

New York, N.Y.-London, England

Berlin Cries for Revenge as Fires Rage



Weak Air Raids Only Jap Reply To Sixth Army

Tanks, Infantry Heading For Gasmata: Texans Led the Assault

SIXTH ARMY HQ, New Guinea, Dec. 17—A strong U.S. air armada yesterday fought off several weak Jap air attacks on Sixth Army tanks and infantry fanning out along the jungle-studded coast of New Britain in the direction of Gasmata—first main goal in the conquest of the prized South Pacific island.

The second communique on the opera-

tions said the entire Arawe area was in U.S. hands, and that men and armored

U.S. hands, and that men and armored equipment were pouring ashore to support the units from Texas who formed the spearhead for the initial assault.

The communique also disclosed that Brig. Gen. Julian Cunningham led the landing force and that casualties were "extremely light."

Strong U.S. patrols were roaming the countryside, driving out enemy pockets of resistance and defense posts.

One of the first objectives of the force is the establishment of airfields, This would facilitate the task of bombing Rabaul and would soften up resistance against the advance on the ground.

U.S. Controls Sea Lane

U.S. Controls Sea Lane

The assault on the island is a heavy blow against the enemy sea supply routes in the area. The Allies now control the Vitiaz Straits—the only gateway from the Bismarck Sea to southern New Guinea.

Repeated Allied air attacks in the Cape Gloucester area, on the northwest tip of New Britain, may indicate that new landings may be imminent in this area.

The southern promontory of Cape Gloucester is less than 90 miles from Finschafen, the former Jap base on New Guinea, across the Vitiaz Strait.

The invasion was accomplished with-The assault on the island is a heavy

The invasion was accomplished with-out the loss of an Allied plane or ship. A small army unit making a gallant assault from landing boats suffered most casualties. The number of killed and wounded was not announced.

Libs Again Raid Marshalls

PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 17 (AP)-Another 40-ton bombardment of the Marshall Islands by U.S. Army Liberators was announced today. Buildings and storage spaces were damaged at Taroa, while fires were observed after the blasting of Wotje. Two of 30 intercepting Jap fighters were shot down, with eight probably destroyed. One Liberator was lost,

Eisenhower Now Seen As Invasion Commander

NEW YORK, Dec. 17—Gen. Dwight Eisenhower "is more likely than Gen. George C. Marshall to become supreme commander in the European theater," a Washington dispatch to the New York Times said today, reporting "an apparent

change of plan."

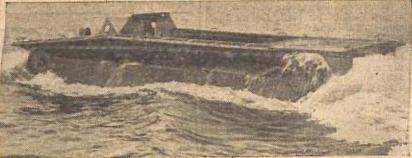
The paper said the chief of staff pro-bably would remain in Washington in his

"Other changes in the high command abroad and in the U.S. are probable," it

Churchill Improves

Prime Minister Churchill's physicians reported yesterday in a bulletin issued at 10 Downing Street that "there has been no spread in the pneumonia and the improvement in the Prime Minister's general condition has been maintained."





AMPHIBIOUS TANKS like the one in the picture on top were credited with blasting away weak Jap defense in the invasion of New Britain yesterday. Mounting two .50 cal. machine-guns, and other secret guns, the tank is at home either in water or on land and it is tough to stop.

WATER BUFFALOES—officially in the Navy's book as landing vehicle-tracked (2)—made their first appearance in carrying troops ashore in the dawn-attack. Above are two scenes taken during tests in the States recently.

French Back In Firing Line

Tunisia Vets Win Heights, Capture Nazis in Central Italy

ALLIED HQ, North Africa, Dec. 17 AP)-French troops thrown into the fighting in Europe for the first time since 1940 immediately reported an outstanding success against the Germans in mountain fighting in Central Italy, taking several heights and capturing prisoners Allied headquarters announced.

The French have been in the line with the British and American soldiers for some time, but their presence was disclosed officially only this morning. They include troops which fought in Tunisia and have been re-equipped with American uniforms and war material under arrange ments made at the Casablanca conference

Brazilians Train With French

ALLIED HQ, Africa, Dec. 17 (AP)-The advance reconnaissance party of the Brazilian expeditionary force, including its generals, have taken part in exercises with French troops in training near Oran.

Louis to End U.S. Tour Soon, Then Go Overseas

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Joe Louis will end his exhibition tour of U.S. Army posts Jan. 20, and then will go overseas to visit camps in various theaters of operations, according to a War Department announcement.

No itinerary has been planned, it was added, and one official, queried on the possibility, said there was no assurance that "when he goes overseas he'll ever go to England."

Hitler Purging High Officers

Even Major Generals Out As Result of 'Revolt,' Underground Hears

By the Associated Press
Adolf Hitler has started sacking number of high-ranking officers-including major generals-as part of a purge stemming from the so-called "generals' revolt," it was reported yesterday by an informant with close underground connections in Germany,

Officers accused of such charges as "insubordination" and "negligence" were said to have been dismissed wholesale along the eastern front and in virtually every occupied country.

The reports reached London close upon those telling of von Rundstedt's replaceby Rommel and of an order relieving Falkenhausen in Belgium.

These Weapons Did Their Stuff on New Britain 1,500 Tons of Bombs Cascaded Onto City In 6th Big RAF Raid

American Claims Bed of Madame DuBarry

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (UP)-A claim to the ownership of "the original autographed bed of Madame DuBarry," the mistress of Louis XV, was brought forth by a Treasury Department census of Americanowned property in foreign nations.

Claims ranged from an island in the Pacific to a cow and two bulls in

About 70,000 claims have been made and the department estimates there are about 330,000 still to come. The largest holdings are in Canada

5th Storms Nazi Defenses North Of Rome Road

Germans Rushing Troops From Russia to Halt Allied Advance

The Fifth Army stormed German de-fenses yesterday in the San Petro area north of the main road to Rome as the Germans frantically rushed reinforce-ments to stem the increasing momentum of the Allied drive.

of the Allied drive.

Bloody hand-to-hand fighting raged on the outskirts of Sammucro after an assault by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's forces to occupy the German bastion eight miles southeast of Cassino and one mile north of the Rome road.

In the face of stubborn Nazi resistance and numerous counter-attacks, the Fifth Army's American and British troops took two more important hills in the mountains north of Venafro.

An indication of the German high command's alarm at the new Allied thrusts toward Rome was given by an Associated

mand's alarm at the new Allied thrusts toward Rome was given by an Associated Press dispatch which said German troops have been rushed from Russia to bolster the Nazi defenses.

The reinforcements were identified as mountain troops which were last heard of at Leningrad in November. In addition, the Germans were reported to have moved up to the front a battle group composed of infantry and artillery to reinforce the sector held by the 15th Panzer Grenadiers, who were heavily hit by the American troops in Sicily.

On the Eighth Army front, dispatches revealed the Germans had suffered heavy losses in the Allied drive to tighten its hold on the vital Orsogna-Ortona road.

hold on the vital Orsogna-Ortona road. On one stretch alone the Germans were

said to have lost 3,000 out of 4,000 infantrymen. New Zealanders, yesterday's com-munique said, carried out a successful advance and repulsed two strong German

counter-attacks.
Furiously fighting Canadians pressed
their offensive in spite of the efforts of
the Germans to halt them by using two

fresh parachute regiments.

