



# THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations



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Saturday, April 1, 1944

## Navy Strikes 500 Mi. From Philippines

### Twin Peril To Odessa Developing

#### Reds Seize Port to East; Zhukov in Carpathians 15 Mi. From Hungary

While Russia's First Ukrainian Army surged forward at record speed within 15 miles of the Hungarian border northwest of Cernauti, Soviet artillery and Marines yesterday captured a port only 40 miles east of Odessa, thus confronting that Black Sea base with the threat of attack from the sea, as well as from the land.

Fall of the port Ochakov to troops under Gen. Rodion Malinovsky was announced in an order of the day by Marshal Stalin last night even as another wing of Malinovsky's Third Ukrainian group threatened Odessa from 34 miles to the northeast.

Stalin's order described the port as a "fortress" and "an important strong-point in the German defenses blocking the entrance into the Dnieper-Bug estuary." The town faces Odessa across a 40-mile bay.

Northwest of Cernauti in the Carpathians, Marshal Gregory Zhukov's First Army troops pressed forward high up in the Pruth valley to a point 2,000 feet above sea level, within ten miles of the Tartar pass leading through the mountains into the Tisa valley. The valley has belonged to Hungary since the partition of Czechoslovakia in 1938.

Another force, thrusting south from Cernauti, was reported within ten miles of the frontier station of Domesti on the Rumanian border.

A hundred miles to the south, along the Pruth in the Jassy area, Marshal Ivan Koniev's armies marked time, growing in strength for an early push across the river there into Rumania. Koniev's left wing, gaining 12 miles in a day, pushed within 45 miles of the Moldavian capital of Kishinev, where the Red Army apparently hoped to cut the lateral railway running west from Odessa to Jassy.

Less than ten miles separated Zhukov and Koniev along the upper Pruth, and the latter's right wing was reported racing west to link up with the First Army troops which captured Cernauti.

Stanislavov, the oil and rail town about midway between Cernauti and Lwow, on the line linking those two cities, was reported encircled, and Col. Ernst von Hammer, military commentator of German News Agency, described a new Soviet attempt to storm the town with tanks. He said tank-busters repulsed it.

Von Hammer, telling of new attacks on Brody and Kovel in Poland, also revealed that the Red Army was continuing to hurl strong forces at the Nazi lines on the central front east of Mogilev in an effort to achieve a major breakthrough.

#### British Mistake U.S. Plane For a Nazi, Shoot It Down

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (AP)—British fighter planes from a carrier shot down a U.S. Army transport plane and its crew of six by error in the Atlantic this week, the War Department and the British Admiralty announced jointly today.

The fighters were protecting a convoy and apparently mistook the four-engine C54 transport for a German Focke Wulf 200 bomber.

#### Clocks in U.K. Go Ahead An Hour Starting Sunday

Double summer time goes into effect at 1 AM Sunday, if you're up that late. If not, set your watches ahead one hour when you roll in for taps Saturday.

The "double" part is due to the fact that under the war schedule clocks are already one hour in advance of Greenwich mean time.

#### Cannon Sponsors Bill To Turn Back Clocks

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—A bill introduced by Rep. Clarence Cannon (D-Mo.) asks Congress, which set the nation's clocks ahead one hour in 1942, to set the time back again. Cannon said he had received hundreds of protests against daylight saving time.

### Soviet Forces Japan to Accept Cut in Vital Oil, Coal Supply

Soviet Russia, frankly admitting that she was giving "due consideration" to the Allies' war in the Pacific, announced yesterday a new pact with Japan—reclaiming from Tokyo's control an important source of Japan's oil and coal and sharply restricting Japanese fishing concessions in Arctic waters.

Under the new pacts, Japanese coal and oil interests in northern Sakhalin, a Russian-owned island, ended 26 years ahead of schedule.

Diplomats in Moscow said flatly that the change was a staggering blow to the Japanese war machine, a great contribution to the Allies' war on Japan and one of the greatest diplomatic victories in the war.

The newspaper Izvestia, mouthpiece of Soviet policy, made it clear that Russia had forced Japan into the new agreements and declared that Red Army successes against Germany and "developing military operations of our Allies" had played a part in "sobering up" Japanese politicians stalling since 1941 with a hopeful eye on Hitler's blitzkrieg.

Up-to-date statistics are not available on the island's production of coal and oil. It probably does not represent a large percentage of the total Japanese supply, but its loss to the Japanese war machine is appreciable, since Japan's resources cumulatively fall short of requirements. Output in 1939 was about 1,000,000 tons a year.

Observers in London and Washington declared it was a definite sign of weakening in Tokyo.

In brief, Japan agreed to cancel 26 years before they expire the oil and coal concessions granted by the Soviet in 1925 and to transfer to the Soviet for 5,000,000 rubles all Jap oil and coal properties in northern Sakhalin. Russia agreed to supply Japan with 50,000 tons of oil annually—but not

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### President Won't Sign It, But Lets Vote Bill Get By

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—President Roosevelt notified Congress today he would allow the soldier-vote bill to become law at midnight without his signature, although he considered it "wholly inadequate" in providing servicemen and women an opportunity to cast their ballots.

In a message sent to Capitol Hill, he appealed to the states to cooperate in making the measure "as fully effective as its defective provisions will allow" and at the same time asked Congress "to take more adequate action to protect the political rights of our men and women in service."

He proposed an amendment to permit all persons in uniform who had not received state ballots by an appropriate date, regardless of whether formal application had been made, to use the federal ballot without previous express authorization by the states.

"If the states do not accept the federal ballot that will be their responsibility, and that responsibility will be shared by Congress," the message said.

"Our boys on the battlefronts must not be denied the opportunity to vote simply because they are away from home.

"They are at the front fighting with their lives to defend our rights and our freedoms. We must assure them their rights and freedoms at home so that they will have a fair share in determining the kind of life to which they will return."

The compromise measure adopted by House and Senate after four months' legislative discussion provided that servicemen and women overseas might use federal ballots only if they had applied for state ballots before Sept. 1 and had not received them by Oct. 1. In addition, governors of their states would have to certify that federal ballots would be acceptable under state law.

In a telegraph poll of all governors, the President learned that at least 20 states planned to do nothing about authorizing the use of supplementary federal ballots; that 19 would permit their use, or probably would, and that nine were noncommittal.

House Group OKs Putting 4Fs in Plants or Labor Units

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (Reuter)—The House Military Sub-committee recommended that the War Department take positive action to force men classified as unfit for military service into essential industries or induct them into the Army as labor battalions.

This WAC Group Shed Stripes to Get to ETO

More than 200 WACs will be processed for jobs at ETO headquarters today, all of whom have voluntarily agreed to be "broken" to private from grades as high as first sergeant in order to get to the ETO.

They were told that only the stripeless would be sent to Spaulding, and girls who had worked for their chevrons for up to 18 months said, "Take 'em away."

With the group are six WACs who do rate as high as corporal, but they are intended as replacements in special jobs.

#### Fear of Reds Spreading In Germany, Swiss Hear

ZURICH, Mar. 31 (Reuter)—Stark fear of the Russians is spreading through Germany, despite the fact that the German public is about a fortnight behind in its news from the Eastern Front, according to travelers arriving here.

Official anxiety also is becoming more apparent, and Berlin is at a loss to know how the Wehrmacht can cope with the Soviet advance, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Tribune de Geneve.

