sergeant and the only Negro candidate in this class.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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Brave Colors

A silk United States Color, stained and torn in battle, has reached the War Department, where it will be preserved as an object of historical interest. It was the first American color to reach Moroccan soil on the morning of the American landing, November 8.

The story of this color reads like the ride of Paul Revere, for it was with Colonel (now Brigadier General) William Hale Wilbur on his daring 16-mile drive from Fedala to Casablanca through hostile country and frequently under fire, to deliver letters to French high commanders in the hope that hostilities might be averted.

The color went ashore with the first wave of troops to enter Fedala Bay. During the movement to the shore in early morning blackness the landing boat on which the color was carried was discovered by a French corvette and illuminated by its searchlight. Immediately the boat was fired upon by a machine-gun set up near the mouth of Fedala Harbor. It was the first fire of the action at Fedala.

When the color reached shore it was lashed to a quarter-ton truck driven by Corporal Sanford M. Forbes, of Milwaukee, and with Brig. Gen. Wilbur as passenger traveled at high speed to Casablanca. It was taken to the headquarters of the Casablanca Division and from there to the Admiralty, where Admiral Michelier of the French Navy had his headquarters. During this short trip it was exposed to severe bombing from American planes and gunfire from American warships.

Again the color was carried through the French lines and returned to Fedala, where it was carried in an attack against a hostile battery firing effectively at our troops. With the color to guide the attack, the battery was captured and the color went up over the battery.

As the action progressed the color was carried forward and raised over a sea-coast battery located on the ridge of Cape Fedala. There it flew the rest of the day. Later it was carried by infantry in an attack on Casablanca.

Now in Washington it will be displayed temporarily at the War Department. Later it will be sent for permanent exhibition at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Flag Waving

Recently we have been sickened by the way Hollywood at its worst has "waved the flag."

We are proud of the American flag, for it represents the United States of America... our homeland and our people. To see that flag "ballyhooed" by Hollywood is disgusting, for it doesn't need "publicity."

Hollywood, however, must have heroes to bring nickels into the box office; so during this war we're all heroes. It wouldn't be quite so bad if Hollywood movies were shown only in America; but they're widely distributed here in Britain. In such circumstances it is hard to see yourself portrayed on the screen as a "bloody hero" when you know you're surrounded by men, women and children who have definitely proved they are brave beyond the ability of Hollywood to portray.

Then to see our beautiful flag, flying proudly in the breeze, every third scene, is just too much. It is cheap and done to secure applause where the director, through his own weakness, is unable to create patriotic emotion in a legitimate manner.

We would appreciate the Hays office more if it spent less time cutting swear words from the scripts of potential war movies and gave a little more thought to "good taste" in movie scripts designed for foreign consumption. We feel that, in addition to news censorship, movies should be censored for "good taste" before they are exported to foreign countries and that such censorship by the Hays office would eliminate distrust of America that bad films sow in the minds of people who should be our best friends.

Hush Marks

Our caption writer slipped up yesterday, notes an observant reader. In the "cheese cake" department a picture of a gal in the new Marine Corps Women's Reserve is labeled "Leatherneck." That ain't right, moans our reader. In the States they're calling them "Patent Leather-necks"!

We don't give a hoot how many magazines you've read this in—it's still good enough for this column. Friends and



relatives packed the church of a mid-western city for the wedding of one of the community's young lovelies and her fiancé, a Marine, just back from action in the Pacific. The bride and groom had seen each other for only a short while before the wedding; so when they kissed after the ceremony, it was a prolonged affair. But the kiss was broken when a small voice from the rear of the church burst forth with, "Mummy, is he spreading the pollen on her now?"

An American patrol tediously wending its way through a rough mountain section of Tunisia encountered this sign posted at the entrance of a tortuous trail, "Road Not Passable—Not Even Jackassable."

What's in a name? Army records show that Pvt. Sherlock Holmes has been assigned to a military police battalion. About the only soldier that can beat that for patness is Lee Camp, stationed at Camp Lee, Va. Then there is George Washington at Ft. Washington; Early Bird, A. Viator and Ken Tucky (at Kentucky's Fort Knox), Jerman Hunter, and—most impressive of all—Solomon Solomon Solomon (who may be fighting in the Solomon Islands for all we know).

Here's a word of warning. If you hear any nurses discussing jujitsu or judo, keep your distance—unless you prefer mayhem



to safety. Like a bunch of new first aid students, they are always ready to practise what they've learned on any unsuspecting volunteer. We know a hefty Captain who today is nursing a wrenched shoulder because he said "O.K." when a tiny mite of a miss murmured sweetly, "shake hands"—then flipped him neatly over her shoulder for a three-point landing.

J. C. W.

Risk Lives to Learn Foe's Secrets

Allies Knew Mark 6 And 88 Before They Got Into Action

By George Tucker

Associated Press War Correspondent

CAIRO, Apr. 12—The ability of British intelligence experts to anticipate the innovations and designs of the enemy's weapons long before they could be put into operation in the field has been a definite factor in the defeat now engulfing the Axis forces in North Africa.

The British commanders knew all about the new 62-ton Mark Six German tank—the "Tiger"—18 months before it appeared in action, and this foreknowledge enabled the Allied chiefs to reallocate their armor and anti-tank defenses, so that when the test came it achieved only a nominal local success.

This is true, in spite of the "ghost stories" which credited the Mark Six with being a monster able to rumble through the opposition unharmed, while 25-pounders bounced off its sides.

British intelligence officers were grimly amused by these stories. At the very moment when they were current, experts were busy examining a Mark Six which had been knocked out by a 25-pounder.

Of the hundreds of variations in types of battle equipment introduced by the enemy in this war, none has caught Allied intelligence unawares.

Risked Lives for Facts

They have risked and sometimes lost lives to gain foreknowledge of guns, tanks and explosives.

