

Battered Bremen Is Hammered Again

2 Keystones Of Nazi Line In Italy Fall

Twin Victory Takes Eighth Near Key Supply Route; Fifth in Fierce Fight

Two spearheads of Gen. Montgomery's Eighth Army, pushing northward yesterday despite strong German opposition, captured Orsogna and Ortona—keystones of Kesselring's eastern front—and moved to within 12 miles of the Rome-Pescara supply line in central Italy, Algiers radio said.

About 60 miles to the southwest, along the crumbling German winter line, the Fifth Army fought fiercely for the village of San Vittore, last major German stronghold protecting Cassino, key city on the road to Rome.

This battle developed after a swift advance from San Pietro, capture of which gave the Allies a base on two sides of Cassino.

Yesterday's official communique had not yet confirmed the Eighth Army gains, merely mentioning that a heavy tank battle was in progress in the Ortona-Orsogna area, with heavy losses being inflicted on the Germans.

Nazi Retreat in Center

On the central front Fifth Army troops blasted their way through difficult mountainous terrain and forced the enemy to give ground. Advancing forces found many dead Germans, mute proof of the effectiveness of intense U.S. artillery fire.

French troops, also battling on the central front, were fighting fiercely for an unidentified mountain pass north of Venafro. United Press said the Frenchmen had captured two small villages along the pass.

Although gains on all fronts have been small in the last few weeks' fighting, there is increasing evidence that bitter engagements are at last beginning to have a telling effect on the Germans.

43 Tanks Knocked Out

Since the Sangro River battle the Eighth Army has knocked out 43 German tanks, 30 of which were 22-ton Mark IVs. Since Dec. 15 the Eighth has shattered two regiments of the 19th Panzer division, which has meant the loss of about 2,400 men for the enemy.

The remnants of these two regiments already have been welded into one unit again, but the Germans will find it increasingly difficult to fill the gaps. There is a constant flow of men and materials coming up to the Eighth Army.

Yesterday's Allied advance into Ortona and Orsogna cost the Germans heavy losses, according to Algiers radio, which added that the 19th Panzer division faced the prospect of being wiped out for the second time in the Italian campaign.

Restaurant Ration System To Be Revised Next Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—A new 1944 rationing program, affecting more than 400,000 restaurants, was announced today by Food Administrator Chester Bowles.

Replacing the present system, in which the size of a restaurant's food ration depends on the number of people served either food or refreshments, the new program will base the ration solely on the number of customers served food alone. Refreshment rations will be based on the number of persons served refreshments solely.

Yanks in N.I. Protest Four-Shilling Whisky

Complaints by American soldiers in Northern Ireland that some public houses are charging four shillings for a glass of whisky—sixpence above the agreed trade price of 3s. 6d.—have been taken up with the Ulster government by U.S. authorities, the London Evening News said.

The paper said the overcharges came to light at a retailers' meeting in Belfast.

More Improvement Noted In Condition of Churchill

Prime Minister Winston Churchill was reported yesterday to be "making satisfactory progress," recovering from pneumonia in the Middle East. A bulletin issued at 10 Downing St., telling of improvement for the fourth straight day, said his temperature had now been normal for 48 hours.

No Jingle Bells on This Sleigh



Soldier Santas—many of whom have played the role in their U.S. homes—were host to 100 English evacuees at an Air Service Command base. Keeping up with the modern trend of things, S/Sgt. Anthony C. Osso, of Hamilton, Ohio, uses a transport plane to carry the gifts to the station. Parties like this are being held all over the ETO this week for British children.

Real Give and Take Christmas Already On for Yanks in ETO

American soldiers in the ETO have jumped the gun on Santa Claus this year and are already off on the track of Christmas cheer.

Thousands of English children are the main objectives on their route, and beginning today ETO soldiers will do their best to swamp these kids with gifts, games, grub and the gleeful uproar of a regular American Christmas.

Reds Rip Open Northern Line

Crack Red Army troops, exploiting a great break-through along a 50-mile front southwest of Nevel, pushed within striking distance of the important Vitebsk-Polotsk railway yesterday and threatened to outflank the main German fortress of Vitebsk north of White Russia.