### Daring Fleet Foray Coincides With New Air Assault on Truk

#### Big Bill's Hidden Hoard Of Over Million Found

CHICAGO, Mar. 31 (UP)—Lawyers searching for the will of William Hale (Big Bill) Thompson, former Chicago mayor who died recently, opened two safe deposit boxes and found a hoard of old-style large dollar bills and gold certificates worth \$1,200,000. Three more boxes have yet to be opened, and another two boxes are known to be in existence.

Previously it had been reported that Thompson left an estate estimated at \$150,000.

The will has not been found yet.

### Nuremberg Hit Hard by RAF; 94 Planes Lost

#### Luftwaffe Is Up in Record Numbers; Pitched Battles Bring Highest Toll

Ninety-four aircraft—the heaviest loss ever sustained by an Allied force—failed to return early yesterday from the RAF's great raid on Nuremberg and other German targets.

The losses, exceeding by 15 the previous high of 79 RAF planes downed in the raid on Leipzig Mar. 19, were poignant evidence that the Luftwaffe still can launch, if it wishes, enough aircraft to give stiff opposition to an assaulting force.

However, the theory that the Germans have brought into use a reserve "secret air force" was discounted by commentators. A story from Switzerland had suggested the existence of such a force.

Probably more than 1,000 planes flew into the Reich to hit the transport and industrial center of Nuremberg, in the south, and other targets in western Germany. An estimated 2,000 tons were dropped on Nuremberg.

#### Three-Hour Pitched Battle

For three hours, the Air Ministry said, a pitched battle was fought between a "very strong" force of Lancasters and Halifaxes and the largest numbers of fighters the Germans have ever hurled against the RAF.

Apparently anxious to protect the city from the great destruction wrought in Frankfurt by the RAF Mar. 22, the Germans appeared to have sent up the greater part of their entire force of night fighters.

One experienced pilot, now on his second tour of operations, said that he had never seen so many hundreds of fighters as in yesterday's unsuccessful but determined Nazi attempt to keep the bombers from their targets.

The Germans opened their attack, described by returning crewmen as one of the bitterest since the beginning of the Battle of Germany, shortly after 1 AM—before the moon had set. Fighter packs engaged the bombers soon after the

(Continued on page 4)

### Jap Warships Flee Before Stab Into Enemy Waters

A powerful U.S. naval armada, including a fleet of aircraft-carriers, has struck at the Palau Islands, westernmost of the Caroline Islands and located 500 miles due east of the Philippines, in an attack described in Washington naval circles last night as the "first deliberate challenge to the Japanese fleet to leave its hiding places and come out and fight."

A few hours before the attack began late Wednesday—it has been continuing ever since—U.S. reconnaissance planes observed a fleet of "Japanese ships fleeing from the area," an official Navy Department announcement said. Late dispatches last night claimed that a tremendous naval bombardment was continuing against the Palau Islands, which guard the eastern gateway from the Pacific into the rich Jap-dominated East Indies.

Almost simultaneously with the Palau attack, Liberator bombers from Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Southwest Pacific bases gave two islands in the Truk group

Map on Page Four

their first attack, scoring 200 direct hits on vital installations while shooting down 20 aircraft and destroying or severely damaging another 94 Jap planes caught on the ground.

Following up Gen. MacArthur's air blow, bombers of the Seventh Air Force operating from bases in the Gilberts smashed three times in 24 hours at Truk, leaving great fires burning on two islets of the group.

In the brief communique announcing the Palau Islands action, the Navy Department said that enemy scouting planes either from Dutch New Guinea or from Palau itself apparently had spotted the American task force as it approached the islands and given warning to Japanese ships in the area.

The attack, still apparently continuing last night, is one of the most audacious thus far in the Pacific war and indicates

(Continued on page 4)

### Wingate Killed In Plane Crash

Maj. Gen. Orde Charles Wingate, DSO, who planned the recent Burma operation in which British airborne troops were landed far behind Japanese lines by American gliders under command of Col. Philip ("Flip Corkin") Cochran, was killed Mar. 24 in an airplane crash in Burma, the British War Office announced last night. He was 41.

Wingate, an anti-aircraft officer in Kent at the outbreak of the war, organized Wingate's brigade of jungle commandos who waged guerrilla warfare hundreds of miles behind the enemy lines in Burma for months, supplied only from the air.

The recent airborne operation 200 miles in the Japanese rear, largest Allied air landing of the war, was planned by Wingate in conference with Lord Louis Mountbatten after Wingate accompanied Prime Minister Churchill to the Quebec conference last summer.

### Wooden Bullets Used By Germans in Italy

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Mar. 31 (Reuter)—German use of wooden bullets in Italy was disclosed with the approval of Army authorities by returned wounded at an Army hospital here.

Soldiers said the bullets had a maximum range of 100 yards and were used only in attacks from the rear to eliminate over-shooting into other Nazi troops. Several cases of the ammunition had been captured, they said.

#### Father of 14 Enlists

WATERTOWN, N.Y., Mar. 31—A 46-year-old father of 14 children has applied, together with his 17-year-old son, for enlistment in the Navy here. Leo Thesier, of Lowville, and his son Paul will be given final examinations next month.

#### Some Milk Run

### Panting Stork Flies In 7 Babies To 2 Mamas in Adjoining Beds

Special to The Stars and Stripes

NEW YORK, Mar. 31—The wife of Cpl. Herbert Bachant—the latter is somewhere in the British Isles—gave birth to triplets yesterday in Sloane Hospital only 24 hours after the birth of quadruplets in the same hospital to Mrs. Harry Zariff.

All seven babies and their mothers, who occupied adjoining beds while expecting, were reported to be in excellent condition. Mrs. Isidore Miller, maternal grand-

mother of the quads, said that although her son-in-law had been in 1A, proof the quads were coming got him one of the most unique deferments of the war.

Arrival of the triplets made Sloane Hospital in the eyes of the nation a monument to maternity and multiple births.

The hospital superintendent's latest communique said that the mothers and babies slept well during the night. The infants were sleeping in air-conditioned cribs, wearing just diapers and shirts and feeding well.

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Hash Marks

The most original, heartfelt verse to cross our desk in a long while comes from Sgt. Fred C. McDuffie. It's called "Ode To A Powdered Egg." You taste Like paste.

The most disgruntled men of the week are the crew of a Sioux City fire house. They had bought some pin-ball machines



to pass away their idle hours, but just as they started to play them for the first time the alarm rang. They raced their trucks over dangerous ice-coated streets to find that the rumpus was caused by an absent-minded woman who was trying to mail a letter in the alarm box.

Here's one for the books. Junior officers at a station hospital over here still sing "Oh, How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning," but reveille ain't as bad as it used to be. Instead of being aroused by the discordant blast of a CQ's whistle or a bugle, they are awakened gently by the lilting strains of a ukelele, accompanied by genuine Hawaiian crooning. And it's the real McCoy, too. The job is done by Lt. Ray Fernandez, who learned the routine in his native land—Hawaii.

And then there's the tale of the mess sergeant who shouted, "Hey, go easy on that meat—those knives aren't expendable."

A Red Cross worker received quite a surprise the other day—the morning's mail brought a large package containing



several hundred empty cigarette packages and a couple of hundred chewing gum wrappers. The attached letter and a little investigation finally produced an explanation. The package was sent in by a gullible GI who had swallowed a yarn told by his hutmates. He had sent the wrappers and stuff believing that he would "win" a silver-plated whistle (complete with chain) and a "commando knife."

Quickie Verse contributed to this column by Phil Barney, Tampa Morning Tribune columnist: Wish I had Roz Russell's hat this minute. With her in it.