Last year the Germans came out with an improved version of their famous 88 anti-tank anti-aircraft gun, and the information the British had was that it did not have a higher rate of fire than its predecessors, as claimed.

It was first used at Bardia, and in bitter fighting which ensued one British officer ran across pen field fire to check personally the rate of fire on the 88 while it was in action.

There were high casualties on both sides in this engagement before Axis forces were captured or wiped out, but the officer on the trail of the 88 got the information he wanted and escaped without a scratch.

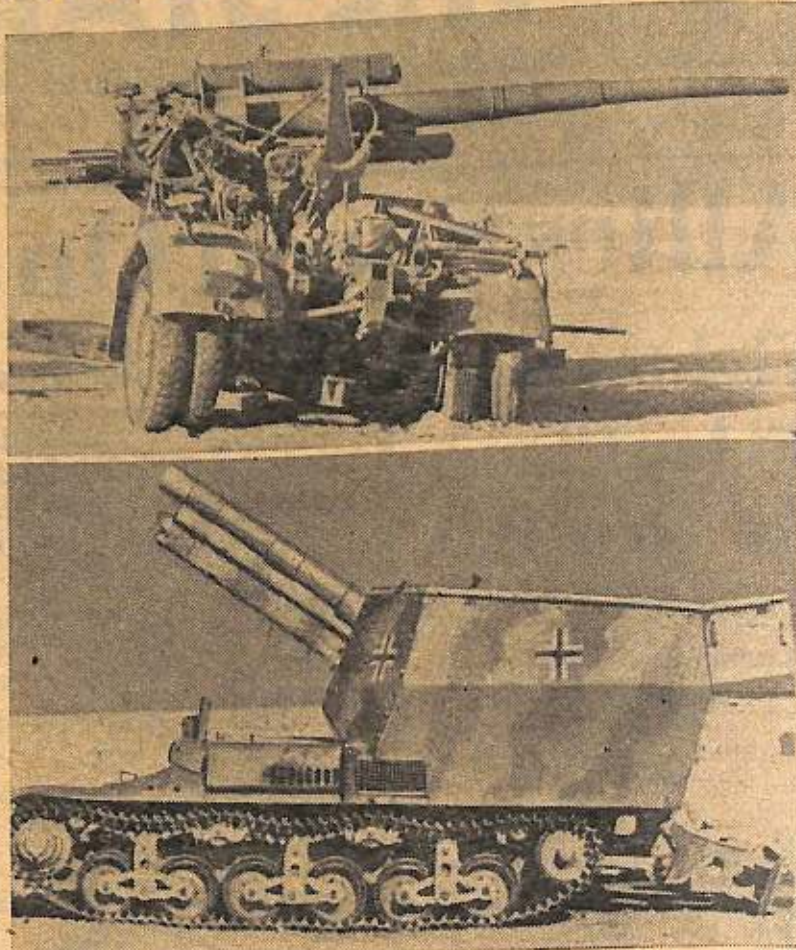
Recently a new German 75 appeared, and in hastily vacating an untenable position one of these guns ran into its own minefield and had a wheel blown off. An enlisted man commandeered a mine-detection squad, invaded the live minefield and brought the gun safely out.

It is being examined by our experts now.

Suicide Mission

Less fortunate was the officer who gave his life to get information regarding a special type of tank the Germans were using during the siege of Tobruk. A number of these tanks were damaged on the outskirts, but it was suicide to try and reach them. This officer flew in at night, made an examination and passed the information out, but was killed while trying to escape.

These incidents only scratch the sur-



Keystone Photos

Here are two items of Rommel's desert equipment captured by the Allies in an early drive in Tunisia. On top is the famed German 88mm. anti-tank, anti-aircraft gun. At bottom is a self-propelled 150mm. assault gun, left behind because of lack of fuel.

face of the enormous amount of time, care, money and energy which are expended to keep a jump ahead of enemy armaments.

One of the latest German weapons is a new anti-tank grenade known as the Ritterkreuzladung. It is a funnel-shaped contraption with three heavy magnets at the open end, strong enough to make a grenade stick to any piece of metal it touches.

Explosive Insufficient

Having captured a number of these and examined them closely, the British no longer are worried. The explosive they carry is insufficient to do real damage to a heavy tank and they are very demoralizing to the troops who use them.

They can only be exploded by releasing the pin at the cone end of the grenade, and once the pin is released the man who uses it has to find cover within four seconds.

But the classic example of the lengths to which the British go to obtain new armament secrets, and the efforts the Germans make to frustrate them, was provided just inside the Egyptian border when the first Mark Four fell into Allied hands.

It was captured intact and with a volunteer crew the British headed it back towards Cairo. The Germans made desperate attempts to keep the British from examining it, and bombed the tank every step of the way. The tank finally reached its destination, but only after it had been hit and set on fire.

First step necessary was to give the tank a thorough firing test; a dangerous assignment as nobody knew the condition of the gun. But one young officer unhesitatingly entered the tank and pulled the string.

Sea Battle Over Tank

The next step was to get the tank home to England for inspection by British designers. So it was taken to Suez and placed on the forward deck of a great transatlantic liner. That night the Germans made repeated desperate attempts to forestall further examination by a heavy air attack on Suez shipping.

The liner received a direct hit and by daylight it was listing badly and enveloped in flames. For a moment it seemed as if the captured prize was doomed. The port authorities and naval officials were convinced that the tank could not be rescued.

But there happened to be in Suez at the time a young British officer who thought otherwise. He was Maj. David Evans, a quiet soft-spoken Welshman, who decided to take rescue operations into his own hands.

First he boarded the ship by a rope ladder and made his way forward where the tank was resting on the sloping deck. The heat was already so intense that the bolts of the tank were warped and could not be removed.