Even as the Russians smashed forward little more than 50 miles from the old Polish border, news came from Berlin that the Nazis had evacuated their stubbornly-held Kherson bridgehead near the mouth of the Dnieper, their last outpost on the river's bank.

Berlin radio said the bridgehead became useless with the freezing of the river.

The Russians' big push through the complicated defense system of the Germans' "iron wall" was described in Moscow as very likely only the first move in a giant drive to clear all White Russia of the enemy.

Only 200 miles further south, Gen. Rokossovsky's White Russian Army was

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Marauders Complete 100th Mission

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
USAAF MEDIUM BOMBER HQ.
Dec. 20—Marauder bombers today completed their 100th mission against enemy targets in the occupied countries with a raid on military installations in north France.

The 100th attack carried the Marauders' bomb tonnage from medium altitudes past 7,000 tons, dropped in 6,700 sorties since July 16 for the loss of 21 aircraft. The loss ratio of three-tenths of one per cent is one of the lowest in any theater of air war.

In compiling their record the B26 groups of this bomber command have pushed the Luftwaffe's invasion defense bases far inland along the key strip of 350 coastal miles which comprise the nearest arc of the northwestern European coast—the coastal zone nearest those English beaches from which one of the blows at Europe might possibly be launched on Invasion Day.

In some places in the occupied countries, the Luftwaffe fighter bases have been shoved back as far as 50 miles by the incessant Marauder attacks, which have

pulverized German airdromes, wrecked air depots and blown up airplane fuel and munitions.

The attacks against Luftwaffe airdromes in France, Belgium and Holland have covered an arc beginning at Caen Carpiquet, just south of Le Havre, in France, and swinging inland to a point just north of Paris, thence northeastward past Boulogne, through Belgium and to Amsterdam-Schiphol airdrome in Holland.

In pushing home 70 attacks against 28 Nazi airfields for the major portion of their 100 missions, the Marauders have cut down the Luftwaffe's available facilities for intercepting heavy bomber formations bound eastward against the Reich itself, as well as making more difficult the task of night raiders sent against England. In some cases, two and three missions have been staged in a single day.

Of the other 30 missions, 12 were against freight yards in conjunction with the RAF's non-stop jabs at the German military transport system; 11 were against several types of military installations; three against power stations; two against coke ovens, and two against the Le Trait shipyards in France.

Heavies Strike Hard As 'Hamburging' of Key Port Continues

25 Bombers Lost; Raid Follows Twin Blow On Innsbruck, Augsburg, Deep in Reich, by Italy-Based Planes

American heavy bombers attacked Bremen, Germany's principal seaport, in daylight yesterday, less than 24 hours after Fortresses and Liberators based in Italy had bombed Augsburg and Innsbruck in the deepest penetration yet of the Greater Reich from bases to the south.

The raid on Bremen was the fourth announced by the USAAF in 37 days, and German radio reported an additional raid on the key port five days ago, when stories from neutral sources began to speculate on whether Bremen was being "Hamburged" in the manner in which that city was destroyed last summer.

The raid Sunday on Innsbruck and Augsburg, coupled with yesterday's blow against the Reich from the northwest, pounded home the meaning of Gen. Henry H. Arnold who, after the Teheran conference, promised a 360-degree circle of bombs and fire on targets within Germany.

Great Air Battle In Sunday Raids

Striking from advanced bases in Italy close to the heart of Nazi Germany, American Liberators, accompanied by Lightning escorts, penetrated deep into the Reich Sunday to plaster the industrial city of Augsburg, 35 miles northwest of Munich, and destroy 37 Nazi fighters.

The attack on Augsburg, marking the first time this industrial city within the borders of pre-war Germany had been bombed from the Mediterranean theater, precipitated the greatest aerial battle of the month in the southern theater.

22 Probably Shot Down

Approximately 100 Me109s and FW190s rose to challenge the bombers, and besides the 37 claimed destroyed, 22 more were listed as probably shot down.

In greatly expanded operations resulting from improved weather, Italy-based Fortresses with P38 escort roared into Austria at the same time to dump bombs onto the Innsbruck railway yards feeding traffic to Italy from western Austria and eastern Germany, and 15th Air Force mediums hammered railway centers north of Rome. Foligno, Perugia and Arezzo, all about 75 miles north of the Italian capital, and the railway junction at Terni, 50 miles from Rome, were their targets.