J. C. W.

Gunner's First Novel Tells The Story Behind the Flier

Yank Shaped Book As RCAF Tour of Ops Progressed

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Some day along in the middle of April, while T/Sgt. Dan Brennan is teaching gunners newly come to the ETO the essentials of defending a bomber, a London publisher will put on sale a first novel—"Never So Young Again."

Dan Brennan wrote "Never So Young Again," telling the story of an American air gunner who volunteered to fight with the RCAF before the States went into the war. When he wrote it he was still flying Halifaxes for H.M. Forces. Now, transferred to the USAAF, Brennan is instructing in gunnery while he waits for a chance to get back on operations, and his students could do a lot worse than to go to town and buy a copy of his book.

There is nothing in "Never So Young Again" which provides a cure for malfunctions in a .50 cal. at 25,000 feet, and not a word about fire control. But it does tell, and authoritatively, what happens to the minds of people who fly to fight. It tells why air gunners get the way they do, and what happens to a man in the process of completing 30-odd operational hauls.

"Never So Young Again," which is being published by Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London, is a first novel. It does not profess to be an analysis of air gunners or gunnery. Brennan says it is "more than somewhat autobiographical"; the hero's name is Mack Norton. Brennan's middle name is Norton.

Ex-Reporter and Hooper

The 26-year-old Minnesotan is a former reporter on the Minneapolis Tribune and a one-time vaudeville hooper (while he was attending the University of Minnesota). In January, 1941, even as some 10,000 other Americans did before Pearl Harbor, Brennan got tired of hearing some people deplore what the Nazis were accomplishing and decided to do something about it. He quit his newspaper job, enlisted in the RCAF at Winnipeg.

Overseas three months later, Brennan was assigned to a gunnery pool, completed a couple of courses, and went on operations in the spring of 1942. He was tail gunner in a Whitley, old two-engined bomber. After two trips to the continent, Brennan's crew crashed, all were killed or seriously injured and Brennan spent months in a hospital. When he got out, he was assigned to Halifax bombers, ahead of him some 28 missions more before his tour ended.

"About that time I decided I'd better write the novel I'd always wanted to do—about anything—if I ever was going to get it done," Brennan says. "Those 28 missions left in the tour looked like a lot."

Writing in the afternoons, between lunch and briefing, as he sat in his Nissen



T/Sgt. Dan Brennan

hut at a heavy-bomber station waiting for the weather to okay or scrub a haul to the Continent, Brennan finished a 75,000-word book. It was about a tail gunner in Whitleys, and when he came back from a raid one night and read the manuscript over, he threw it away. "It was no good," he says.

Wrote Before, After Ops

He started work on another, which became in time, "Never So Young Again." Brennan's plan of writing his novel even as he went along on his tour operations—which forms the skeleton of the book—was difficult: He had little perspective, but he was close to his subject, and many of the passages which portray so well the mood of combat airmen were written within hours of going on a haul to the Ruhr, or just after coming back from Essen, when he was so nervous he couldn't sleep. Very few authors will consider that plan of writing a good one to follow.

Brennan wrote the entire manuscript in pencil, on all sorts of paper. "Sometimes I scrounged Red Cross paper, sometimes I could buy a pad, sometimes I used the backs of mimeographed station orders, and once I wrote on brown wrapping paper," Brennan admits with a laugh. "The important thing to me was to get it done."

He finished the manuscript just as he finished his 30th raid and his tour of ops. He transferred from the RCAF to the USAAF the next month—June, 1943—and polished the book off then. He went looking for a publisher when he got leave.

In London on pass, Brennan was standing "at a Mayfair bar and I got talking to a fellow next to me, an Englishman. He was Terence De Marney, an actor, and over a Scotch the conversation got onto authors. I said I'd written a book and wanted to find a publisher. De Marney said he'd help."

Brennan left the manuscript with the actor. He came back to town on his next pass to find a message waiting for him at the Washington Club to call De Marney. The book had been sold to Allen and Unwin.

Brennan since has completed a second novel—"Nothing Remains for Tears"—a story of the Battle of Britain. It is being read by a publisher. He is at work on another, but wants to get on operations in the USAAF (he'd like to be a B26 tail gunner) before he finishes it.

News From Home

Victory Won't Scuttle Fleet, Rayburn Says

Must Not Scrap Warships And Thus Lose Power in Pacific, He Warns

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 31 (AP)—Sam Rayburn, speaker of the House, asserted today that the "men in Congress who refused to fortify the island of Guam" will not be permitted to scrap the American fleet or military machine after the war.

Rayburn said that "we need to know that never in the future can Pacific island outposts be put to the treacherous uses of the Jap."

He emphasized that when the war ended the American fleet would remain intact.

"We are not going to sit down with any representative of Tokyo and figure out ratios on paper and then sink our battleships to fit the details of a scrap-of-paper peace," the Texan asserted.

Even if the Japs send emissaries who bow and scrape until kingdom come, the U.S. will be the one to say what is to be done with the Pacific islands in the future, Rayburn added.

Church Gets Old Mansion

NEW YORK, Mar. 31 (Reuter)—Archbishop Francis J. Spellman announced today that the Herbert Strauss house, one of the few remaining private old New York mansions, had been bequeathed to the Roman Catholic Church and would be used as a convalescent hospital.

Scores Watch 3 Die

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 31—Three persons died when their canoe was swept over the 13-foot Fairmount Dam on the rain-swollen Schuylkill River as scores of persons watched. Only one person in the canoe survived.

The Kiss Did It

CHICAGO, Mar. 31—Elaine Olson got a double surprise on her way from work. A man stepped in front of her and kissed her twice. She was so surprised that she dropped her purse, but the young man picked it up—and fled. The purse was found later, minus \$50.

Autry Recruiting WACs

DETROIT, Mar. 31—Gene Autry, an Air Transport Command technical sergeant, is now recruiting women for the WAC. The former cowboy movie star, who is stationed at Romulus, Mich., will be in Detroit this week.

Police Shake-Up in Chicago

CHICAGO, Mar. 31—A shake-up of the police department has been ordered by Commissioner James P. Allman. Sixteen captains and 14 lieutenants have been shifted, as well as a number of sergeants and patrolmen.

Prisoners May Be Drafted

NEW YORK, Mar. 31—A special draft board will study the cases of 1,400 prisoners at Rikers Island to determine their eligibility for military service. Most of the men are in prison for minor offenses.

Operation for Harry Hopkins

ROCHESTER, Minn., Mar. 31—Harry Hopkins, President Roosevelt's adviser, underwent an operation at Mayo Clinic, his physicians have disclosed. They said he spent "a fairly comfortable night."

Gulf Free of U-Boats

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 31 (Reuter)—Shipping between New Orleans and Vera Cruz, Mexico, will be resumed shortly. The U-boat threat has disappeared from Gulf of Mexico, it was said.

ETO Church Attendance Gaining; 40 Per Cent at Services Regularly

About 40 per cent of American soldiers in the ETO attend Army religious services regularly, Col. L. Curtis Tiernan, theater chaplain, said yesterday. He said this number was considerably higher than among soldiers in the U.S.

There has been "a noticeable increase" in attendance here in recent months, he declared. Air raids and expectation of taking part in the invasion of Europe have made ETO soldiers aware of "the seriousness of war," the chaplain said. As a result, he pointed out, more soldiers are "realizing better the realities of life" by going to church.

"It's not a matter of fear," he said. "More soldiers are attending services because of self-respect and ambition to do well."

The theater chaplain praised the work of chaplains in the field who, he said, are "working with a real enthusiastic zeal as I've never seen clergymen work anywhere."