The 15th Air Force, striking for the third successive day, bombed the railroad yards at Padua and a bridge and tunnel at Dogna, in the Alps.

President's Yule Eve Message May Include Teheran Report

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—President Roosevelt, looking tan and fit, resumed his White House duties today—possibly preparing his Christmas Eve speech in which a report on the details of the Teheran conference may be disclosed.

Rep. Sam Rayburn, speaker of the House, said the President would incorporate both in his Christmas Eve message and his annual message to Congress what-

and his annual message to Congress what-ever he cared to say about his journey and

talks. Rayburn was the first to see Roosevelt on his return yesterday.

Congress will take a holiday recess next week, and it was believed it would not hear from the President until the new session begins next year.

Shortly after his return, the President arranged a series of important conferences with diplomats representing Great Britain, Russia, China, Turkey, Iran and Egypt.

Bronzed and smiling—but in need of a haircut—the President found a tumultuous reception awaiting him. Cabinet members, a host of senators and representatives of both parties were assembled in the diplomatic reception room of the White House to greet him.

Flanked by some 30 motorcyle police-men, the President's car arrived at the White House at 9.30 AM. Mrs. Roose-velt and their daughter, Mrs. Anne Boettiger, were in the car with him.

Reich Admits Heavy Damage to Bremen In USAAF Blow

RAF Bomber Command's sixth heavy attack on Berlin in four weeks-a 1,500-ton eascade of high explosive and incendiaries dumped at the rate of a ton a second-left huge fires raging in the world's most bombed capital last night and evoked a fresh wave of reprisal threats from frenzied Nazi broadcasters.

frenzied Nazi broadcasters.

The new hammering of Berlin—the British bombers' first large-scale operation since the Leipzig raid of Dec. 3—broke a lull of nearly two weeks in the night air offensive from Britain. It cost the RAF 30 bombers, compared with 41 lost on the previous Berlin raid Dec. 2.

The attack, purposely staged early Thursday night to avoid moonlight, was launched as American Fortresses and Liberators returned to darkening English bases to land by the light of flares and landing lights after their sixth major mission of the month—a long penetration through intense flak to attack some of the enemy's most heavily guarded targets in northwest Germany.

Bremen Hit, Germans Say

in northwest Germany.

Bremen Hit, Germans Say

Eighth Air Force, in a communique amouncing the loss of 11 hombers and one fighter for the destruction of 18 enemy interceptors, withheld the name of the hombers' objective, but yesterday's German communique said one of the targets was Bremen, the much-pounded shipbuilding center 50 miles up the Weser from the North Sea. The Germans conceded that "heavy damage" was done to ceded that "heavy damage" was done to

Returning crews said only a few Nazi fighters challenged the great formations of B17s and B24s, with their escorts of Thunderbolts and Lightnings. The communique disclosed that the fighter escort

munique disclosed that the fighter escort downed two of the Germans shot down-bomber gunners got the others.

The bombers' late return posed knotty problems for ground staffs. At one base planes were stacked up in the air for an hour and a half before the last of the group was landed safely. One by one the bombers dropped slowly out of the half-darkness to roll along the runways with their landing lights on as a warning to other ships to stay away.

Notice See Vuletide Offensive

Nazis See Yuletide Offensive

The RAF's return to Berlin suggested o some Berliners, according to the Stockholm Aftontidningen, that the Allied bombers were launching a Christmas air offensive. The capital's sixth heavy attack—the others were on Nov. 18, 22, 23, 26 and Dec. 2—though carried out by a large force of Langaters, was not on the scale force of Lancasters, was not on the scale

force of Lancasters, was not on the scale of November's largest raid, in which 2,300 long tons of bombs were dropped.

One Stockholm report said Berlin's defenders were taken by surprise, believing that the weather and the danger of icing made a raid unlikely. Pilots said they flew over thick cloud practically all

The center of the city was badly but-The center of the city was badly optered, according to reports which filtered through to the Swedish capital despite a German Propaganda Ministry ban forbidding foreign newsmen to describe the attack. Water, gas and electric facilities were knocked out at least temporarily, transport was paralyzed, with streets blocked by ruins, and Berlin radio claimed that several theaters were among "cultural monuments" hit

tural monuments" hit.

German ministerial quarters were hit,
Swiss radio said, and Swedish reports
asserted damage was concentrated in

(Continued on page 4)

Germans Say No Holiday Respite in War Expected

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 17 (AP)—German military circles said they expect no holiday respite in Europe's land or aerial warfare and will ask for none, a Berlin

dispatch reported.

A military spokesman made the observation in commenting on rumors that there will be an undeclared armistice during the Christmas weekend,

Arnold, Somervell Home

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (UP)—Gen. Hen. H. Arnold and Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell have returned to the U.S. after the Middle East conferences.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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Furlough Home

The mail is now increasingly filled with letters from the homefolks wondering if the Army will send soldiers home who have been overseas two years or more.

During the Christmas season this longing to see a husband or beloved son is natural and one with which we all sympathize. But to return overseas troops after two years' service abroad would be impracticable, if not well nigh impossible, under existing conditions. There just wouldn't be transportation enough available for the Army to undertake to relieve all soldiers who have been on overseas all soldiers who have been on overseas stations for 24 months or more.

Nevertheless, many are being sent home, but naturally the great majority are men who are wounded, sick or who have shown they can't stand the strain of

The three greatest concentrations of The three greatest concentrations of American troops are located in Great Britain, the Mediterranean Theater and in the Southwestern Pacific. These are what might be called the active fronts, and every facility is being used to build up strength on these fronts for the final thrusts that will give us victory and the chance for all of us to go home. In such circumstances it is manifestly impracticable to weaken our forces with one hand while attempting to build a maxi-

practicable to weaken our forces with one hand while attempting to build a maximum strength in the shortest possible period of time with the other.

In fact every facility must be used to bring every possible man over and keep every possible man here, and while no one has told us all this officially, it represents, as policy, the only possible solution to the biggest military problem we've ever to the biggest military problem we've ever faced—beating a very clever and danger-ous group of nations who've gone all out to beat our best effort.

Horse Sense

The military transportation used by American soldiers is the finest in the world. Jeeps, ducks, command cars, weapons carriers, prime movers, tanks and tank destroyers are all better than the enemy's best. But good as they are they're still machines subject to wear and tear like the car at home, and like the "old Tin Lizzy" they will wear out in time. Of course, they have all proved they can take heavy punishment; especially in combat; but that fact is no reason why such equipment should be stunt-driven and unneces-sarily strained in a vain attempt to show off before strangers, and all of us have seen this done.

American vehicles have become a worldwide symbol of our national inventive-ness and our skill in producing machines of superb quality is the envy of friend and foe. In our hands this equipment will go into combat where it will be forced to take a real beating, and it should be in condition to meet that test.

In the cavalry a yellow-leg looks after his horse before he takes care of his own needs, and if every driver developed the same affection for his vehicle he would find that it would be paid off in big dividends of "dependable transportation." it would also make a deep impression on those strangers who watch us as we handle cour hest brains have created

German Re-education

A question widely discussed these days concerns re-education of Germany after the war. Such an attempt must be promptly and intelligently made if we

are to avoid another war in twenty to twenty-five years, claim many. Most of these people, we feel, lose sight of one important fact—that such reeducation is taking place right now. Certainly the once arrogant and invincible army that marched so confidently against the Russians has been "educated" the

the Russians has been 'educated' the hard way into a new frame of mind.