Sixteen American planes were listed as missing from the operations over Germany, Austria and Italy, but some of these were believed to have landed in friendly territory.

Clouds Baulk Observation

Augsburg, more than 100 miles north of the Brenner Pass, was bombed through a heavy layer of clouds which prevented observation of results.

Innsbruck, Cairo radio said, was taken by surprise and many hits were observed on a railway station east of the town. Twelve hours after the raid rail traffic through the Brenner Pass was reported at a standstill. Cairo said also that several large hotels were destroyed by fires which swept the city.

Great Fires Left In Blitzed Bremen

A fleet of Flying Fortresses and Liberators pounded Bremen in daylight early yesterday and left huge fires spreading across the already heavily blitzed city which is Germany's most important seaport.

Escorted all the way by fighters, the USAAF heavy bombers slugged straight through the 400 miles to Bremen despite the swarms of Nazi interceptors which the Luftwaffe threw up in a vain effort to halt the sixth major U.S. bombing attack from Britain this month.

Twenty-five bombers, five American fighters and three Spitfires, which carried out diversionary sweeps, were reported missing from the day's operations. Bomber gunners claimed 21 enemy aircraft destroyed; American fighter pilots were credited with 19 victims.

Smoke Visible 50 Miles

As the bomber formations began the homeward leg of the 800-mile round trip, they could see huge fires spreading in the port area of the city, and columns of smoke were visible 50 miles away above the haze of ground smoke put out by the defenses. Visibility was almost unlimited.

The bombers flew through a concentrated barrage of flak to carry out their fourth announced attack on Bremen since Nov. 13. In addition, German radio said five days ago that Bremen had been hit by U.S. bombers, but the USAAF announced only that targets in northwestern Germany were attacked that day.

Eighth Fighter Command escorts battled German interceptors over the Reich itself, and two new American fighter aces came out of the dogfights.

Marauders also were out yesterday, attacking military installations in northern France without loss.

Bremen, which has been pounded five times within 37 days by the USAAF, became the Reich's most important port after Hamburg was blasted out of existence by the combined attacks of RAF and U.S. heavy bombers last summer.

The big dock and shipbuilding areas are its most important targets, but the Focke Wulf repair factory, large textile works, grain mills and lumber yards also are prime military objectives.

The largest shipyards are those of the Deutsche Schiffwerke and the Deschimag Werke. Bremen's population has been swollen by its war-time importance to something more than 350,000, but how many of these have been driven from the city by the heavy pounding is not known. Swedish news reports repeatedly have told of civilian workers fleeing the ravaged city.

Of the seven attacks on Bremen which

(Continued on page 4)

Hitler, You'll Hang, Too, Reds Tell Der Fuehrer

KHARKOV, Dec. 20 (AP)—An editorial in Pravda warned Hitler today that he would receive the same war-criminal treatment as the three German soldiers and a Russian traitor who were hanged yesterday in the city's main square here.

A crowd of 40,000 saw the four strung up on the public gallows. Hundreds of other persons have flocked since from the outlying sectors of Kharkov Province to view the bodies.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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Hush Marks

Some strange civilian occupations have come to light in draftee interviews at Ft. Devens, but the other day a prize job appeared which had the personnel staff stumped. A guy claimed to be an expert skunk exterminator. Wotthehell, he's just the guy to go after the Axis.

This Week's Short Story. Verne Slater, of Sturgis, Michigan, got impatient while waiting for an elevator,



stuck his head inside the shaft to see what was cooking—he woke up two weeks later.

Overheard in the Blackout. "In wartime, dependable husbands are as scarce as alarm clocks."

Considering all the spam that has been received as Christmas presents by GIs in the ETO, we are beginning to believe that finding a can of the meat is the penalty for opening your Christmas packages early.

"I would like to know what position I would hold in the Name in Initials Club?" asks Wightman Aaron Roach, whose initials spell the mess we're in now. You tell us!

Note to owner of our favorite pub. I'm dreaming of a Tight Christmas.