Chaplain Tiernan received an honorary appointment recently when he was given the status of a member of the Pope's personal household. The appointment carries the rank and title of "Right Reverend Monsignor."

He served in the last war for two years, partly in France with the 129th Field Artillery, 35th Division. In 1929 he

again joined the Army, and served at the field artillery, cavalry and command and general staff schools in the U.S., as well as three years in the Philippines.

He has been theater chaplain since last September.

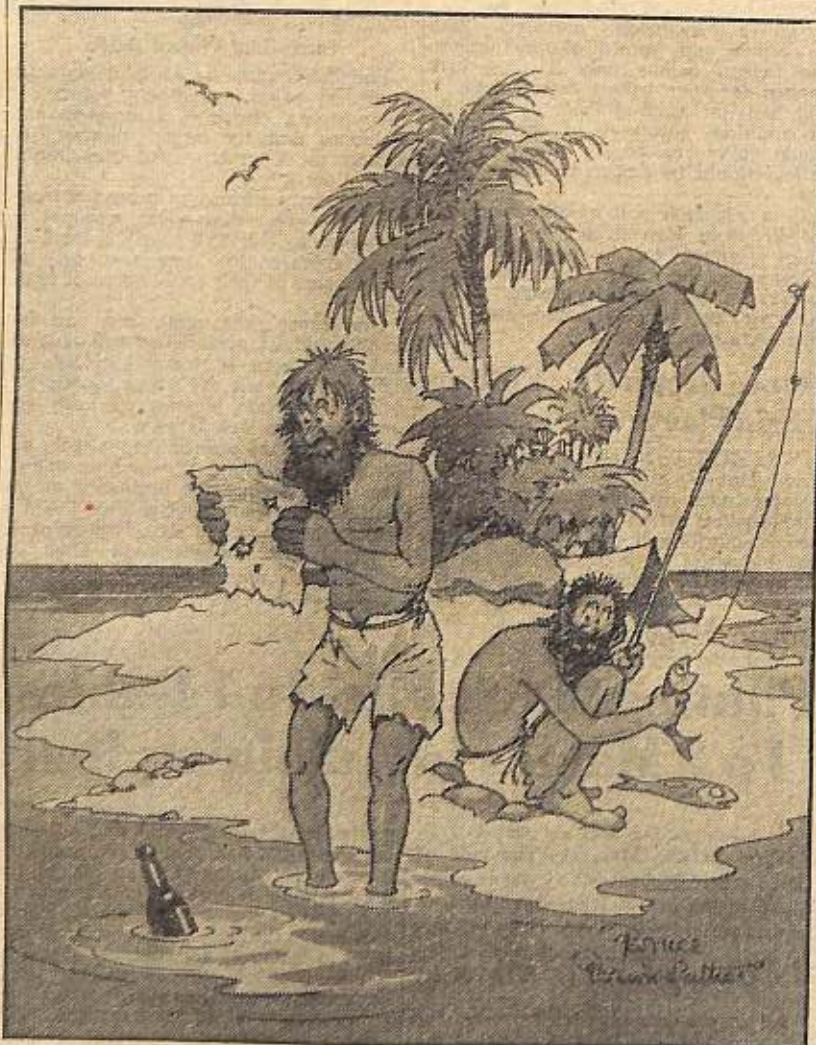
Lenten Message

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.



Gosh!! Hitler's invaded Poland!

War Prison Newspapers

Most prisoner of war camps in Germany and Italy have their own camp newspapers which serve as a link between the various camps and their working detachments. In some war prisons the men are also permitted to subscribe to approved local newspapers; but, as a rule, they much prefer their own sheets, which give them camp news, information covering entertainments, sports, educational activities, and the arrival of Red Cross supplies.

There are two kinds of prison camp newspapers. The first is issued bi-weekly by the German authorities and published in the large towns which have prison camps in the vicinity. It circulates from one prisoner of war camp to another throughout the country, and it is the publication which deals with all matters of a general character such as repatriation, world news, and official notices. It usually runs to about ten pages, with large headings in heavy type and a layout somewhat along American daily newspaper lines. It is illustrated with photographs.

Besides this general newspaper for prisoners there are also the camp sheets which appear usually about once a week, and which are posted on a large notice board fixed against the wall of the canteen. A description of one of these obtained from the International Red Cross Committee, which keeps a complete file in Geneva, is typical.

The paper is called The Flag. On the front page under the national colors is the motto "Hold Out." In the middle of the page a bold heading announces that the prisoners' representative (the elected camp leader) has a message. In it he not only gives good advice and encouragement, but also states that prisoner Bill M. has saved the life of a child who was drowning, and that an anonymous prisoner had made a gift to the paper's editor of 50 reichsmarks for the family of a less fortunate fellow.

On page two and back page is the home news section. Prisoners read this last, so they can return to work refreshed by thoughts of home. Other columns contain spiky jokes, a language lesson, and sound hygienic advice. Hardly in the Nobel Prize winning class, these prison camp newspapers from a morale standpoint rate extremely high; only Red Cross Packages and mail from home rate higher.

Ike Writes Home

The letter from home has long been heralded as the GI's biggest morale booster, and, by the same token, "lack of mail" will result in griping quicker than almost any other shortage.

With the APO's excellent record in getting the mail through—despite weird addresses and sometimes no address at all—and the swiftness of V-mail, the average GI who doesn't receive as many letters as he would like to do cannot blame the mail service.

We have a hunch that in many cases the GI who gripes about mail is himself partly at fault. A check-up would probably reveal that he hadn't written as many letters over a given period of time as he thought he had. And his stock excuses would be, "I haven't time" and "there's nothing to write about." The censors will cut it out anyway."

According to the citizens of Abilene, Kansas, these chronic alibiers can look to their commanding general, who is setting a good example. Abilene is Gen. Eisenhower's home town, and they say that Ike has not forgotten the folks back home.

Throughout the great military campaigns in Africa and Europe he has written regularly to his old friends—sometimes still as a youth respecting his elders, sometimes as a school friend still addressing a school friend, and always as a man of modesty, warmth and feeling.

There are no military secrets in these letters, no sensations. In fact, in most cases the war is forgotten and the letter is centered around the events that make up the lives of the home folks themselves. For example, Gen. Eisenhower's letters to his mother contain frequent questions about her gardening, her health and her window boxes.

The general encourages the people back home to write and insists on answering each letter. Perhaps the secret of how he does it all is contained in his reply to a friend, "It's an odd thing you asking me how I find time to write letters. It is almost my only relaxation. Moreover, there is nothing I enjoy more than hearing from old friends."

An approach like this to the task will make your letter-writing much easier, and the mail orderly will then turn out to be a pretty good Joe after all.

# Utah Scalps Redmen to Take National Cage Title

## Canadiens, Black Hawks Gain Stanley Cup Finals



### Montreal Routs Toronto Six, 11-0; Chicago Clips Wings, 5-2

MONTREAL, Mar. 31—As predicted by everyone, the Montreal Canadiens sailed into the Stanley Cup finals by routing the Toronto Maple Leafs, 11-0,

### Stanley Cup Playoffs

- First Bracket**  
(Best four out of seven)  
Toronto 3, Montreal 1  
Montreal 5, Toronto 1  
Montreal 2, Toronto 1  
Montreal 4, Toronto 1  
Montreal 1, Toronto 0  
(Montreal wins, four games to one)
- Second Bracket**  
(Best four out of seven)  
Chicago 2, Detroit 1  
Detroit 4, Chicago 1  
Chicago 2, Detroit 0  
Chicago 7, Detroit 1  
Chicago 5, Detroit 2  
(Chicago wins, four games to one)

**BUFFALO, N.Y., Mar. 31**—Huck Geary, wandering shortstop peddled by the Pittsburgh Pirates to the Phillies during the off-season, was located here today by the United Press, something Manager Freddie Fitzsimmons couldn't do, Geary said he is undecided about playing ball this year and didn't call Fitz because he "had nothing definite to say."