Then, too, a four-ton bomb is a mighty weighty argument. It has a way of breaking through prejudices and preconceptions. It can convince even a rock ribbed Nazi that Blitz-warfare is not right. It may even convince him that no right. nation can gobble up and enslave its neighbors with impunity.

Certainly there are now thousands of Germans who have learned that conquest is not all glory, loot and comfort, for reports to the British Ministry of Economic Warfare show that "hardship Economic Wartare show that "hardship has mustered some signs of liberal thinking in Germany, which in turn has tended to bolster the morale of many who are known to be taking a more charitable view of the "Republican" form of government, for years a forbidden topic of conversation in the Reich.

As tons of high explosive rain down on German cities and towns, in addition to

German cities and towns, in addition to the destruction of war industries, they drive home the thought to a war-minded people "that he who lives by the sword shall perish by it."

Hash Marks

Hero of the Week. J. A. Holcomb, Los Angeles service station attendant, has finally figured out what that certain song is good for. When a bandit pointed a gat at him, Holcomb sang out, "— lay that pistol down!" The startled gunman fled.

Riot on the Home Front. Two Butte, Montana, waiters were fined ten bucks apiece—for fighting over priority rights on



four orders of juicy sirloin steaks. Boy, gladly enter a free-for-all just to get a hamburger-and hang the cost!

Once upon a time there was a Pfc on per diem. At the time he had a nice little room to stay in and he really does miss it. In fact he gets so homesick for the place the kindhearted landlady lets him take a peek in the joint every now and then. The Pfc walks in and stands admiring the wallpaper—which has a beautiful design—cute little figures which look just like Pfc stripes.

What's in a name? We keep hearing rumors that the P47 Thunderbolt squadrumors that the P4/ Inunderool squadrons over here are taking a ribbing from P38 Lightning pilots. Seems the guys who fly the Lightnings looked up the definition of Thunderbolt in the dictionary and found it to mean, "A loud crash of noise, causing no damage—immediately followed by a bolt of Lightning." (We'll let the Luftwaffe uppring this squabble) let the Luftwaffe umpire this squabble.)

* * *
Publicity Release: A chemical company over here points with pride to T/4 Jerry R. Calfana—the only known amateur flag pole sitter in the ETO (they claim). The boys say Jerry once dangled high over Tarrytown, N.Y., for 72 hours. A modest chap, he refused to advertise the pole or write a book entitled, "Seventy-Two Hours Aloft." Any more flag pole sitters in the ETO?

Draft boards have taken so many eleva-tor operators away from Miami buildings that citizens down that way feel privi-



leged if they get a ride at all. But the other day two startled patrons ran into something new. Racing along a sixth floor hall to catch a "down" car, they got there just as the doors closed. But a few seconds later the doors opened again. The seconds later the doors opened again. The footsore civilians were about to enter when the youth at the controls shook his head. "I'm sorry I can't take you," he said, "I'm just practising." (Wonder when he'll get his pilot's licence.)

J. C. W.

NazisSayHitlerOrderedAtrocities

In Russia Coldly

The blood-curdling story of German atrocities in Russia unfolded new chapters yesterday in the "war guilt" trials going on in Kharkov, along with the flat statement by an accused German officer that murder and pillage ran rampant under direct orders of Adolf Hitler.

After admitting on the stand that he

tions and tortures carried out."

The reply was a glaring summation of Hitler's creed. Said Heinz:

'It was the result of instructions from

"Hitler also spoke of the necessity of exterminating the barbaric Russian people. The next man is Himmler, who maintained that it was futile to observe the law codes. Then comes Rosenberg, with his propaganda extolling the superiority of the German race, which led to such conduct among the German soldiers."

Pleas of guilty have been entered by all

Pleas of guilty have been entered by all three accused, captured German officers and Gestapo leaders. They are being defended by outstanding Soviet lawyers.

The three are Ritz, Reinhardt Retzlav, of the German secret field police, and Capt. William Langfeld, an intelligence

The eyes of the entire world are centered on Kharkov, the hearings being the first such trials to be held by any of the Allies.

The Soviet has refused to wait for the end of the war to bring the Nazi bloody linen into sharp focus, and the Soviet press has made it clear that the plea that the accused were acting under orders will receive no consideration.

horror, dispatches from Russia related.

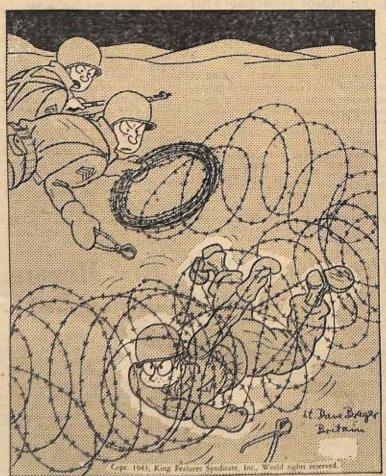
Retzlav detailed the use of gas-killing

lorries, used by the Nazis for the mass murder of civilians.

"These lorries," he said, "are hermeti-cally sealed chambers in which the ex-haust pipes run from the engine. Several

Asked whether there were any women

PRIVATE BREGER



"Didn't I warn you against taking him on a barbed wire party?"

Captives on Trial Tell of Killings

After admitting on the stand that he personally had put to death 300 Russian men, women and children, Gestapo Assistant Heinz Ritz was asked this

"Under whose orders were these execu-

Hitler and his collaborators. The principal culprit is Hitler, who called for a rule of cruelty and spoke of the superiority of the German race.

Soviet Won't Wait

Some of the stories told by the three Germans were so terrible that spectators in the great hall in which the trials are being held listened to them in silent

haust pipes run from the engine. Several dozen people can be crowded in at once, and for the most part they are asphyxiated."

Retzlav described how women were beaten with the butts of rifles and revolvers because they would not get into the vans, but fell on their knees and asked for mercy. It was easier, he said, to deal with small children. They could be thrown in bodily.

Ritz's testimony brought to light the brutal fact that once, "just to show what he could do," he fired a burst from an automatic rifle into a group of men, women and children waiting for execution.

and children among the group, Ritz replied:

"Yes, I remember a woman who, in an attempt to save her child, covered it with her body, but this was useless, because the bullets passed through her and the child." and the child."

Langfeld, who previously had ad-

Russian soldiers returned to a village to find these civilians hanging, and buildings in flames. The photo is from the U.S. Army film "Battle of Russia," one in the "Why We Fight" series.

testified:

"Langfeld stands under a beam of arc lights. He is a modern German, a typical supporter of the present regime. He tells terrible things about himself—how he beat to death an innocent young woman while her child was looking on, how the mother was tortured while he beat her, until her blood-covered, unconscious body was thrown out the door. She died the next day.

The Child Was Shot

"He is now being asked what became of the child. In an expressionless voice, Langfeld says: 'The child did not want to tear itself away from the body of its mother and was shot.' "

Addressing Ritz, after bringing out that 3,000 civilians were shot under his supervision, the presentor early."

vision, the prosecutor said:
"You have studied law. You must consider yourself a man of culture. How was this possible?"

mitted having tortured prisoners, told how some of the latter were used as shooting targets by German soldiers, including officers.