An expert on Anglo-American relations is Lt. Gault, detachment commander of a group of MPs somewhere in North England. His men have learned their lesson well. Every day their quarters are visited by nice, motherly ladies laden with pies and other delicacies that make life worth living.

You've got to hand it to the APO—they get the mail through in spite of hell, high water and human inconsistency. Take the



case of WAAF and a Pfc named Bentley, of the Engineers. They met at a dance. The WAAF wanted to write Bentley. She couldn't remember his initials or his unit, so she fixed the letter to Pfc Bentley, APO. Shortly after she mailed the first letter she remembered the details; so she promptly fixed up an envelope, addressed it properly and added this postscript on the outside: "If you have another letter in an envelope like this, please send it to this address." So Pfc Bentley got TWO letters—on the envelope of one scribbled in bold masculine hand was this note: "We looked thru 3,000,000 letters but finally found this one—the mail must go through." J. C. W.

Interned Fliers Claim Boredom Is Toughest Foe

FALUN, Sweden, Dec. 20 (AP)—Ninety-six Allied airmen—including 66 Americans—discovered boredom to be a foe tougher than all the flak or Nazi fighters they have ever encountered.

Interned in Sweden, most of them perhaps for the war's duration, they live in a fraternity house atmosphere in three former rest homes of the sleepy village of Falun, one of the country's scenic spots. All the men crashed, or parachuted, or made forced landings in neutral Sweden after raids against Germany or Norway.

With few military restrictions and virtually no routine, they lead an ideal life of vacationers but to them it's a life of boredom. Given the chance they'd return tomorrow to their former life—daring daylight raids against such formidable targets as Ploesti, Danzig, Schweinfurt, St. Nazaire or Hamburg on daylight hops, and Berlin, the Ruhr, or Leipzig in night bombing.

Wants Some Action

"Sooner I get back to combat, the better I'll like," said Lt. Arthur L. Guertin, of Detroit, Mich.

His view is shared by everyone of the 66 Americans from 27 states, Canadians—including seven new arrivals who parachuted into Sweden after their plane was shot up in the Dec. 17 Berlin raid—and seven Poles, three Welshmen, and two Englishmen.

All would trade tomorrow their daily life of skiing, ice skating, card playing, reading and movies for combat operations—but the only chance of getting back is through exchange of an equal number of Allied and German airmen, who have been forced down in Sweden.

Four American fliers whose names can't be disclosed for security reasons now await exchange. Two are pilots of a famed Liberator group, which made special missions from Britain and North Africa including the Ploesti and Wiener Neustadt raids.

Re-Fly Their Missions

Those flights, and other thrillers, are flown and refown as these airmen pass the time during Sweden's 18-hour winter nights. There are continuous hot arguments among the Americans over the relative merits of Fortresses and Liberators.

A typical winter day for the internees starts around 9 AM when they form a breakfast line just like at an English air base. It's just getting light then. After breakfast they get exercise of hiking or skiing through the snow-blanketed woods. Hockey players and ice skaters get workouts on the nearby lakes.

Lunch is served in cafeteria style, but at the evening meal at the one-time rest homes, which once catered to old women, take on the real American fraternity aspect as the men clean up, don coats and are served in groups of two and four at each table.

No Gripes on Food

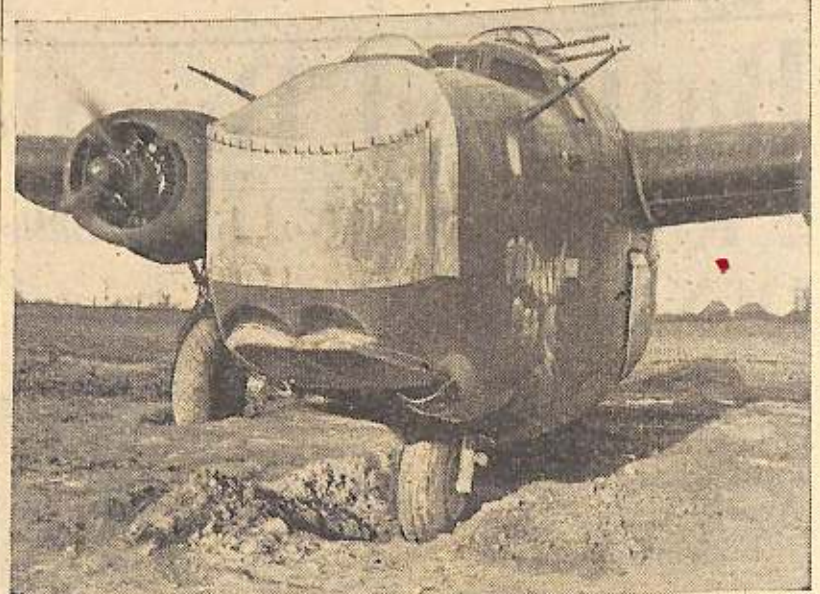
Except for a lack of eggs and frequent fish dishes the boys have no gripes about the nourishing food.