**WALLINGFORD, Conn., Mar. 31**—Inclement weather forced the Boston Braves indoors here yesterday, but didn't postpone the scheduled intra-squad practice game. The Regulars laced the Yarnigans, 9-1, in the local Choate School fieldhouse.

**EVANSVILLE, Ind., Mar. 31**—Rudy York, slugging Detroit Tiger first baseman, has been ordered by the Cartersville, Ga., draft board to report for his physical next Monday. York's loss would be a severe blow to Detroit's pennant hopes.

**LAKEWOOD, N.J., Mar. 31**—New York Giant Manager Mel Ott is trying to make starting pitchers of right-hander Frank Seward and Southpaw Eward Pyle, both 4-F in the draft.

**BEAR MOUNTAIN, N.Y., Mar. 31**—Leo "The Lip" Durocher was his own garrulous self today after a prolonged period of silence. Lippy expressed satisfaction with his pitching prospects after yesterday's workout and was running around the Brooklyn Dodger training camp here offering to wager with one and all that he would have six consistent winners on the '44 staff. Lippy's "sure winners" so he said, will be Whit Wyatt, Rube Melton, Curt Davis, Friez Ostermueller, Bob Chipman and Hal Gregg.



Leo Durocher

**LAFAYETTE, Ind., Mar. 31**—The Cleveland Indians today were confronted with the uphappy prospect of a mass exodus from the training camp by players subject to the draft. Unless the men are rejected, the Indians will lose Manager Lou Boudreau, Pitcher Allie Reynolds, Russ Peters and Ken Keltner, infielders; Roy Cullenbine and Cliff Mapes, outfielders, and Russ Lyon, former semi-pro catcher being groomed to take over in Buddy Rosar's absence.

### Help Wanted AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, 37, Upper Brook St., London, W.1. Telephone, ETOUSA, Ext. 2131. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, direct all correspondence c/o Help Wanted.

#### APOs Wanted

Pvt. Edwin ATDERSON, Hartshorne, Okla.; S/Sgt. Charles PHILIP BAKER, Baldwin, Ill.; Robert BAILEY, Milton, Ill.; Clifford BAILEY, Clarion, Iowa; Pfc Lewis BIRDWELL, Henderson, Mo.; S/Sgt. Lowell CARTER, Lt. S. T. CHIANTI, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Lt. H. M. CLARK, Clark, Letchfield, Conn.; S/Sgt. Robert CORBETT, Keene, N.H.; Pvt. Harold D. DESCHENE, North Wichita Falls, Tex.; Roger DICKSON, Dickson, Tenn.; Pfc Robert C. DICKSON, William DIEHL, Tyrone, Pa.; Albert EIFMAN, Bronx, N.Y.; Shelby ESSLINGER, Hardin, Mo.; John J. FEARON, Butte, Mont.; Maj. David L. FREIDMANN, Sgt. Alfred FRENCH, Fireville, Mont.; Sgt. Adam GEIS, Ohio; Sgt. Eddie Sidney GOLDBERG, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Sgt. Raymond GORDON, South Ambury, N.J. (Melrose Regiment); George GORDON, Tacoma, Wash.; Roy HITCHCOCK, Homer, N.Y.; S/Sgt. Vincent J. HOLT, Tenn.; Col. H. E. JENNINGS, S.D.; Cpl. Burton JOHNSTON, Elkhart, Ind.; Sgt. John LANNING, Spokane, Wash.; Sgt. SMALL, Lansing, Mich.; N.D.; John LEARY, Hastings, Mich.; Viris FLEPPIO, Yonkers, N.Y.; Pfc Robert LINENGER, John J. LUNDERGAN, Cambridge, Mass.; T/Sgt. George E. MACDONALD, Jr., Dominic MALLIZIA, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Pvt. Fred MATHEW, Ada Velarde, Okla.; Pvt. James MAXWELL, Roslyn, Wash.; Cpl. John MEISTER, Donald M. MOORE, Avey MORGAN, Terre Haute, Ind.; Sgt. Paul F. NICHOLS, Osebo, N.Y.; Cpl. John OBRAMSHE, Brookline, Mass.; Sgt. Joseph A. OMASTA, Northampton, Mass.; Sgt. Nat RINE-OWENS, Providence, R.I.; Sgt. Roland SCHEHART, Alexandria, La.; Sgt. Larry SMALL, Deriter, Ashland, Ore.; Sgt. Steven SON, Los Angeles, Cal.; Pvt. Frank STEVENSON, Castle Gate, Utah; Morgan STUTES, SPORTS, Springfield, Ohio; Versailles, Mo.; Crowley, La.; Lloyd REIN (or Reingold)

Attention: If you are getting worse since your father is ill and getting worse since your disappearance. He believes you are in the Armed Forces somewhere and wants word of your location and well-being. If you read this, send your Dad a cablegram. If you know or his whereabouts, write to Help Wanted or to his father, Jack Reingold, 770 Empire Blvd., Brooklyn, Hyde Park Photographs  
Will the officer who photographed a British general in Hyde Park Sunday, Mar. 26, please communicate with Mr. F. Hobson, National Savings Committee, Broadway Court, SW1. Tel.: Abbey 1064.

### Savold Misses in Close



Lee Savold (left) misses a left jab as Joe Baksi holds his arm with his glove in their ten-round bout at Madison Square Garden. Savold won the decision, thereby breaking the hoodoo that has dogged him in the Garden.

## Jack Favored To Top Zurita Bannick Kayoes Coonahan in 1st

### First New York Contest For NBA Champ Since He Beat Angott

**NEW YORK, Mar. 31**—Beau Jack, whirlwind punching Negro and ex-lightweight king, ruled as 12-5 favorite to wallop Juan Zurita, NBA champion since beating Sammy Angott in Los Angeles, when they get together tonight in Madison Square Garden over the ten-round non-title route.

However, it is likely that the odds will shrink considerably before the battlers step into the ring because Zurita money is beginning to show up along Jacobs Beach. Jack figures to win, but Angott was a popular choice over Zurita, too, and didn't know what hit him when the Mexican began to pitch leather.

If Zurita adheres to his usual custom, he'll change styles in the middle of the fight in an endeavor to befuddle the former Georgia shoeshine boy, shifting from his natural southpaw stance to an orthodox right-handed stance. It was these tactics that helped him dethrone Angott. Jack, far from being a mental giant, was unable to unravel the style of Bobby Ruffin when he switched stances and the Beau came out on the short end of that test. Later, however, he closed with a rush to whip Lulu Costantino after being mystified for several rounds by Lulu's changing stance.

### Bobby Jones Now Lt. Col.

Bobby Jones, grand slammer of the links now in the ETO with the Ninth Air Force, has been promoted to lieutenant colonel.

### Bentley Tallies Three Times

**DETROIT, Mar. 31**—The Chicago Black Hawks registered their fourth success in five starts against the Detroit Red Wings, 5-2, here last night before 12,791 disappointed rooters to advance into the Stanley Cup finals against Les Canadiens, of Montreal.

Doug Bentley tallied three times for the Hawks, once in the opening frame and twice in the finale. In addition to Bentley's pair of goals, Johnny Gottselig and George Allen scored for the Hawks in the third period assault.