Maj. Evans returned to the shore and argued in vain with the port naval authorities, who were convinced nothing could be done to save either ship or tank.

But making a hurried inspection Evans discovered a 30-ton crane which at the time was the only one there.

He assembled a volunteer crew. Sur-



Dad Addresses 'Em

Dear Corporal: I have a son in your squad, He's eighteen, only a kid, Since childhood he's knelt to God, His Mom adores him, our Sid. Is it asking too much to be kind, To have him a bit on your mind?

Dear Sergeant: I know you've got to be tough, My son is under your eye, I swear that he's got the stuff, But doesn't say much—he's shy, Would you mind going easy a bit While he's getting more used to it?

Dear Captain: Of course you'd not know our Sid, He's Sidney McAllan Clapp; But I sort of feel if you did You'd give his shoulder a slap When you see him a trifle down— He's a boy that will go to town.

Dear Colonel: I've a son in your regiment, Three million six hundred and three, He's fine as they make 'em, Gent, Won't you ask him in for tea? He's used to such things all right, And be sure when it's fight he'll fight.

Dear General: There's countless boys and my son Who take their orders from you, They're intending, every last one, To see this business through, But when they move up 'gainst the guns Please think of them as your sons.

Mr. President: I know that you're just and kind, Want everything right for us all, And I hope you don't much mind That I interrupt with a call Just to clasp your hand and to say, My son, like your sons, is away. "Sperry."

Lenten Message

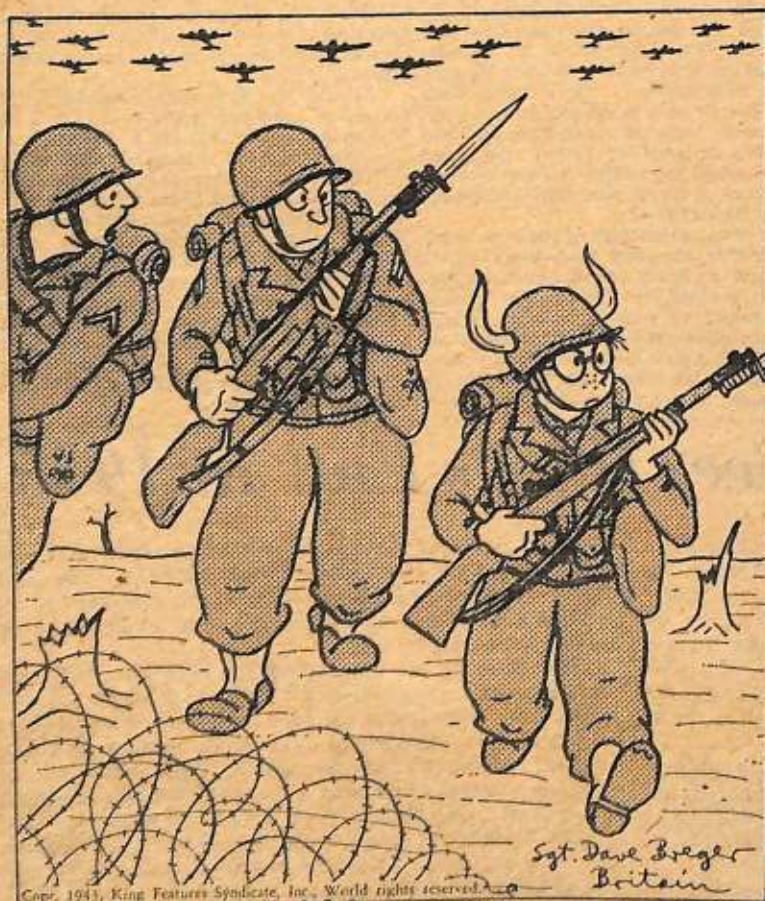
MARK 11:22—"Jesus saith unto them, Have faith in God."

That was the answer He gave to those who were searching for a fuller and more satisfying life.

Food, clothing, shelter, recreation, work and marriage are not enough. Animals have as much... man needs more. Every soldier needs more, and his crowning need is faith in God and in the justice of a loving Father.

Christian living is based on faith, and those who find a fuller life attain it only when they possess the courage to venture to live a life based on faith in God and his eternal care for those who trust in Him.

PRIVATE BREGER



"It gives him more confidence!"

Division Fighters Favored on Tonight's Program

Dodgers Paste Yankees, 9-5, For 3rd Win

Flock Collects 13 Hits, But Only 2 Runs Are Earned

NEW YORK, Apr. 12—The Brooklyn Dodgers shellacked the once mighty Yankees for the third straight time, 9-5, while over 10,000 clients, mostly from Flatbush, cheered lustily.

The Flock tapped Pitchers Atley Donald and Rookie Tommy Byrne for 13 hits, but only two runs were earned, as the Yanks committed four errors. The Yanks nipped Bobo Newsom for three hits during four innings and Kirbe Higbe for six hits thereafter.

The Yanks' poor showing was perhaps due to the fact that Joe Gordon, second baseman, was the only '42 regular in the starting lineup. Even Joe went hitless, getting a ball beyond the infield once. It was the first time since he became manager 12 years ago that Joe McCarthy jerked a pitcher during an exhibition game—removing Donald, whose wild Peg aided the Dodgers' five-run attack in the fifth inning.

Lindell Boots Herman's Hit

Without making a hit, the Yanks were given a two-run lead in the first inning when Newsom was unable to find the plate and walked Shortstop George Sternweiss, hit Centerfield Roy Weatherly with a pitched ball and walked Outfielder Methany, filling the bases with none out. An infield out with Nick Etten's fly produced two outers.

The Dodgers tied the score in the second inning. With one down, Camilli singled and Babe Herman lined a safety to right field where Outfielder Johnny Lindell kicked the ball around while Camilli scored and Herman stopped at third. Second Baseman Glossop singled cleanly, tying the score.