"Humblebacken" is the largest of three camps situated on top of a knoll affording a beautiful view of the countryside. Around its big fireplace you always can find a group discussing subjects ranging from favorite topics about home and women to post-war politics.

There's a bridge game nearly every day with Lts. John R. Colvin, of Valle Jo, Cal.; Glenn G. Read, of Milwaukee; William M. Bryan, of Seattle, Wash., and Sgt. Shannon B. Early, of Monro Bridge, Mass., trying to make little slams. Their

Lib Bred a DFC, Too

How Pregnant Peg Was Delivered of a New Life



U.S. Army Air Force Photo

Gun turrets removed, "Pregnant Peg," the crash-landed Liberator, received a new nose to reduce wind resistance so that she could make maximum speed on the improvised runway in which she rests.

(Editor's Note: Maj. Allen G. Russell, chief of operations for Eighth Air Force Service Command's Ferry and Transport Service, recently was awarded the DFC for removing three crash-landed bombers from a thickly wooded field. What the story entailed is illustrated below by the story of Pregnant Peg.)

Pregnant Peg, a Liberator, had come home from Europe low on gas. The weather was bad and her crew were tired. They had been looking for an airdrome and hadn't found one. Then her engines sputtered and quit. It was any field now. So, barely clearing high-tension wires and a clump of trees, Lt. Robert Copp brought her in to a belly landing in a plowed field.

Two salvage officers found her mired there next day when they arrived to look over the scene.

"It looks pretty bad," said one. "Guess we'll have to salvage by truck."

The second had a different idea. "Why not call Maj. Russell, of Ferry and Transport Service," he suggested. "He's good at this sort of thing."

That was how Maj. Allen G. Russell, of North Hollywood, Cal., chief of operations for Eighth Air Force Service Command's Ferry and Transport Service got the job of getting Pregnant Peg back into service without breaking her up.

A runway was the first job. Russell determined the prevailing wind and selected the site. Normally a Liberator requires a hard-surfaced strip 2,000 feet long and

150 feet wide. This one would have to be lots smaller. Because of the terrain, the best the Service Command engineer could do was scrape a track 40 feet wide and 1,500 feet long. Almost as soon as cleared, it became a sea of mud.

Next, Russell removed all the bomber's guns to make her lighter. Then he placed a false covering over the nose to reduce air resistance.

These preparations completed, the next job was to move the mired ship to level ground next to the runway. To lessen the weight on the half-buried nose wheel, Russell placed ten men in the tail and gunned his engines hard. That, plus helpful tugs from a tractor, snaked the big bomber out of the mud and she lurched forward to the desired location.

At 5.30 that night the wind died down, and although it was nearly dark Russell decided to take off.

To get the traction required for acceleration and take-off, he placed the ship at right angles to the runway, applied the brakes, and revved up the engines. The big moment had arrived.

Russell released the brakes and swerved the ship into the makeshift runway with a thundering roar. Engineers and spectators waited, tense. The wheels skidded round the turn in eight inches of mud. There was a breathless moment as the Lib rolled forward faster and faster and then its silhouette rose against the twilight sky. Pregnant Peg was airborne again.

Another "impossible" job had been done. Russell, assisted only by T/Sgt. Cecil F. Grove, of Waverly, Miss., an engineer, had taken off a heavy bomber using only 841 feet of runway.