A Russian writer, David Zaslavsky, had this to say of the scene as Langfeld testified:

"Langfeld stands under a beam of arc lights. He is a modern German, a typical supporter of the present regime. He tells

Forced Allegiance

Ritz said that his father, a professor, was a member of the Liberal Party in Germany until Hitler's rise, when he joined the Nazi Party to keep his job. His father, he added, did not entirely share the party philosophy.

Ritz said that he, too, had become disillusioned after fighting in Russia. He blamed Hitler and Rosenberg as being the

"chief deceivers" of the German nation.

Zaslavsky accurately portrayed the reaction of horrified Russia and the entire civilized world to these stories by declar-

ing:
"Langfeld is Hitler on the scale of one
Gestapo section. It is a dangerous breed. It must be destroyed and rendered harm-less in the interests of humanity."

Tribute to Godlewski

Lift high those stumps! Reveal anew The wealth of Poland's lode, Whose vein gave of its best when you The blazing skyway rode,

Hero, now lacking hands to hold, The flag in battle's thrill, Know well that other hearts of gold Defend its honour still!

America adopts you now-Protects you from all strife, And, lovingly, discloses how To build anew your life.

Join then that band, brave Polish heart, Inspire life's vital air, Thus help, as men with strength impart 'Four Freedoms' ev'rywhere!

E. M. L.

Godlewski was the Polish-American who lost both hands in the Essen raid. He left for Chicago, U.S.A., last week

If You Forget If you forget,

Why-everyone forgets-It is the war; No moisture wets My cheek because of you. It is the wind That blew My eyes dust-full with memory Of beauty that was swift And flew, scarlet and quick-A breathless jet. It is the brightness of a love Now lately set-These leave my lashes wet, Not you.

Pfc Francis J. Chimi.

Prophecy

Amid the din of bugles far, We stand erect, salute the Star Whose glorious light revealed the birth Of our dear Lord, the King of Earth.

And though He died that we might live, And promised men that He would give Eternal life and endless power, Yet do we smite Him every hour,

Soon let the sound of battle cease, And let us live at home, in peace. The Son of God shall yet arise And loose His armies from the skies. Pfc Vance Campbell.

Review

When the evening sun is setting And it's time once more to rest, I trudge back to my barracks; Glad to say, "I've done my best."

Although they didn't give me The job I thought they should, I took it as a job to do And did the best I could.

I wanted most of all to fly And headed for that goal. Then came those dreaded words "Washed

It almost killed my soul.

I didn't care much for a while What happened to me then. I stood around and mouned and grouned, And thought what might have been.

I thought that I had been abused, And pushed around and "sich I moped around for days and weeks, And all I did was "bitch."

I'd try to miss formations. I didn't want to drill, And sometimes I considered That ill-reputed "hill."

Then I went to AM school And studied hard to gain A knowledge of the Power Plant, And all about a plane.

I was on the "Roll of Honor." I had begun to care. If I couldn't take them off the ground I could keep them in the air,

I went to a replacement pool, And waited to be shipped To Fighter group or Bomber base, But that's where I was gypped.

They called me in one day and said, 'We're making you a clerk.' There again I mouned and grouned. I didn't like that work.

But then I got to thinking of The job that's to be done. Crush a mighty swastika And set a rising sun,

Put maddened warlords in their place And cause the war to cease; To work for "All Clear" days ahead, When all can live in peace.

So now I do my little bit And do it like a man.

I don't, I say, enjoy the work,
But I do the best I can.

Pvt. Claude Melton Jr.

Cage Prospects Bright | FlierHarriersCompeteTodayforTitle For Coast Court Fans 4 Commands to Be

15-Squad Loop Formed In Frisco; Luisetti With Fliers

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17—Although Stanford, Santa Clara and St. Mary's have dropped the cage sport for the duration, basketball prospects on the Pacific Coast for the coming season appear to be very enlightening, at least in Northern

California.

In San Francisco, 15 squads have been brought together and will play in the Northern California Basketball Association with the opening game scheduled for tomorrow and concluding with playoff games Mar. 3, 4 and 5.

The Pacific Coast Conference will continue, however, despite the inability of Stanford to floor a squad. California, Southern California and UCLA will fight it out for the Southern Division title.

In pre-season games thus far, the California Bears have been victorious over San Francisco State College and the Livermore Naval Air Base. The Trojans and Bruins seem to have mediocre squads compared with the quintets that represented these institutions in past years.

Coast Guardsmen Strong

Coast Guardsmen Strong

Probably the strongest squad in the San Francisco area is the Alameda Coast Guard five from Government Island. Returning to the fold from last season is Jim Pollard. High scoring forward is Paul Napolitano, ex-University of San Francisco star. Mel Dropo, Joe O'Malley and Hal Woods, all veterans, are returning.

and Hal Woods, all veterans, are returning.

At St. Mary's Pre-Flight, Hank Luisetti is the only veteran. In one game, the Pre-Flighters won an easy decision from the Treasure Island Armed Guard. The fliers have an array of former All-Americans and experienced cagers. Norman Cotton, who started at Purdue in 1933 to '35, opens at the other forward with Luisetti. At center is George Zeigenfuss, former Washington University pivot man. The guards are Hal Lee, who played with Luisetti at Stanford when the Indians with Luisetti at Stanford when the Indians reigned supreme as basketball powers, and Otis de LaPorte. Dale Gentry, former Washington State gridder, has not turned out for the squad as he is expecting to go on sea duty

Bears Have Two Veterans

California has only two veterans, Dick Henderson at forward and Claude Hiskey

at guard.

The University of San Francisco will be represented by the Army specialized training unit and not by its civilian students. The San Franciscans have looked like a reasonably well-rounded out saying but have yet to meet formulaout squad, but have yet to meet formid-able opposition.

able opposition.
In the Northern California Basketball Association, the teams that will compete are St. Mary's Pre-Flight, Alameda Coast Guard, Coast Guard Surf Riders from San Francisco, Pleasanton Naval Replacement Center, San Francisco Athletic Club, Salinas Air Base, Marin shipyards, Livermore Air Base, Fourth Air Force from Hammer Field, Treasure Island Armed Guard, University of San Francisco, Treasure Island Navy, the Presidio Chapel of the Oaks and McClellan Field from Sacramento.

Sacramento.

Although the University of California will be competing in the Pacific Coast Conference, it will play most of the squads in the NCBA and will be invited to participate in the playoffs in March.

Help Wanted -AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, Printing House Sq., London, EC4.

APOs Wanted

LT. E. V. Sullivan. Dayton, Ohio; John Schora.
Cleveland; S/Sgt. Emanuel Stolback. Cpl. Carl
Eubehinsky. Pfc Edward Gillin. Bronx. N.Y.;
Joseph Tierney. Shenandoath, Pa.; Cpl. Dominick
Joseph Tierney. Shenandoath, Pa.; Cpl. Dominick
Ala.; S/Sgt. William J. Toomey. Nelsonville.
Chio; Maj. Robert Williams, Flint, Mich.; Wally
Ohio; Maj. Robert William J.
Aguilar, 36606933; S/Sgt. Paul L. Carvin, Pvt.
Marrie Dukes, Lt. Lawrence C. Merthou. Lt.
Marrie Dukes, Lt. Lawrence G. Payne, WAC
James O. Huff, M/Sgt. Clayton G. Payne, WAC
James J. Welsh.
Rego, Lt. Hansford T. Sharklette, Lt. H. W.
Rego, Lt. Hansford T. Sharklette, Lt. Speidel,
Sheriff Cpl. John S. Kanocz, Lt. Louis H. Speidel,
Lames J. Welsh.
GGT. Peter Brown, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pvt. Russell
CGT. Peter Brown, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pvt. Russell

James J. Welsh.