Two for Yanks

There were no further stirring deeds until the fifth inning when Dodger Catcher Mickey Owen singled, pinch-hitter Peck walked and Donald's wild throw filled the bases with none away. Donald retired the next two batters, but Owen scored on Shortstop Vaughan's long fly.

Medwick, Camilli and Herman singled successively, causing Donald's removal from the mound. Before Tommy Byrne settled down on the mound, Glossop singled home the fifth run of the inning.

The Yanks filled the bases with none out in the eighth inning, but got just two runs on an infield out and a long fly. The Dodgers added their final tally in the ninth.

Sports Quiz Answers

- 1—Mildred "Babe" Didrickson won the title of "America's greatest woman athlete."
- 2—Jess Sweetser was the first American-born amateur to win the British Amateur golf title—in 1926.
- 3—Equipoise ran the fastest mile ever run—one minute, 35 and two-fifths seconds.
- 4—The Holy Cross—Boston College football game was classed as the biggest upset of 1942. Undeclared Boston lost its last game to the Crusaders, 55-12.
- 5—Seabiscuit beat War Admiral in their challenge race.

Cards Subdue Browns, 5-2

Even Up City Series at One All; Cooper In Good Form

ST. LOUIS, Apr. 12—The world champion St. Louis Cardinals squared games at one each with the Browns in their seven-game city series, winning 5-2.

The National Leaguers' pitching ace, Mort Cooper, held the losers hitless for the five innings he worked, allowing one walk. The Cards made eight hits off Pitchers Johnny Niggeling, Fritz Ostermueller and George Caster, while the Browns got the first of their total of five safeties in the eighth inning after two were out.

The Lineups

Here's how the Card lineup looked during the city series: Walker Cooper, catcher; Johnny Hopp, first; George Fallon, second, replacing Jimmy Born Brown, who is out temporarily with a fractured finger in his right hand; Whitey Kurowski, third; Lou Klein, shortstop, replacing Marty Marion, who is out from four to six weeks because of an appendectomy; Deb Garms, right field; Harry Walker, center, and Stan Musial, left.

The Brownie lineup was: Dick Ferrel or Frank Hayes, catcher; George McQuinn, first base; Don Gutteridge, second; Floyd Baker or Mark Christman, third; Vernon Stephens, short; Mike Chartak, right field; Chet Laabs, center, and Glenn McQuillen, left.

McCormick Told to Report

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Apr. 12—Mike McCormick, center fielder of the Cincinnati Reds, has been notified to report for a preliminary draft board examination on Apr. 19.

Spring Training—1943 By Jack Sords



Carmarillo Tops Combined SOS, Air Force Team

Pavone Seen Improved Over Last Week; Co-Titlists Back

By Mark E. Senigo

Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

The same team of battlers who three weeks ago put on the best show seen up to that time in The Stars and Stripes bouts at the Rainbow Corner, will be back tonight seeking their second straight victory as a team. All of them are champions, co-champions or semi-finalists of the — Division. They meet an Air Force-SOS team.

Outstanding favorites on the card tonight are the two co-holders of the 135-pound crown—both of whom came out on top in their first appearance at the Corner. They are Pvt. Charley Schnappauf, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., 140, and Cpl. George Spontak, of Pittsburgh, 145. Schnappauf and Spontak both went to the division finals where they drew. In their first fights at the Corner, Schnappauf stopped Pvt. Frank Missella on a decision and Spontak edged Pvt. John Robinson.

Spontak Should Win

Tonight Schnappauf will be up against a knockout specialist—Pvt. Tony Camarillo, of Los Angeles, 139. Camarillo has taken two first round battles at Stars and Stripes bouts at Bury St. Edmunds and was a decision winner in his lone appearance in London.

Spontak should have an easier time than he had with Robinson when he tangles with Cpl. Douglas Phillips, of Comelville, Ky., 145.

Pvt. Tony Pavone, of Lynn, Mass., 145, made his initial appearance in London last week, taking a three-rounder on points from Pvt. Vivencio Salvatore. Pavone should do better tonight after an extra week of rest, having been handicapped on last Tuesday's show by a stay in the hospital. Pavone will meet an unknown, Sgt. Al McNeill, of Boston, 140.

Light Heavyweight Champion

One-round winner in his last time out, Pfc James Grantham, of Pulaski, Va., 155, — Division welterweight titleholder, takes on a tough boy who last week lost a close decision, Pfc P. E. Phaneuf, of Holyoke, Mass.

Pvt. Benny Droll, of Peoria, Ill., division welterweight titleholder, lost in his previous appearance on a decision that brought boos from the crowd. He probably will make amends when he fights Pfc Kenneth Hepburn, of Boston, 162.

Light-heavyweight champion Pvt. Chester Marcinkiewicz, of Kulpmont, Pa., was another decision loser three weeks ago and he will have his hands full with Cpl. Mitchell Lehen, of Toledo, 165. Lehen has chalked up decision victories at Bury St. Edmunds. This will be Marcinkiewicz's third appearance at Rainbow Corner. He was a decision winner a month and a half ago.

Match Sought for Ruby

The heavyweight finalists in the division championships both are favored to come through with victories as they did in their first encounters. Champion Pvt. Vince Kozak, of Hazelton, Pa., 190, tangles with Cpl. Kenneth Strange, of Springfield, Mass., also 190. Strange was kayoed in the third at the Corner a month and half ago.

Sgt. William Dircks, of Cumberland, Md., 185, runner-up to Kozak in the finals, is pitted against Pvt. John Matter, of Port Arthur, Texas, 180. Matter is a Corner newcomer who has fought in Texas Golden Glove competition.

Engineer Nine Lambasts Ordnance Squad, 14-1

—ENGINEER STATION, Apr. 12—The baseball squad of this station lambasted the — Ordnance nine, 14-1, collecting 13 hits for their third victory in four games. The Ordnance men garnered but two hits.