### Three Ex-Rangers Make Ice Loop All-Star Sextet

**MONTREAL, Mar. 30**—Ironically, the New York Rangers experienced their worst season in National Hockey League history this year, but three former members of the team were named on the all-star team chosen here today by league managers.

Earl Siebert, of the Chicago Black Hawks, and Babe Pratt, of the Toronto Maple Leafs, voted to defense positions, and Lorne Carr, winger from Toronto, are former Rangers. Remainder of the first all-star sextet includes: Goalie Bill Durnan, of Montreal; Boston's Bill Cowley, center, and Doug Bentley, Chicago left wing.

### Two for Price of One

## Boxer Cops Light Heavy Title, Then Annexes Heavy Crown

**A SOUTHEASTERN TOWN, Mar. 31**—Pete Morelli set a novel mark for ETO ringmen to shoot at here last night when he waited off with two championships in the finals of an Ack-Ack unit's boxing tourney—and neither of his foes was standing at the final bell.

The Stockton, Cal., 175-pounder, who annexed the Californian Golden Glove title in 1941, unleashed a lethal assortment of rights and lefts to put Pvt. Walter Unsoll, of Steubenville, Ohio, 175, to sleep in 1:10 of the second round. Then after a four-bout rest, Morelli TKOed Pvt. Walter Munch, 210-pounder from New Orleans, to win the heavyweight crown.

Apparently none the worse for his stint against Unsoll, Morelli weakened Munch

during the first two rounds with frequent furies of lefts to the midriff and rights to the head. The referee stepped between the men at 1:32 of the third heat when it became apparent Munch was unable to ward off Morelli's punches.

In other bouts: Cpl. Lester McGrew, Kansas City, 120, outpointed Pvt. Frank Caraturo, New York, 124. Pvt. Ernest LeFore, Altona, Pa., 125, outpointed Cpl. Jesus Yepes, Gallop, N.M., 126. Pvt. Joe Baline, Stockton, Cal., awarded lightweight title (no opponents).

Pvt. Russell Williams, Bloomington, Ill., 145, outpointed Pvt. Raymond Mendoza, San Francisco, 142. Cpl. Eddie Brickner, Philadelphia, 152, kayoed Pvt. Richard Scott, Long Beach, Cal., 154, in :32 of the first. Pfc Walter Franklin, New York, 163, TKOed Pvt. Robert Davenport, Wilmington, Del., 165, (Davenport unable to answer bell for second round).

### 55-Second Finish Features Final Round of Ring Tourney

By Ray Lee

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

**A FIELD FORCE HQ, Mar. 31**—Pvt. Bill Bannick, 141-pounder from Pittsfield, Mass., and former leading contender for the National AAU lightweight title, again furnished the shortest bout on the card staged here last night when he TKOed 145-pound Pvt. William Coonahan, of New York, in 55 seconds of the opening stanza in the finals of the separate units' tourney at this headquarters.

Bannick, a cool-headed ring workman, downed Coonahan for the nine-count at 20 seconds. Coonahan got up slugging, took a couple of Bannick's lefts, and was on the canvas again when he caught another right to the head. That was enough, and his seconds threw in the towel at the count of four. In another short-time bout, Moon Mullins, a 134-pound private from Birmingham, Ala., notched a second-round TKO over Cpl. Robert Darrow, 133-pound Chicagoan, when Darrow failed to come out for the third.

Although he drew blood from Moon's nose midway in the opening frame after suffering a knockdown from a left and right to the head, the Chicago Negro was no match for his foe. Mullins dumped him to the canvas in the first and floored him three times in the second, the bell saving Darrow at the count of three.

In other bouts: Pvt. Ed Lang, Detroit, 125, outpointed Pfc Addison Blake, Pittsburgh, 125. Pvt. Caesar Romero, Los Angeles, 156, outpointed Cpl. Sol DiFini, Bronx, 152. Pvt. James Gilbert, Flint, Mich., 167, outpointed Pvt. Alex Hladysch, Cleveland, 159. Pvt. Joe Johnson, Flomaton, Ala., 159, outpointed Pvt. Richard Gilbert, Flint, Mich., 168. T/5 Ray McWaters, Paducah, Ky., 183, outpointed Pvt. Floyd Smith, Flint, Mich., 180.

### Kramer Coast Guard Ensign

**NEW LONDON, Conn., Mar. 31**—Jack Kramer, of Los Angeles, national tennis doubles champion and second ranking player in the country, has been commissioned ensign Coast Guard Academy here. Kramer enlisted as a boot in 1942 and entered the Academy four months ago.

### American League Series

Hershey 5, Buffalo 3 (Series tied, 3 games each)

## St. John's Lags In Second Half To Lose, 43-36

### Utes Repeat Wyoming's '43 Performance Against Brooklyn Five

**NEW YORK, Mar. 31**—Utah's blitz kids completed their amazing comeback in a blaze of glory last night when they topped St. John's of Brooklyn, Invitational tourney champions, 43-36, at Madison Square Garden to capture the mythical national collegiate basketball title.

The Rocky Mountain youngsters thus culminated one of the most exciting seasons in hardwood history, returning to the scene of their earlier defeat to subdue the champions after falling from the same Invitational affair in the first round. For St. John's, the setback was a repetition of '43 when the Redmen bowed to the NCAA victor—Everett Shelton's Wyoming quintet.

After a furious first half last night that ended in a 19-19 tie, the Utes settled down to the systematic business of wearing out the smaller Brooklyn five. Breaking a 23-23 deadlock early in the final session, Utah forged ahead never to be caught.

### Ferrin, Wilkinson Lead Drive

Utah, led once again by Arnold Ferrin, sharpshooting forward who contributed 17 points to the triumph, assumed a 28-25 edge after five minutes of second-half combat. Then the Redmen shackled Ferrin, but Herb Wilkinson, whose Merriwell toss dumped Dartmouth Tuesday night for the NCAA crown, stepped into the breach to drive the Utes to a 35-26 lead midway in the frame.

St. John's resorted to a blistering fast break in an effort to overtake the westerners, but Utah's compact defense around the circle stalled the Redmen and forced them to take set shots from difficult angles under constant harassment. Ray Wertz scored three times and Ivy Summer added a two-pointer, reducing the Flatbush five's deficit to 36-34 with five minutes to play, but the Redmen weakened noticeably after their belated spurt.

Wilkinson and Ferrin sneaked in for layups, jumping the score to 43-36, with a minute remaining. Then the Utes controlled the ball with a razzle-dazzle passing show that bewildered the Redmen until the final gun sounded.

### Sheffield Out

In their dramatic NCAA victory over Dartmouth, the Utes were without the services of their ace scorer and playmaker, Fred Sheffield, who bowed out in the opening minutes with an injured ankle. Sheffield was replaced by Wat Misaka, pint-sized Hawaiian-born Japanese-American, who sparked the offense, feeding Ferrin and Wilkinson.

In a preliminary tussle, Michell Field's GI powerhouse drubbed Aberdeen Proving Grounds, 64-46, in a game played under rules recently adopted by the coaches rules committee for next year, with five fouls per player, unlimited substitution and penalties for deflecting the ball on its downward arc toward the hoop.