SGT. Peter Brown, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pvt, Russell
SGT. Peter Brown, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pvt, Russell
Ga.; Homer P. Bolinger, Fresno, Cal.;
Ga.; Homer P. Bolinger, Fresno, Cal.;
William E. Beastey, W. Nashville, Tonn.; S/Sgt.
William E. Beastey, W. Nashville, Tonn.; S/Sgt.
William E. Beastey, W. Nashville, Tonn.; S/Sgt.
Kenneth Corella, St. Clair Shores, Mich.; J. T.
Kenneth Corella, St. Clair Shores, Mich.; J. T.
Kenneth Corella, St. Clair Shores, Mich.; J. T.
Kenneth Corella, St. Clair Shores, Mich.; Pranklin. Scottdale, Ga.; Lt. Forrest E. Flager,
Franklin. Scottdale, Ga.; Lt. Forrest E. Flager,
El Reno, Okla.; T/5 Michael Fesnick, Bessemer,
El Reno, Okla.; T/5 Michael Fesnick, Bessemer,
El Reno, Okla.; T/5 Michael Gress, Abingdon, Ill.; Pvt.
Miller, Plymouth, Wis.; Lopex Monteaux, BirmMiller, Plymouth, Wis.; Lopex Monteaux, Salem,
ingham, Ala.; Charles Barton, Ala.; Col. William
N.C.; Jess' Murphy, Talmo, Ga.; Col. William
N.C.; Jess' Mu

\$66,000 Colt's Handle Becomes'UnnamedColt'

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 17— William A. Helis, New Orleans oil baron and multi-millionaire, disclosed that the unnamed colt for which he paid \$66,000 would be called "Unnamed Colt."

Helis had several hundred names suggested by friends, and in order to offend nobody he decided the colt would have a name everyone has called him since the purchase.

Gordon Vows He's Through

Will Volunteer for Armed Services, But May Not Pass Physical

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 17-Joe Gordon Yankee second baseman, has quit baseball again-and apparently he means it this time. Gordon said today that he was notifying Yankee President Ed Barrow that he intends to join the armed forces between now and spring training.

Gordon announced his retirement

several weeks ago, but later rescinded the announcement. The reason he gave them was that he did not care to travel east every summer and then back to Oregon

Whether Gordon can pass the military physical is problematical as he has a bad ankle, bad hip and a bothersome jaw, broken during his sandlot days.

Aged 28, Gordon is a pre-war father, has a three-year-old daughter and an 18-

Gordon joined the Yanks six years ago, has participated in five World Series and was voted the outstanding player in the American League in 1942. He set three World Series fielding records against the Cardinals in October.

Big Ten Award To Otto Graham

CHICAGO, Dec. 17—Otto Graham, Northwestern star halfback, has been voted the most valuable player in the Western Conference. Graham was selected from among 11 candidates, each selected by his team mates as the most valuable.

valuable.

Other candidates were: Eddie Bray, Illinois back; John Tavener, Indiana center; Bob Liddy, Iowa guard; Bob Wiese, Michigan back; Paul Mitchell, Minnesota tackle; Gordon Appleby, Ohio State center; Dick Barwegen, Purdue guard, and Joe Keenan, Wisconsin end.

Graham becomes the 20th winner of

and Joe Keenan, Wisconsin end.
Graham becomes the 20th winner of the conference award and the second from Northwestern, the other being Tim Lowery, center of the 1925 team.
He will receive a silver football donated by the Chicago Tribune. The first winner of the trophy was the Illinois' Galloping Ghost, Harold "Red" Grange in 1924.

Sampson Naval to Lose Grid Coach Mal Stevens

SAMPSON, N.Y., Dec. 17—Lt. Cmdr. Marvin "Mal" Stevens, coach of the Sampson Naval football team, is await-

Sampson Naval football team, is awaiting a new assignment. The duty has not been announced and all that could be learned is that he is being detached.

Stevens was graduated from Yale where he starred on the football team and later coached. He also coached at New York University. He served as head of orthopedic staff while here.

Stevens insisted that the Sampson football team which won seven and lost two was the best he ever coached.

Mack's Son on Way In

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17—Connie Mack Jr. has passed his physical exam and reports for induction next month. The 31-year-old son of the Athletics' manager has four children and was manager of concessions in Shibe Park.

Entered in Cross-Country Run

By Ray Lee

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

EIGHTH AIR FORCE HQ, Dec. 17 -Cross-country running will make its first big appearance in the ETO tomorrow when approximately 30 GIs representing four commands vie in the Eighth Air Force championships over a three-mile course near here. The race begins at 2

The four commands to be represented are Service, Fighter, Bomber and Com-posite. All four squads are headed by former collegiate and athletic club longdistance harriers.

The competition will take on the role of a personal grudge between Maj. Morris Brownlee, of Houston, Texas, Bomber Command Special Service officer, and Maj. Bud Eury, of Ft. Worth, Texas, Special Service officer of Fighter Command. It dates back to the days when they were football and track stars for Southern Methodist University and Texas Christian University respectively, and fought it out on the gridiron and track of the Southwestern Conference.

Maj. Eury is boosting Set. Sidney Bull. The competition will take on the role

Maj. Eury is boosting Sgt. Sidney Bull, of Lexington, Mass., distance runner who recently made a three-mile course in 15:02, while Maj. Brownlee claims that Pyt. Hugh Black, Case harrier from Massilon, Ohio, who recently did two and three-quarter miles in 12:58, can outrun anything on two feet. The odds are even that these two commands will carry off the honors.

The meet will be run under collegiate rules. The first place team will be awarded a trophy and the first four men will receive individual awards. Points will be scored according to the position in which the runger field with the team of the position in which to the first four men will receive individual awards. Points will be scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the team with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the scored according to the position in which the runners finish with the scored according to the position of Col. William Baily, of Belling-like the position of Col. William Baily according to the position of Col. William Baily accord



Cpl. John Gyora, of Superior, Wis., hurdling an obstacle during a dual bombardment division two and three-quarter mile cross-country elimination. He will be on the team representing Bomber Command today.

Wood Leads in Miami Open; Wings Smash Sammy Byrd, Hamilton Lag

MIAMI, Dec. 17-Craig Wood took the first-round lead in the \$5,000 Miami Open golf tournament here yesterday, shooting a two under par 68 with a redhot putter.

Wood had eight one-putt holes and had only one bad hole, the 18th, where he missed a short putt.

Gene Sarazen, who won the tourna-ment four years in a row, 1927-'30, shot

ment four years in a row, 1927-'30, shot 76.