Pvt. Grover Abrams, of Cleveland, and Pvt. Gilbert Chamberlain, also of Cleveland, shared the mound duties for the Engineers. Star of the game was T. S. Carl Chabowski, another Cleveland, who sparkled at shortstop and blasted a homer.

Warmerdam Tries His Hand At a Different Kind of Vaulting

CHAPEL HILL, N.C., Apr. 12—Times have changed for Cornelius Warmerdam, the world's greatest pole vaulter. Training to become an instructor in the Navy's physical fitness program, "Corny," former California school teacher, is now scaling 15-foot straight walls and 20-foot cagonet obstacles instead of soaring high, wide and handsome through space.

Track sports are only a part of the program these days for the winner of the James E. Sullivan Memorial Trophy as America's outstanding amateur sportsman athlete of '42. Boxing, wrestling, hand-to-hand fighting, basketball, football, swimming, soccer, mass calisthenics and military track provide new skills for him to acquire.

Corny says he likes it all, though. "I've never gone in much for calisthenics, or many of these other sports, but I'm learning fast.

"Frankly I'm a little stiff after the first two weeks of this training, but I expect the kinks to limber out. I don't know what the mixture of these sports will do for my pole vaulting—although I definitely believe they'll help my coordination. After all, the program isn't designed to make a man a champion in any one sport, but is designed to make him the most physically fit aviator in the world."

Spring Program in Belfast

BELFAST, Apr. 12—A volleyball league and spring basketball league will be organized at the Red Cross club here.

Amertex Edge GIs, 25-21, In Belfast Cage Contest

BELFAST, Apr. 12—By the narrow margin of four points, the Amertex, technician quintet, kept their title of all-Northern Ireland basketball champions when they defeated the GIs, champion of U.S. Forces in this sector, 25-21, on the Red Cross club court here.

The GIs, who were defeated by the ETO champions in London, the LBC quintet, played an inspired game. Jack Lippert, of Hollywood, Calif., former USC star, was held to nine points, one of his lowest averages in a game.

The Amertex led all the way, but only by a slight margin. It was only in the third quarter that they hit their usual stride. The technicians played without Lippert's offensive partner, Bill Hall, former Montana State University performer.

Exhibition Baseball Games

NEW YORK—The New York Giants looked good in all departments as they beat the Boston Red Sox, 3-2, at the Polo Grounds. The win ended a six-game winning streak for the Red Sox. Giant Hurler Van Lingle Mungo allowed just three hits, fanning four during his five-inning stint, and Bill Lohrman allowed two hits thereafter. . . . NEWARK, N.J.—Lefty Gomez and Manuel Salvo combined efforts to hurl the Boston Braves to a 5-2 victory over the Newark Bears. Boston hammered two Newark pitchers for 12 hits. . . . PHILADELPHIA—After losing two games straight to their cross-town rivals in their city series, the Philadelphia Phillies

trounced the Athletics, 2-0. Pitchers Charley Fuchs and Jack Kraus held the American Leaguers to three hits. . . . INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—The Cincinnati Reds scored their second straight over the Cleveland Indians with a 5-2 victory as Johnny Vander Meer held the Indians scoreless in the seven innings he pitched. Ray Mack, of Cleveland, homered, and also Eric Tipton, of the Reds. . . . EVANSVILLE, Ind.—Eight hits off Hal White, nine off Virgil Trucks and another off Roy Henshaw enabled the Pittsburgh Pirates to whip the Detroit Tigers, 13-2. The Pirates' Wallace Herbert, 35-year-old rookie, held the Tigers to two singles during the first five innings.

NEWS FROM HOME

Post-War Policies At Stake In Hearings On Trade Bills

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12 (AP)—Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Jesse Jones, Secretary of Commerce, were to be the first witnesses today at a House Ways and Means Committee hearing on the measure to extend the President's authority to negotiate reciprocal trade treaties.

Political observers here think the hearings may give a strong indication of the extent to which the United States will participate with other nations in after-the-war settlements.

There was a possibility that the hearing might develop into a move to re-open, in the committee, the bitter battle over "pay as you go" taxation.

Now Recover Diamond Dust

NEW YORK, Apr. 12—Some unidentified genius in a munitions plant has just perfected a method of recovering diamond dust which is saving thousands of dollars, hours of time and large quantities of valuable chemical agents in the nation's war plants. Used for polishing tungsten-carbide, one of the hardest compounds known to science, the diamond dust is recovered by small amounts of chemicals which dissolve out the tungsten from the machine waste and allow the precious diamond dust to be used over and over again. Formerly the process took hours and was so difficult many plants never even tried to do it.

Decorate Navy Hero

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12—Comdr. Frank W. Fenno Jr., USN, has just been given a gold star in place of a second Navy Cross in recognition of the achievements of a submarine he commanded which sank 31,000 tons of enemy shipping and damaged another 15,000-ton merchantman. The 45-year-old Westminister, Mass., officer was given the Navy Cross the first time for dodging through the Japanese blockade around the Philippine Islands with a cargo of gold and silver representing practically all the bank wealth of Manila. Enroute he sank a Japanese warship and a large merchant vessel.

Debt Bill Now Law

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12 (AP)—President Roosevelt announced yesterday that he had allowed the debt limit bill, in-

cluding a rider rescinding his salary limitation order, to become a law without his signature. The President said he had adopted that course of action "in order to avoid embarrassment to our financing program." He added that "if circumstances had been different I would have vetoed the bill. Even so, I cannot permit this legislation to become effective without registering my protest against attachment to this bill of an irrelevant and unwarranted rider."