Here is the box score of the title tilt:

Utah-43		St. John's-36	
	G F P		G F P
Ferrin, f	6 5 2	Kotsiores, f	2 1 4
Smuin, f	1 0 3	Wertz, f	5 0 1
Sheffield, c	0 0 0	Major, f	0 0 0
Misaka, c	2 1 1	Summer, c	3 1 4
Wilkinson, f	4 3 2	Wentz, c	0 0 0
Lewis, g	4 0 3	Guthrie, g	4 3 2
		Duym, g	1 0 1
		Robinson, g	0 0 2
		Larkin, g	0 1 0
Total	17 9 11	Totals	15 6 14

### Jim Dunn TKOs Bergstrom For Feather Championship

**A SOUTHERN TOWN, Mar. 31**—Pvt. Jimmie Dunn, Mexican scrapper who held the featherweight title for the 5th, 6th and 7th Service Commands in the States, captured the feather crown in the finals of a mixed units ring tourney here last night, scoring a TKO victory over Pvt. James Bergstrom, of Elkhart, Ind., 122, in 15 seconds of the second round.

In other bouts: Pvt. Gabriel Morra, New York, 139, outpointed Pvt. Kenneth Bartley, Springfield, Ohio, 134. Pvt. Phillip Greenfield, Brooklyn, 144, outpointed Pvt. Floyd Liston, Wadsworth, Ohio, 144. Pvt. Vincent Gelbrocco, Salamanca, N.Y., 145, outpointed Sgt. Zygmund Gubacz, Dearborn, Mich., 144. Pvt. Julio Rinna, Detroit, 174, kayoed Pvt. Percy Davenport, Marshall, Me., 180, in :52 of the first.

### Li'l Abner



By Al Capp

and rumor has it that all is not serene in the charming Bargrease shack on account of the fair Beldie (Bargrease done hauled off and clunked Barney on the stove with the kitchen stove.

Experts say the stove kin be repaired but not Barney.

SOMEbody ELSE GOT HIM??— AH OWES IT T'GRANNY T'GIT SOMEBODY ELSE--

That well-known bachelor, Li'l Abner Yokum, has his cousin marked attention to Miss Beldie, the Eagle, who's from outa town. Rumor has it that Weddin' Beldie soon will chime.

Yo' granny says: hurry up an' trap yo' self a husband an' write him back 'cause she's gettin' tired of doin' all the heavy work.

(write by hand) Available Jones

# Enemy Forces Are Thrusting Ahead in India

## Reach Hills Near Supply Road; Auchinleck Says Drive Will Be Halted

Japanese troops invading the Indian province of Manipur have reached the hills just east of the Imphal-Kohima road, 40 miles inside the India-Burma frontier, Lord Louis Mountbatten's communique announced yesterday.

As fighting was reported still raging north and east of Kohima, 65 miles north of Imphal, the Allies announced that a small enemy raiding party that had broken through to the supply road linking the two towns had been driven back.

A Japanese broadcast declared that the road had been cut.

A promise that Imphal, capital of Manipur, would not fall to the Japs was given yesterday at New Delhi by Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, British commander in India.

Declaring that Imphal was still in Allied hands and was strongly defended, Gen. Auchinleck said he felt certain that "we shall maintain our forward lines of communication and ultimately drive the enemy back to his original position and behind."

# High Brass Must Make the Old Car Do Another Year

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, Adm. Ernest J. King and Adm. Chester W. Nimitz will have to make their seven-passenger automobile do for another year.

Only Adm. Harold R. Stark, commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe, may have a new one, the Senate Appropriations Committee ruled.

It refused the War and Navy Departments authority to purchase new automobiles for the two secretaries and the two admirals but granted a new car to Stark because Navy records showed he had only a light Chevrolet for his personal use in London.

# Designer of Its Buffalo Hasn't Got the Nickel

SAN RAFAEL, Mar. 31—Beniamino Bufano, the sculptor who designed the buffalo on the American nickel, said he didn't have one to his name—and was ordered to serve ten days in jail.

Bufano was sentenced for failure to pay \$25 per month for the support of his 15-year-old son Erskine. He described himself as a dollar-a-year man without a dollar, saying he had been making Army, Navy and OWI posters, and had no other employment.

# Doolittle Speech on Offensive To Be Aired by AFN Tonight

Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle's message on the Eighth Air Force's offensive of the last eight weeks, read to the National Press Club in Washington on the occasion of the premiere of the film, "Memphis Belle," will be repeated over American Forces Network here on the "Take the Air" program at 8.10 tonight.

On the same program a veteran of both RAF and USAAF, Capt. Dean H. Satterlee, of Sacramento, Cal., will describe some of his experiences. A CBS correspondent's interview with M/Sgt. Omer James, of Argyle, Ky., ground crew chief of the Fort Screamin' Eagle, which has completed 45 missions over enemy targets without an abort for mechanical reasons, will be read.

Providence, R.I., will be featured in the "Your Town" series tomorrow at 11 AM.

On Your Dial  
1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.  
218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.

## Saturday, Apr. 1

- 1100—News Headlines and Spotlight on Johnny Long.
- 1115—Personal Album with Martha Stewart.
- 1130—Yanks Radio Weekly.
- 1200—World News (BBC).
- 1205—Barracks Bag.
- 1300—World News (BBC).
- 1310—Curtain Call.
- 1330—Hello India—Special feature to the GIs in India.
- 1400—Downbeat.
- 1430—Ranch House.
- 1459—News Headlines.
- 1500—Music While You Work.
- 1510—Off the Record.
- 1630—NBC Symphony and Program Resume.
- 1730—Atlantic Spotlight (BBC).
- 1800—World News (BBC).
- 1810—GI Supper Club.
- 1900—Seven O'clock Sports.
- 1905—Waltz Time with Abe Lyman's Orchestra and Frank Munn.
- 1930—Dinah Shore Program.
- 2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A.
- 2010—Take the Air.
- 2030—GI Journal.
- 2100—World News (BBC).
- 2115—Serenade.
- 2120—American Commentary—Raymond Gram Swing.
- 2135—All Time Hit Parade.
- 2200—Xavier Cugat.
- 2230—One Night Stand with Les Brown.
- 2255—Final Edition.
- 2300—Sign off until 0800 hours, Sunday, Apr. 2.

## Sunday, Apr. 2

- 0800—Sign on—Hymns from Home—Program Resume.
- 0815—Sunday Serenade.
- 0900—World News (BBC).
- 0910—Band Wagon.
- 0930—Major Bowes.
- 1000—Morning Varieties.

# Royce Is Named Deputy Chief of Ninth Air Force

Maj. Gen. Ralph Royce, 54-year-old former commander of U.S. forces in the Middle East, has been appointed deputy commander, under Maj. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton, of the U.S. Ninth Air Force, it was announced yesterday. In his new position he will play an important part in planning the Ninth's invasion role.

A veteran of World War I, Gen. Royce served as U.S. military attache in London in 1941, and was appointed chief of staff of the Allied Air Forces in the Southwest Pacific in April, 1942. He personally led a 2,000-mile flight of 13 Forts from Australia to the Philippines to blast Jap bases.

Brig. Gen. Ellwood R. Quesada, 39-year-old veteran of the North African and Italian campaigns, is in command of the U.S. Ninth Air Force Fighter Command, Gen. Brereton announced.

Mustang and Thunderbolt fighters and fighter-bombers of his command form an important part of the Allied Expeditionary Air Forces, the British-American air arm which will operate in close support of the expeditionary land forces when they enter the Continent.

# 3 Days to Send Mom Flowers

## PX Deadline on Orders For Mother's Day Is Monday, April 3

GIs have only three more days to order Mother's Day gifts, including flowers, for delivery in the U.S. Monday, Apr. 3, is the deadline, PX officials announced yesterday. Mother's Day falls on Sunday, May 14. It is too late to send flowers for Easter.