Other low scorers among the professionals were: Pyt. Otey Crisman, Coral Gables, 71; Joe Varhardt, Morristown, Pa., 71: Al Nelson, Ponte Vedra, Fla., 72; Johnny Gibbs, Chicago, Bud Lewis, Philadelphia, Willie Goggin, Orlando Beach, Fla., and Johnny Bulla, Atlanta, Ga., each shot 73.

Amateur scores were: Burns Felton, Miami, 73; Jim Gardner, Miami, 75, and A. E. Wilson, Winston-Salem, N.C., 76 each.

Pro Gridders Postpone Scheduled Sessions

CHICAGO, Dec. 17—The National Football League's bi-annual meeting scheduled for Monday and Tuesday has been postponed because of the holiday events, including the game on Dec. 26 between the Bears and the winners of the Eastern Division playoff.

Feature of the winter meeting is the drafting of college football players for cossible pro contracts. No draft will be held this year. The circuit also has discarded the custom of choosing an All-League team.

McCullough to be Re-examined

NASHVILLE, Tenn, Dec. 17—Clyde McCullough, Chicago Cub catcher visiting here, said he expects a second physical exam soon. He was called last September and given a 90-day deferment to allow the leg which he broke last year to heal more solidly. McCullough registered, with a Chicago draft board and must return there for his tests.

Basketball Results

Detroit University 36, Detroit Coast Guard 34 Great Lakes 65, Bowling Green 41

he missed a short putt. Steve Warga, Miami graveyard shift war worker, is one stroke behind Wood and Orville White, of Winston-Salem, N.C., is tied with amateur Earl Christensen, Miami detective, for third place with 70. Ex-baseballer Sammy Byrd, pretournament favorite, had difficulty with his chip shots and shot a 72. Bob Hamilton, of Evansville, Ind., also considered a strong contender, fizzled badly and carded a 75. Gene Sarazen, who won the tournamoney asserted itself yesterday and the

money asserted itself yesterday and the Giants were installed as 7-5 favorites to beat the Redskins in the Eastern title playoff here Sunday,

If you like the Giants you lay 7-5, and if you like the Redskins bookies give you 6-5. The bookmakers, cleaned several times during the season, have abandoned the point system and returned to straight odds laying. At current prices, if you don't bet as a professional gambler, the Giants are 13—10 favorites.

Crowd of 9,517 on Hand At Tropical Park Opening

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 17 — Herbert Bayard Swope, chairman of the Gables Racing Association, expressed gratifica-tion at the turnout of 9,517 for the opening day at Tropical Park Wednesday

The crowd which welcomed the return of racing to Florida was almost double the opening day crowd last year when the season was curtailed after the strict ban on pleasure driving at that

Billy Hayes Is Dead; Was Hoosier Track Coach

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Dec. 17— E. C. "Billy" Hayes, track and field coach at Indiana University, has died at the Bloomington Hospital of pneumonia re-sulting from influenza. Hayes, aged 59, was one of the nation's leading coaches and produced nine Olympic athletes during his service at Mississippi State and Indiana

Hockey Results

American League Buffalo 1, Indianapolis 1

Boston Bruins 13, Boston Olympics 8

Toronto, 4-1

TORONTO, Dec. 17—The Detroit Red Wings beat the Toronto Maple Leafs, 4—1, in the only National Hockey League game played last night.

Joe Carveth put the Wings ahead at four minutes, 48 seconds on a solo dash,

and Art Jackson scored the ultimate win-ning goal at 15 minutes, 34 seconds. Bob Davidson tallied Toronto's only goal 45 seconds later, assisted by Lorne Carr and Gus Bodnar.

In the second period Carl Liscombe went in alone for Detroit and Carveth scored again in the third reriod with one and one-half minutes left.

The standout performer was Norm Smith, aged 35, who came from a sax-year retirement to tend the Detroit goal. Mel Hill, Leafs' star forward, broke his left ankle when he slid into the boards after taking a shot at Smith in the second period and will be out the remainder of

Landis Works Fast on Novikoff

CHICAGO, Dec. 17-Within 24 hours

CHICAGO, Dec. 17—Within 24 hours Judge Landis imposed and then lifted a suspension on the Mad Russian, Lou Novikoff, Cub outfielder.

Late Wednesday Landis suspended Novikoff for playing winter baseball on the Pacific Coast and yesterday rescinded the suspension when it developed that the communication between Landis and the outfielder was held up through neglect. Landis thought that Novikoff had failed to answer his letter demanding particulars

on his earnings in the winter league, but found out yesterday that Novikoff had answered and the letter became lost. Landis declared that Novikoff would be fined, despite the lifting of the suspension.

Dodgers Will Return To Bear Mountain Site

BROOKLYN, N.Y., Dec. 17—President Branch Rickey has announced that the Dodgers are returning to Bear Mountain, N.Y., for spring training.

When weather precludes outdoor practice, the Dodgers will use the West Point Field House as they did last year. Due to the speedup in the Military Academy curriculum, the Field House will be available to the Dodgers only after 5.45 PM and all day Saturday and Sunday.

Rickey said that six exhibition games will be played at Ebbets Field before the

will be played at Ebbets Field before the season opens, three with the Red Sox and three with the Yankees.

LSU Tigers Commence Orange Bowl Workouts

BATON ROUGE, La., Dec. 17—The Louisiana State University Tigers are undergoing stiff workouts for their New Year's Day Orange Bowl game against Texas Aggies at Miami, Fla.

Coach Bernie Moore said the team will leave for Miami Christmas night and will dill served times there.

drill several times there.

Moore expects Steve VanBuren, leading

Southwestern Conference scorer, to be ready for the game. VanBuren has recovered from an ankle injury suffered against Georgia Tech.









GermanMorale In Italy Is Good As Battle Shows

No Signs of Serious Crack In Outlook by Nazis, Fighting Hard

ON THE FIFTH ARMY FRONT, Italy, Dec. 17 (AP)—Unofficial sources do not expect the Germans to move any new panzer divisions to the Italian front in the near future. In all probability they will rely on infantry or mountain troops, who are better suited to the

While German units on this front have taken a heavy pounding from Allied troops and their losses are heavy, there are no indications of any serious crack in their morale. As one U.S. officer said: "Their morale is still good enough for them to put up one hell of a fight, even though it may be lower than it was a year ago." a year ago.

The bitterness of the fighting on the Italian front makes it obvious that anyone who places hope in an immediate breakdown of the German soldier's morale is indulging in wishful thinking.

Only Half Think They Can Win

Approximately 60 per cent of German prisoners think the war will be over within a year. Less than 50 per cent think that Germany can win, about 40 per cent are convinced that Germany will come out of the war with a good compromise, while 65 per cent still regard Hitler as a good leader.

a good leader. A German prisoner's morale depends largely on what part of Europe he comes from and from what division. Troops from parts of Germany which have been bombed heavily, and those in divisions which have a mixture of Poles, Jugoslavs and Austrians have a lower morale than

those in unmixed units.

Perhaps the division with the highest morale which Americans have faced is the Herman Goering division, composed of a selected air force personnel, most of them young men and thoroughly indoctrinated with Nazi theories. They are the most arrogant and intractable of all,

and almost without exception say they still think Hitler can win.