Sea Toll 8,000 Lives

NEW YORK, Apr. 12 (AP)—Figures compiled by the Associated Press today showed that at least 5,100, and possibly more than 8,000, lives have been lost in the submarine-infested western Atlantic since Pearl Harbor. Most of the casualties have been merchant seamen.

U.S. Has Enough Farm Labor

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12—Paul V. McNutt, head of the Manpower Commission, said that the United States will have an adequate supply of farm labor this year "not only to plant and cultivate, but likewise to harvest the crops."

Double War Production

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12—The United States will double its production of war material this year, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said today in a "Labor for Victory" broadcast.



Allies Speeding North to Close Axis in Corner

Sousse, Kairouan Taken; Speed of Rommel's Retreat Gains

(Continued from page 1)
westward journey across the desert from El Alamein.

This is the position on the various fronts according to the latest information available:

The Axis forces are retreating so fast they are unable to use their usual mine-laying tactics in retreat.

The next point where Rommel might turn and fight is Enfidaville, 25 miles north of Sousse. At Enfidaville Rommel's right flank would be protected by a range of hills that drops down towards the coastal plain and which form a natural defensive barrier, but the whole position would be threatened by any advance towards Pont du Fahs, a little more to the north.

The fate of the Axis troops who had tried to withdraw from the El Guettar front when the Eighth Army advanced northward behind them was somewhat vague last night. Most of them apparently had succeeded in joining the main Axis retreating body, but it was possible that some were encircled and cut off. Algiers radio supported this theory by reporting that the resistance of Axis troops "encircled" in that area was declining.

Greeted With Joy

American, British and French troops who captured Kairouan, 30 miles inland from Sousse, were greeted by people who danced with joy at the sight of Allied troops. Many hoisted the French tricolor, and still others discarded the Star of David emblem which the Axis troops had forced Jewish citizens to wear since their occupation.

Edward Beattie, United Press correspondent, said in a cabled story last night: "The people of Kairouan were dancing for joy as I drove through the shimmering heat-haze into the city yesterday morning, an hour behind the Allied vanguards."

"They came out from their flat-roofed white rectangles of houses, from the big olive groves that stretch almost into the heart of the town, deluging the Allied troops with great heavily-pollened yellow, desert flowers that grow around the city."

"I watched one man hoisting the French Tricolor on the town hall, and for the first time since I left Germany four years ago I saw the yellow Star of David which the Germans had forced the Jews to wear. They were told to take them off."

Guesses - - -

(Continued from page 1)

from the South believed it would last as long as 1945.

Soldiers from the Far West saw a different picture. Only five were optimistic enough to believe the war would be over this year, while 35 picked 1944 and 16 favored 1945.

With every State represented in the poll, New York headed the list with 69, followed by 40 from Illinois, 38 from Pennsylvania, Ohio 34, Michigan 30, New Jersey 27, Texas 26, Louisiana 14, Minnesota 12 and California, Missouri and Washington with 11 each.

Some of the men gave explanations for their selections.

T/Sgt. Thomas Reeves, ex-newspaper publisher and editor from Aberdeen, Wash., and a World War I veteran, picked September, 1945.

"I base this on the years of preparedness by the Axis powers," he said, "our lack of preparation, the tremendous manpower, enforced and voluntary, of the Axis and the ideas instilled in the Axis people since childhood. This war isn't a new one. It's a continuation of the last one. We just gave them a 20-year breathing spell."

Pfc Irwin Markle, of Bloomdale, Ohio, said Germany will fall on or about July of next year because the United Nations will "have full manpower in place, the weight of our supplies will be felt and our air superiority will be overwhelming."

The most optimistic forecast came from S/Sgt. William R. Jones, of Atlanta, Ga., who thinks he'll be home for Christmas. He selected May of this year. A step behind him was T/5 Bruce Bacon, of New York, a Signal Corps photographer, who believes he'll be in Berlin by June.

Most pessimistic is Cpl. Anthony Schepis, of New York City, who is ready to stay here until Dec. 7, 1950.

M/Sgt. Robert E. Barnes, of Gresham, Ore., had the most philosophical outlook by asserting the war "will end in God's own time."

From Sgt. Jerry Cram, of Waterville, Me., came the observation that "we'll have the European situation well in hand by August, 1944. By then our air force will have smashed what is left of the dwindling Nazi resources, its manpower will be greatly reduced and its supply problem will present a hopeless picture." Cruise, himself, made an entry: "Sept. 17, 1944."

However, the prize prediction of all probably will never be known. A soldier who merely signed, "Cpl. San Francisco," filled out his entry with Chinese characters, reminding those who checked the roll that the length of the war is also a

DC3 Transports Outstanding In Africa War, Survey Shows

After a survey flight that has taken him to every echelon of the USAAF in North Africa, and to India, Col. William Westlake, of Chicago, has just arrived in London. He is foreign liaison officer for the Air Group of the War Department Bureau of Public Relations.

On his trip, the Colonel said, he has seen most types of American aircraft in operation and feels that the workers at home may not appreciate the importance of the jobs the various aircraft perform.

"Take the DC3, for instance," he said yesterday. "Probably the workers at the Douglas factory making this transport plane feel that their product has not got the glamor of a fighter or a bomber. If they will only realize that these planes follow right in after the advancing troops, bringing up much-needed supplies—fuel, ammunition, guns, and often men. Within 24 hours of the occupation of an enemy field, down come these babies with everything the advance forces need."

The colonel said he has come back with a tremendous belief in the abilities of all the American aircraft he has seen in operation in North Africa.

"The aircraft that have not received nearly enough recognition are the B25s (Mitchell) and the B26s (Marauder). Pilots take them 'way over the sea, shoot up and bomb enemy shipping, and sometimes you see one come back, full of flak, landing-gear shot away and bomb doors refusing to close. There will be a crash



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo
Col. William Westlake

landing, and the pilot steps out, dusting his clothes and looking for another ship. They are great boys and great aircraft." Col. Westlake left the United States in February, and since then has covered a secret number of thousands of miles.