Swing music is popular with Swedish girls—as are young airmen. The townspeople also like the airmen, many of whom are regular guests in the homes. Many of the boys will observe a colorful Swedish Christmas in Falun homes.

Sometimes the boys have to do a little explaining to the police for boisterous activity but Falun residents credit them generally with excellent behavior. Restriction to quarters is the penalty for a breach of regulations and that's a stiff jolt for internees who must be active to fight the boredom that comes from doing the same thing day after day.

Ploesti Raider Is CO

Maj. William H. Brandon, of Nashville, Tenn., is the commanding officer of the American group. Brandon piloted Brig. Gen. Leon W. Johnson to Ploesti on the mission that won Johnson a Congressional Medal of Honor.

Some boys tried to learn Swedish, but found difficulty in practicing for townspeople want to learn English. Many cab drivers practise pronunciation on their English-speaking fares.

"We've already designed a new ribbon for the internment theater," said Lt. Robert Theis, of Dayton, Ohio. "It's a picture of a fish with a boiled potato in its mouth."

Generally, there are few complaints, but internees would like more reading material and hope the folks back home will write oftener.

Other Americans include Capt. Willie B. Wearnt, of China Grove, N.C.; Lts. John R. Jordan, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Leonard G. Conly, of Melrose Park, Pa.; Rollo F. Rudgers, of Pavilion, N.Y.; Robert A. Hill, of Salisbury, Md.; Lts. John K. Parish, of Hermansville, Mich.; D. M. Fogarty, Belle Plaine, Minn.; W. Ott, Altoona, Pa., and Frank Kilschki, Trenton, N.J., and F/O Rodney S. Greene, South Gate, Cal.

S/Sgt. John T. Roberts, Wyandotte, Mich.; Lohr, Hoquiam, Wash.; William Cullin, Johnston, Szecepanski, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Stanley F. Topeka, Kan.; Alfred Haugen, Newalm, Minn.; Charles W. Newcomb, Standwood, Mich.; Maurice Mich., of Edward, Bernhardt, Mason City, Iowa; James T. Dezan, Jersey City, N.J.; Richard C. Hurbutt, Maplewood, Pa.; Adrien H. Hubert, East Detroit, Mich.; Walter U. Wells, St. Joseph, Mo.; S. H. Miller, Loganville, Ga.; Ralph D. West Hartford, Conn.; William W. Smith, Rockaway, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Sol Louizidev, Hackensack, N.J.; George Kelsey, Oklahoma; Bert L. Carlson, Massachusetts.

T/Sgt. Sam Paffenroth, Pine Island, N.Y.; Edward J. Donnelly, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Valdrion H. Troop, Bath, Me.; Joseph Mccain, Lawrence, Mass.; Charles E. Lockwood, Kansas City, Mo.; and Louis J. Finnan, New Orleans, La.; Acting Sgt. Donald Cairns, Newark, N.J.

No Winter Rest

There will be no breathing spell for war-weary German troops this winter, for Russian attacks south of Nevel have already smashed 19 miles through German defenses on a 50-mile front. In five days of terrible fighting the Red Army has advanced down the railway and highway in this area to within 30 miles of Vitebsk, the northern bastion of the German winter line in White Russia.

The capture of Vitebsk by Soviet forces would enable them to attempt with hope of success an outflanking movement south of the German's Leningrad line in a drive to the Latvian border or to the former frontier of Poland 70 miles to the west.

With the ground already hardening on this front, General Mud, the foe of every offensive force in Russia, will not operate to hamper the advance, and momentum gained in the early stages of this new offensive should carry the Russian troops rapidly forward.

Under these circumstances, the German High Command will be called upon to expend ever dwindling reserves, and troops who fight through a Russian winter will be in poor shape to resist the "all out" Allied offensives that will soon strike the Fortress of Europe from every side.

Foreign Language Study

While the Allied statesmen and military leaders have been at work planning the grand strategy, officers and men of the line have been preparing, through rigorous training, for the various phases of combat they will pass through to achieve final victory.

In billets, mess huts, depots, offices, wherever a few men can find a quiet corner, you'll also see them as they study one or more of the continental languages, for a study of languages has been a special feature of the Army Education Program in this theater.