Many Germans still cling to the hope of the "war of revenge," which they are told will be unleashed in the spring in a great drive to crush the United Nations' armise new desire in on their homeland. armies, now closing in on their homeland

No Nazi Offensive in Sight

While there are no indications of any German offensive action in the near future beyond local counter-attacks, many German prisoners believe that once the Fifth Army has reached northern Italy, the Germans will then open up with an offensive to drive the Allies out of Italy.

While the enemy is keeping his divisions pretty well up to strength, this has only been made possible by filling the gaps with young and older men and more Poles,

Jugoslavs, Greeks and Austrians.

German divisions on the Fifth Army front include a new battle group and mountain troops. The 15th Panzer Grenadiers, the 350th Infantry Division, which was formerly stationed near Genoa; the 44th Infantry Division from the the 44th Infantry Division from the partisan area in Slovenia; the 29th Panzer Grenadiers, who were in Sicily, and the 94th Infantry Division, which fought at Stalingrad and was later sent to Genoa.

Raids

(Continued from page 1)

central, western and south-eastern parts

Enemy propaganda rose to new heights, "Inhuman warfare!" one commentator screamed. "It is only the beginning of something more horrible and more terrible," he said, hinting of the existence of a secret weapon so horrible that up to

now the Germans had hesitated to use it.
"The attack on Berlin gave birth to energetic resolve to take revenge" he "The enemy will suffer the con-

The Berlin correspondent of the Spanish newspaper Evening Madrid reported that the conviction was growing in Germany that the Nazi high command was getting ready to launch a powerful force of newtype planes against Britain. He pointed out no new types have been announced for many months, except the Luftwaffe's six-motored transport.

Thursday's raid by USAAF bombers, striking into northwest Germany, attacked in such force they apparently confused the Luftwaffe fighter defenses. Crews told how the protecting fighters were able to circle the target for nearly an hour, taking wave after wave of bombers safely in and

wave after wave of bombers safely in and out of the target area.

Maj. George G. Shackley, of Green Wood Lake, N.J., who led a large formation of Fortresses, said, "The flak was really intense. It was plenty thick and we had to buck it all the way in to the target. But, just the same, we had a good bombing run. The formations were in there very tight and everybody let them fly at once."

Fighters knocked down two enemy air-Fighters knocked down two enemy aircraft, one of them a Jus8 which went down in flames as three Thunderbolts, their combined 24 guns blazing, "ganged" at. The pilots were Lt. Louis H. Norley, Conrad, Mont.; Capt. John S. Gentile, Piqua, Ohio, and Lt. Vermont Garrison, Mt. Victory, Kan.

An Me109 was brought down by Lt. Charles F. Gunn, Spokane, Wis.

Charles F. Gunn, Spokane, Wis.

The Liberator crews reported the flak
as bad as they had ever seen it.

Pfc Scores Highest Ever In USAAF Radio Course

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 17-A Russian-born U.S. Army private first class has scored the highest classroom average ever made in a USAAF radio school.

Sergei V. Kirpatovsky, 33, of New York, finished the Army radio mechanics course at Truax Field with a classroom average of 100 per cent while completing the usual 20-week course in less than seven weeks.

A month ago he passed a 26-hour examination to skip the equivalent of 13 weeks of radio school.

Col. Fay Odice, director of training, called Kirpatovsky's achievement phenomenal and Brig. Gen. S. W. Fitzgerald, post commander, congratulated the soldier on behalf of Truax Field.

Hundreds Mark Eagle Birthday

Hundreds of Americans, in the uniform of almost every Allied army and air force in the British Isles, helped celebrate the American Eagle Club's third birthday at a dance and party yesterday.

The Eagle Club, American Red Cross haven at 15 Charing Cross Road, was founded three years ago for American boys serving in England with Allied forces, and it soon became unofficial headquarters for the famed Eagle Squadron, Of the original staff of the club, Mrs. Barbara Blake, Mrs. Francis Dexter and Miss Margaret Jones are left.

The three were greeted yesterday by

The three were greeted yesterday by friends who came from all parts of England to be present. Many more sent telegrams of congratulations.

During the day a roll of honor listing 26 Americans in the RAF, RCAF and Polish Air Force who have been decorated by the British government was hung in the club's upper lounge.

The Eagle Club, which has been described as "a service club with a personality," is one of the few places where officers and men meet and eat together regularly while on leave. Many of the club's most faithful patrons are American flying officers who have transferred from the RAF and RCAF.

The club began as a private organization but when Congress prohibited ex-portation of funds for any service hos-pitality organization except the American Red Cross, its board of directors accepted the ARC's offer of membership.

Highlight of this weekend's AFN pro-

gram parade is "GI Tommy," a new weekly feature revealing the difference between "GI Joe" and "Tommy" Atkins.

The new program, with Sgt. Edward

Kenny, of the Dorsetshire Regiment, British Army, and Cpl. Warren Bryan, of New York City, will have its air premiere Sunday at 9.10 PM.

Sunday's Your Town program, heard at 10.15 AM, will feature radio news letters from Newark, Trenton and Linden, N.J.

Operated by Radio Branch, Special Service Division, SOS, ETO

On Your Dial

1310 Screnade.
1315-War Commentary.
1330 Helto India Special feature to the GIs in India.
1400 Sign Off until 1745 hours.

1745 Program Resume Spotlight on Bob Chester.
1800—World News (BBC).
1810—G1 Supper Club.
1900—"Seven O'Clock Sports"—Cpl. Johnny
Votsos.
1905—Music We Love.
1930—Hi Parade.
2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of
News from the U.S.A. with Cpl. Ford
Kennedy.
2010—Show Time with Dinah Shore.
2025—Minlatter—A musical spot.
2030—Jublice—Louis Armstrong, Ernie Whitman
and many others.
2100—World News (BBC).
2110—Remember.

110 Remember. 120 American Commentary—Alistair Cooke. 135—Bandstand (BBC). 215—Saturday Night Variety—the best in enter-

tainment. 2245—Final Edition. 2300—Sign off until 0800 hours Sunday, Dec. 19.

Terry and the Pirates

Saturday, Dec. 18
1100—G1 Jive.
1115—Personal Album—Dennis Day.
1130—Happy Norman's Ranch House.
1200—Ivy Benson and her Orchestra.
1230—Pup Concert.
1300—World News (BBC).

New Soldier Show on AFN

Compares Yanks and Tommies

1420 kc. 211.3m.

Now Aren't You Glad You're Over Here.



Icy blasts and heavy snows still hold their grip on the U.S. even as far south as Tampa and St. Petersburg, Fla., our weather man in the U.S. said last night. Continued cold was forecast for the central states, warmerfor the deep south, and slowly rising temperatures on the Atlantic seaboard. This is a scene at Minneapolis taken a couple of days ago—what could it be like now? Who cares, they'll get a White Christmas.

Reds, Nazis Hurl More Troops In Critical DnieperBend Battle

Germans and Russians alike yesterday were throwing more troops into the critical battle raging for Kirovograd, the important railway center in the Dnieper Bend which may control the fate of the iron and steel city of Krivoi Rog.

Dispatches from Moscow last night said that the Nazis were counter-attacking fiercely in a determined effort to stabilize their lines east of

Yule Party for Orphans

EIGHTH BOMBER COMMAND HQ, Dec. 17-EMs here will entertain children from nearby orphanages Sunday at a Christmas party, including dinner with ice cream and fruit cake, movies and a football game. A jeep-borne GI Santa will distribute gifts.

series, 1340 Sports Stuff-Sgt, Marty Smith, 1345 Sound Off.