ETO Aids Bond Drive at Home

Gen. Barth, Chief of Staff, Broadcasts to States On Sales

Brig. Gen. Charles Henry Barth, ETO Chief of Staff, yesterday told the United States in a radio broadcast how soldiers over here are sharing the civilians' burden back home by lending their money to the government.

Gen. Barth, whose promotion from the rank of colonel on Mar. 22 was revealed yesterday, was speaking over an NBC coast-to-coast news roundup in support of the Treasury Department's campaign to sell 13 billion dollars of war bonds.

"Not long ago the people of Great Britain conducted a Wings for Victory drive to sell war savings certificates," he said. "The goal was high—six hundred million dollars."

"The result was a distinct surprise to most Americans here . . . Americans who are accustomed to the highly organized drives we conduct at home. The quota was oversubscribed in less than a week without stage managing. The British people know war. They have had it brought right into their living rooms."

"They are realists. They know that war savings certificates provide the sinews of war. They know their government needs the money. So they subscribed more than was asked."

"America may well take note of this British realism. Realism on the home front means laying the old bank roll on the line."

"You can be reassured that our soldiers are not only doing their military job well; they're also sharing the civilians' burden by lending their money to their government, generously. I repeat, generously. They, too, are realists."

"Our Treasury department is launching a campaign to sell 13 billion dollars of bonds. The government needs that money—now. We pledge our support to the Treasury drive. We urge our people to follow the British example and oversubscribe the quota quickly. Let's get this war over."

Washington Club Dance Features Army Orchestra

An American swing band, "The Southerners," will play at the Red Cross Washington Club's Saturday night dance. Inter-club tournaments also are on the club's program, this week's features being a chess tournament with Mostyn at 8.15 PM Wednesday and ping pong with Hans Crescent at 8 PM. Rosatto's band will play at the Tuesday night dance, 8.30 to 11 PM. Friday there will be a movie at 8.30 PM.

Dance Class for Shy GIs

BELFAST, Apr. 12—Because so many servicemen just seem to be "onlookers" at dances at the Red Cross club here, dancing classes are to be conducted for shy soldiers, Miss Mary Rice Anderson, of Nashville, Tenn., assistant program director, announced today.

QMs Build Own Recreation Hall

N. Ireland Soldiers Make Stoves from Oil Drums, Stage from Scrap

A QM DEPOT, N.I., Apr. 12—A few weeks ago a large warehouse building here, 45 x 90, was nothing more than a structure with corrugated sheet iron curved sides and roof, a concrete floor and sliding doors on each end. Today it is as nifty a little "home-made" recreation hall as you could ever expect to see in an Army camp.

Soldiers here, some distance from a Red Cross club, decided to transform the barren building into something useful . . . so they set to work. A stage, built in movable sections, was constructed by S/Sgt. Benjamin W. O'Lee, of Lexington, Ky., assisted by Pfc Frank Chamberlain, of Los Angeles; Pvt. James Bush, of Hazard, Ky., and Pvt. James J. Vickers, of Columbus, Ga.

Stage overhead drop lights, footlights and dressing room lights were installed by Pvt. Stoughton E. Lewis, of Danbury, Conn., and Pfc Roy V. Asmus, of Manning, Iowa. Curtains, back drops and moving picture screen were furnished by Capt. D. R. Kinzie, of Middleboro, Mass., Special Service officer.

Boundary lines for basketball and badminton were painted by Willard R. Detloff, of Detroit, and Pvt. Lewis. Backboards were built by Sgt. Lee, Pvt. Bush and Pte. Vickers. The basketball nets were made of GI cord by 1st Sgt. Oscar N. Vick Jr., of Charleston, S.C.

Heating stoves were constructed by Sgt. Lee, who made them from old, salvaged 30-gallon oil drums . . . complete with grates, ash doors, fire doors and cleaning doors.

Sgt. Joseph Conway, of Amboy, Ill., was in charge of the entire construction.

A library has been furnished by Capt. Kinzie along with a sports kit. Writing tables and card tables have been built, as well as chairs and benches.

The movies are in charge of Pvt. Chamberlain, who in civilian life is part owner and manager of a Hollywood theater.

Training Films Ready At Ten ETO Libraries

Training films now are available at libraries throughout the ETO, according to an announcement from London headquarters.

Lt. E. D. Warren, U.S. Army Pictorial Service, has charge of the pictures in London Base Command, and any instructor or unit desiring the service has been invited to call him. Nine other headquarters training film libraries are in operation.

Latest British training films also are available to U.S. forces through kinema libraries.

Too Many U.S. Songs Here, Tunesmiths Say

British song writers, concerned over the growing popularity of American tunes throughout England, have formed the "Association For The Advancement of British Songs."

Billy Veness, secretary of the association, explained that it was not founded "to run a campaign against American songs" but "to put more British songs on the air," and at least 50 per cent of them on song sheets.

Seventy-five per cent of the popular music now published in England originates in America, it was said.

WAVES in ETO Seen Possible

Mrs. J. V. Forrestal Says Gals May Be Clerks If Law Permits

By Jean Bradnick

Stars and Stripes Navy Writer

WAVES of the U.S. Navy may be assigned to duty in the British Isles within the next three months to relieve sailors for combat duty if necessary legislation is passed, Mrs. James V. Forrestal, wife of the Undersecretary of the Navy, declared here yesterday.

Mrs. Forrestal, who serves without pay as a civilian advisor of the women's branch of the sea forces, is in London to study activities of the WRNS, women's auxiliary of the Royal Navy. She said her findings may serve as a basis for the future program of the WAVES.

She pointed out that it would require an amendment in present legislation, which forbids service of WAVES beyond the continental American limits, before the first contingent of WAVES can cross the Atlantic.