Orders for flowers are mailed to the Florist Telegraph Delivery Association, Inc., New York, which executes them within three to six weeks.

The average soldier is spending \$3 on gifts for mother, the most popular present being flowers, the PX reported. The PX catalog lists 19 combinations of flowers, ranging in price from \$2.70 to \$9. The PX is accepting orders of gifts for Father's Day, June 17.

# New PX for Enlisted Men Opens Saturday in London

A new post exchange for enlisted personnel in the London area will open today in Knightsbridge, London, S.W.7, it has been announced.

The second PX in the area, it will be open every day except Sunday from 11 AM to 7 PM. The other PX for EMs is located on South Audley Street, London, W.1.

# Where Jap Fleet Ran From Battle



Map shows where U.S. Navy task force and Army bombers struck twin blow in Pacific. In Palau Island area, 500 miles east of the Philippines, Jap warships fled before attacking fleet.

# Navy Strikes Only 500 Mi. From Philippines as Truk Is Blasted

(Continued from page 1)

A new phase in the sea battle against Japan. Washington quarters pointed out last night that thrusts similar to the Palau attack probably would be made if the Japs failed to hit back before the American fleet withdraws to home waters.

The Palau group is a group of 200 heavily wooded islands lying on the western fringe of the Carolines, and are believed to be developed as a great naval supply base, besides having extensive installations for airfields and ground defense.

In the Southwest Pacific, meanwhile, bombers of the Fifth Air Force struck at Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, and dumped 186 tons of fragmentation bombs on two airfields. More than 50 planes were either damaged or destroyed on the ground.

In an attack on Wewak, New Guinea, more than 100 tons of bombs were dropped on supply area. Another 12 planes were destroyed in aerial combats over the base.

# Consolidated Coronado Converted to Cargo Plane

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—The pace of modern war has been so swift that the Consolidated - Vultee PB-2Y-2 four-engine Coronado—once acclaimed as the most powerful bomber in the Navy arsenal—now has been relegated to the status of cargo carrier.

The Navy recently revealed that scores of the giant 33-ton Coronados were being called in from combat jobs for conversion to transports.

# Raids - - -

(Continued from page 1)

enemy coast had been passed and ground defenses joined in the assault.

German defenses also were said to include a new type of "scarecrow" rocket shot from the ground. Crewmen said that the new rockets zoomed up like flares and hung in the sky. Those that fell and exploded on the ground looked like 1,000-pounders going off, one pilot said.

Crewmen reported observing spreading fires and one particularly bright flash which indicated a large explosion in the target area.

German radio last night claimed that 141 planes had been shot down.

# Japan's Oil - -

(Continued from page 1)

until after "the present war." Whether this meant the war in Europe or the global war was not clear.

The agreements also reduced sharply the fishing privileges that Russia has granted Japanese in northern Pacific waters. This followed the disclosure this week that Russia is getting vast quantities of war materials by ship from the United States across the Pacific. Washington observers believed Japan would not attack Russian ships for fear of provoking war.

# 12 Airfields Hit In 2-Day Blow

## 57 Nazi Planes Destroyed By Bombs in U.S. Raids On France Mar. 27-28

Severe damage was done to 12 German airfields in France by Fortresses and Liberators of the U.S. Eighth Air Force in attacks Mar. 27-28. In addition to hangars and airfield buildings, targets included repair plants at Tours and Reims and a Focke-Wulf assembly plant at Bordeaux.

At least 57 enemy aircraft were destroyed or damaged by bombs in the raids, according to a summary released yesterday by the USSTAF after a study of reconnaissance and strike photos.

Widespread damage was done among all main buildings at the Jean de Angley airfield, used principally for pilot training, and at Chateaudun, a bomber base, there were bursts on or near all major installations. Hangars, workshops, barracks, in fact all types of airfield buildings were listed as destroyed and damaged in the report.

Other targets named were a training field near Pau, La Rochelle, Biarritz, Chartres, Cazaux, Dijon and Mont de Marsan.

# Plane Crashes Into Train

PITTSBURGH, Mar. 31—An Army fighter plane crashed into the side of a moving freight train near the County Airport, killing the pilot and scattering flaming wreckage for several hundred feet.

# Dreiser to Receive Award

NEW YORK, Mar. 31—Novelist Theodore Dreiser will be presented with the Award of Merit medal and a \$1,000 cash prize by the American Academy of Arts and Letters at the organization's annual ceremony in May.

# Angry Chaplin Takes the Stand To Shout Denial of All Charges

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 31—Charlie Chaplin's flat denial of most of Joan Barry's testimony concerning alleged intimacies over a period of many months left the record a mass of contradictions today as the comedian's Mann Act trial apparently neared its end.

The 54-year-old Chaplin categorically denied the charge that he sent the 22-year-old redhead to New York in the fall of 1942 for immoral purposes.

He told the jury he met Miss Barry in 1941 and planned to give her a leading role in a motion picture. In May or June, 1942, after he "lost faith in her," Chaplin said, Miss Barry went to another studio, but came back soon and was placed on probation at \$100 a week.

Some time after this, Chaplin said, "she burst in to my office and told me, 'I am through with acting. If you will pay the fare for mother and me we will go to New York. We will call the whole thing off.'"

# Sofia Is Blasted By Record U.S. Bomber Force

## Biggest Number of Heavies Ever Used by 15th AF Hammers Rail Yards

The largest number of heavy bombers ever employed by the U.S. 15th Air Force in the Mediterranean, with the greatest bomb load, raided Sofia's railway yards and industrial area Thursday. Photos showed direct hits on the main central yards and lines from the northwest and east. Warehouses, assembly yards and sidings were smashed and many fires left burning.

Forty enemy fighters challenged the Fortresses and Liberators, and 13 of the Luftwaffe were shot down—five by the bombers and eight by the fighter escort. It was the fifth daylight attack on the Bulgarian capital, which was hit by the RAF Wednesday night.

Reports of the heavy damage were accompanied by word that Bucharest was being evacuated as a precautionary measure against air raids, a Reuter dispatch said. It quoted a German News Agency correspondent as saying the exodus from the Rumanian capital was "voluntary" and "desirable" as relief for the transport problem. Moscow radio, quoting an Istanbul dispatch, said many Rumanians "connected with the ruling clique" were fleeing the country.

As the heavies assaulted Sofia, mediums and fighter-bombers continued to hammer rail and other supply arteries over a wide area in Italy.

At Cassino, the Germans were quick to follow up Allied withdrawals from untenable positions on Monastery Hill's eastern slopes and have reoccupied most of the commanding points above the town. Meanwhile, Reuter reported a Berlin forecast of an early resumption of Allied attacks from the reinforced Anzio beachhead and another Anzio-type landing farther up Italy's west coast.

# High Court Upholds OPA Rent Control And Price Fixing

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—The Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of the Office of Price Administration's rent-control and price-fixing powers.

Ruling that the OPA program did not involve an illegal delegation of power, the Court reversed a Georgia court which refused to sanction OPA rent control, and at the same time upheld convictions of two Boston meat dealers for selling above OPA price ceilings.

Also approving portal-to-portal pay for miners, the Court ruled that Alabama miners were entitled to pay for the time they spent traveling to and from the mouth of the mine.

Portal-to-portal pay had been an issue in last year's wave of coal strikes. Yesterday's case, however, did not involve John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers.

# Martin Signs With UAW

BALTIMORE, Mar. 31—The Glenn L. Martin Co. and the UAW (CIO) have signed a one-year collective-bargaining contract.

# Terry and the Pirates