1400 National Barn Dance Regular cast of the American musical feature.

1430 John Charles Thomas Metropolitan baritone sings popular favorites.

1500 Take Your Choice.

1530 Sammy Kaye's Sunday Serenade.

Kirovograd and thus prevent the Russians from bending back the defenders' left and right flanks north and south of the city. This Russian move probably would be Planned by Bomber HQ a prelude to the familiar Red Army tactic of envelopment used so successfully in

Strong German tank and infantry forces, supported by bombers, were being thrown into the fighting on narrow

Farther to the north, where Russian units were within sight of the junction town of Smyela, enemy units had been outflanked at many points and were facing complete encirclement. Between Smyela and Cherkassy, major German forces were trying to move westward through Russian units which had swept around them

around them. Meanwhile, Russian artillery halted another big attack by Nazi panzers in the Malin-Radomisl area of the Kiev salient, although fighting there remained critical, Moscow admitted.

Moscow reported extensive artillery duels near Leningrad, while Berlin radio told of Russian attacks on eight different sectors of the front, ranging from Lenin-grad to Kherson, near the banks of the lower stretches of the Dnieper north of the Perekop Isthmus.

Heaviest fighting, according to Berlin, was in the Kirovograd area, where the Germans claimed some advances.

To Go Up Christmas Eve

Sunday, Dec. 19 0800—Program Resume—Organ Reveries. 0815—Harry James. 08150—Major Bowes Amateur Program. 0900—World News (BBC). 0910—Melody Roundup. 0930—Sunday Screnade (BBC)—Scottish Variety Orchestra. 1015—Your Town—Radio news-letter on Newark, Trenton and Linden, N.J., read by Pyt. Johnny Kerr. 1030—Yankee Castlemen Band. 1100—Weekly Nows Roundup—Presented by The Stars and Stripes. 11100—Novatime—Ted Steele, 1130—Music from America, 1200—121 Wilbur and his Orchestra. 1235—Bob Crosby Show. 1235—Program Resume. 1235—Bob Crosby Show. 1316—Screnade. 1315—Jack Benny—First show in the new fall series, 1340—Sports Stuff—Sgt, Marty Smith. Lights in Switzerland

The lights are to go up in Switzerland on Christmas Eve, the Swiss Army Command announced yesterday, after a decision to lift the black-out.

also will enforced on New Year's Eve, except in a few churches where services will be

Protestant Chapel Services

1330—Sammy Kaye's Sunday Serenade.
1600—News Flashes.
1605—Radio Chapel—with Chaplain John Weaver.
1630—Andre Kostelanetz and his Orchestra.
1700—Front Line Theater—Red Skelton and Clair.
Trevor in "Whistling in Dixie."
1730—Central Base Section Presents—GI Talent
from CBS.
1800—World News (BBC).
1810—GI Supper Club.
1900—"Seven O'Clock Sports."
1905—Aldrich Family.
1903—All-Time Hir Parade.
2000—News from Home—Nightly roupdup of
news from the U.S.A., presented by The
Stars and Stripes.
2010—Great Music—Walter Houston introduces
the classics. Protestant chapel services for the U.S. forces in London are held every Sunday at 9.30 AM in Grosvenor Chapel, 24 South Audley St., W1. American chap-lains conduct the services and a choir of the classics.

2025 — Miniature.

2030 — Fanny Brice Show.

2100 — World News (BBC)

2110 — "GI Tommy" — Differences of American and British soldiers discussed.

2115 — Yarns for Yanks.

2125 — Intermezzo.

2130 — Hour of Charm.

2200 — Bob Hope Show, with Frances Langford, Vera Vague and Jerry Colonna.

2225 — Final Edition.

2230 — Sign off until 1100 hours Monday, Dec. 20. WACs and EMs leads the singing.

Spanish and French Lessons AN EIGHTH SERVICE COMMAND

DEPOT, Dec. 17-Fifty soldiers at this depot this week began spare-time studies by phonograph in Spanish and French. M/Sgt. Paul J. McDermott, of Kenmore, N.Y., will conduct the classes.

NEWS FROM HOME

N.C. Railroad Collision Death Toll Rises to 79

Bodies of 48 Servicemen On Xmas Furlough Are Recovered

LUMBERTON, N.C., Dec. 17 (AP)— With 79 deaths already accounted for, rescue workers continued today to search

rescue workers continued today to search the wreckage of the two crack passenger trains which collided near here yesterday. The Red Cross reported that eight more bodies were believed to be buried in a section of one coach not yet entered. The dead include 48 servicemen, who were traveling home on Christmas furlough. More than 50 persons were injured when the northward train crashed into a derailed southbound express. derailed southbound express.

1,721 Ships in 11 Months

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—Including the great 45,000-ton battleship Wisconsin launched at Philadelphia Dec. 7, American shipyards launched 1,721 ships between Jan. I and the anniversary of Pearl Harbor, Liberty ships numbered 1,138, miscellaneous cargo ships 458 and Navy vessels 125.

U.S. Penny Shortage

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (UP)—Wall banks, which handle millions of dollars every day, are worried about a shortage of cent pieces. The pay-as-you-go income tax, which makes it necessary to pay wages in odd amounts, is blamed for the shortage.

Battle Areas Acquired

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (UP)-More than 11,254,300 acres of land have been taken over by the armed forces since 1938 and another 10,000,000 acres have been closed to the public. In 1942 alone 70,000 plots of land were acquired by the government.

Alaskan Airline Formed

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 17—R. W. Marshall, director of Alaska Airlines, has announced that the first commercial airline to cover Alaska completely has been formed. The new line will cover 63 cities in Alaska.

War Gives a Yank Second Bride From One British Family

A USAAF SERVICE COMMAND DEPOT, Dec. 17—One English family has furnished Cpl. William J. Mullen, of Brooklyn, N.Y., with two brides in as many wars.

as many wars.

Soon after the close of World War I,
Cpl. Mullen, who had been in France with
the Third Field Artillery, came to London,
met and wed Miss Constance Hutchin,
of Baldock, Herts.

They went to the United States, where
Mullen's wife died. In 1923 he re-enlisted
in the Army.

in the Army.

Back in England once more, in a new war, Mullen visited his wife's family.

Romance bloomed again,
Recently he was married to Miss
Winifred Hutchin, sister of his first wife.
After this war, Mullen plans to take his
second English bride back to his home
in Brooklyn.

Soldier's Medal Awarded To Ground Crew Member

A U.S. MARAUDER STATION. Dec. 17—S/Sgt. David A. Goss, of Baltimore, was awarded the Soldier's Medal for rescuing an unconscious co-pilot, 2/Lt. Frank V. Sances, from the burning wreckage of a Flying Fortress.

In spite of the warning of the plane's

pilot that the ship was loaded with bombs and would explode, Goss, a member of the armament section at this base, ran to the Fort and dragged the co-pilot out of danger. Seconds later the gas tank exploded.

U.S. Submarines Destroy 8 More Japanese Vessels

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—American submarines have sunk eight more Japanese vessels, the Navy Department announced today.

Destroyed were two large transports, two large tankers, three medium freighters and one small freighter.

By Milton Caniff









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