The number of feminine bluejackets who may serve in the British Isles depends upon how many men need to be withdrawn for combat duty, she said.

Mrs. Forrestal also stated that the heads of the three women's services under the Navy—the WAVES, SPARS (Coast Guard Auxiliary) and women of the Marine Corps—may visit the British Isles in the near future. These women, Lt. Cmdr. Mildred McAfee, head of the WAVES; Lt. Cmdr. Dorothy Stratton, commander of the SPARS; and Maj. Ruth Cheney Streeter, Marines director, will study British methods as they apply to their respective branches of service.

Helped Design Uniform

Mrs. Forrestal, former Conde Nast stylist who helped design the WAVES uniform and has been active in its organization, said that American naval authorities are "extremely impressed" with the record of Britain's WRNS since its inception four years ago.

She said that there is a possibility that WAVES in the future may serve on harbor launches and other light craft like the WRNS, although at present, the duties of the WAVES are chiefly clerical.

The undersecretary's wife said she believed the WAVES had performed "remarkably well" during its six-month existence and that the women sailors had overcome most of the Navy prejudices which they faced at the outset.

Mrs. Forrestal came to Britain by Clipper. Today she was to confer with Mrs. Laughton Mathews, director of the WRNS, with whom she will plan an itinerary for her inspection of WRNS establishments. She said she hoped to visit some of the distant outposts which some of the British Navy women are manning.

Belfast Club Is Planning Summer Sports Annex

BELFAST, Apr. 12—The soldiers' committee of the Red Cross club here will hold its first April meeting at the club Friday night. Two technician representatives will be invited to attend the meeting.

The group will be informed of the progress being made towards a summer annex for servicemen, where they may play golf, tennis, go swimming and engage in other recreation while on pass or leave.

Camp Show Opens Today For N.I. Hospital Unit

BELFAST, Apr. 12—Stubby Kaye's unit of the USO-Camp Shows are opening at a U.S. hospital unit in North Ireland tomorrow afternoon and giving their second performance at a USAAF station tomorrow night. The Sad Sacks, an air force band, directed by Cpl. Rocco Savino, of Worcester, Mass., are to appear with the show.

Good of Service Is Only Way Out For GIs Over 38

ETO Soldiers Will Get Discharges Only in Unusual Cases

ETO soldiers 38 years of age and over will be released from the Army "only in exceptional cases and where the service as a whole would benefit," according to an ETOUSA Headquarters circular issued yesterday to clarify the War Department ruling on discharges.

A War Department letter quoted in the circular pointed out that in an overseas command the releases of the men 38 and over "is left entirely to the discretion of the commander concerned," but added that a trained replacement must be present in the theater or not required.

According to the circular, an enlisted man 38 years of age or over, on active duty in this theater, may be discharged "for the convenience of the government," if he has attained his 38th birthday on or before Feb. 28, 1943; was enlisted or inducted into the Army on or before that date; and prior to May 1, 1943, voluntarily submitted to his immediate commanding officer a written request for discharge.

Submit Before May 1

Unless the application is submitted before May 1 the man forfeits all right to discharge under the ruling, the circular pointed out, but added that commanding officers are authorized to extend the time for submission of an application when a man would not have had a reasonable opportunity to file his application, for example, if he were away on furlough or attending a school.

The presentation of evidence that the men will be employed in an essential industry is not required in this theater.

The circular emphasized that the limiting date pertains only to the submission of the applications for discharge and that the "actual discharge may be effected at any convenient time subsequent to submission of application, or may be indefinitely postponed when the interests of the service so dictate."

Not a Promise

It also was emphasized that the "acceptance of an application for discharge will not be considered as a promise to release an individual."

Requests for discharges by men fulfilling the requirements should be sent through channels to their commanding general who is authorized to approve all applications except those from personnel originally enlisted in the United Kingdom and subject to discharge here.

Personnel enlisted in the United Kingdom will be discharged here except repatriated American citizens and residents of the U.S. and Canada who may be returned to the United States for discharge.

In cases for discharge in the United Kingdom, the applications should be forwarded to Headquarters ETOUSA.

German Plane Production Is Dropping, Engineer Says

STOCKHOLM, Apr. 12 (AP)—Warplane production in Germany and enslaved occupied countries has dropped from a peak of 3,000 craft monthly to about 2,000 within the last year, declared an industrial engineer thoroughly familiar with Nazi war economy.

The engineer listed among the causes of the decline: inferior labor due to the replacement of skilled men by inexperienced women and indifferent foreign hands; bottle-necks in transportation, coal and iron; under-nourishment of workers which after three years was beginning to cause a marked loss in efficiency; and dislocation of war economy by paralyzing RAF raids.

U.S. May Exceed Britain's Merchant Fleet by '44

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12 (AP)—The U.S. merchant fleet for the first time in history might exceed Great Britain's before the end of the year, it was disclosed officially by the combined Shipping Adjustment Board.

The U.S. merchant fleet is smaller at present, but officials believed that the vast American shipbuilding program would reverse the situation some time in 1943.

While prospective tonnage totals for the two fleets at the end of the year were undisclosed, the report revealed for the first time the exact 1943 goal of the U.S. as 18,890,000 deadweight tons. This compared with 8,090,000 tons completed in 1942.

Japs Expect U.S. Raids From New China Bases

A German commentator, admitting on Tokyo radio yesterday that heavy raids on Japan were expected, said that "the Japanese realize that planes have undergone considerable development since the war began."

"The range of American bombers now makes such bombing possible, and it is expected to take place from bases in Chungking," he said. (The 14th U.S. Air Force in China disclosed last week it had established bases at points from which raids on Tokyo by long-range bombers

(By courtesy of King Features Syndicate and the London Daily Sketch) by Chic Young