Thus far the program has been conducted in the voluntary free time of military personnel. Now, as the time for large-scale operations nears, an intensive program of compulsory training-time study is being planned for field forces and operational crews of the Air Forces, as well as for key personnel among Service of Supply troops.

The primary purpose of this instruction will be to equip military personnel for direct communication with the native population in countries to be occupied by our troops. The need for this equipment will vary with the responsibilities and duties of the troops involved; but the private in the rear ranks or the soldier in the supply depot will be a more efficient soldier and a more effective emissary of peace if he knows at least a smattering of the native tongue.

Foreign language . . . here we come!

Comfort Coming Up

GIs who have to fight in extremely cold weather will be issued the new combat uniform which the Army has worked out. Only a few men in the lowest temperature posts have the uniform as yet because the Quartermaster wants to test the material thoroughly before making it general issue.

The idea behind the new outfit is the principle of "layering." One light layer of clothing on top of another should be warmer than one heavy layer. The basic fabric is made on special looms, and when finished is a sateen that resists wind and water and is guaranteed to be tough.

The new uniform is called Olive Drab No. 7, which is slightly darker than standard OD, except for a white parka jacket, used as a coverall against snow. The OD jacket is made of the nine-ounce sateen with a lining of five-ounce poplin. It replaces five different types of jacket now in use. And it fits loosely so you can put a pile fabric jacket underneath if it gets cold enough for that. There is a draw string to make the jacket tight around the waist, and four big pockets to stuff full of grenades or rations.

Two pairs of pants come with the new issue. One pair is wool serge, to be worn underneath, and the other is the light-weight sateen material used in the jacket. Both pairs of pants are held up by one pair of suspenders and both have button tabs at the cuff line so they can be tucked into boots.

With the Army improving the uniform in such a radical manner we may still live to see the day when we can fight in comfort. And wouldn't that new outfit go swell here in England in this "moderate" British climate.

PRIVATE BREGER



"My! It must be simply wonderful knowing all about mechanized warfare!"

Redskins Rout Giants, 28-0, Behind Sammy Baugh

15-Bout Fight Program At Rainbow Club Tonight

Robinson, Williams Scraps Standouts; Ruth Tackles Mills

By Mark E. Senigo
Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

After last week's all-time high for the Rainbow Corner of 19 bouts, things return to comparatively normal tonight with a mere 15 scheduled.

It originally had been planned to bring the — Infantry Division squad back for its second team match, this time against the Eighth Service Command aggregation, but the foot sloggers couldn't make it and Matchmaker Hank Lacey—who has taken over temporarily from Tex Blaisdell—had to do some fast switching. Taking the place of the division boys will be a group of Southern Base Section battlers.

Six-Time Winner

Six-time winner Pvt. Johnny Robinson, Kansas City middleweight, is coming back tonight in a non-team bout in what should be one of the three feature attractions. Slowed up last week when he could do no better than get a close decision over Pvt. George Reado, Johnny will be up against a boy almost as tough, although his record is mediocre, in Pvt. Ralph Simmons, 154-pounder from Cumberland, Md. Simmons has had poor luck this season, having taken only one contest in four starts. None of these losses has been by a big margin and Simmons, a vicious hitter at long range, should provide Robinson and the crowd with just the kind of style that will go to make a good scrap. Johnny is at his best when he doesn't have to do too much infighting.

The Air Force will be well represented with Pvt. Johnny Ruth, flier champion on the program, and Pvt. Herbie Williams, New Orleans battler who holds the Service Command lightweight crown.

Stood Up to Garrett

Ruth has made but one appearance this season, on Oct. 5, when he traded punches with unbeaten Pvt. Bill Garrett, ETO welter titlist. Although Ruth dropped the fight on a decision, it was no discredit to him, for going three rounds with Garrett is a feat in itself. Ruth, Philadelphia 151-pounder, has drawn an unknown in the shuffle, Pfc Lee Mills, also 151, from Kansas City, Mo.

Williams is one of the hardest punchers in the lightweight bracket yet to step into the Rainbow Corner ring. He proved that last week when it took him 20 seconds and two punches to kyo Pvt. Lynwood Craighead, touted by the — Division as one of the up-and-coming lightweights. Williams flashed two lefts to Craighead's jaw and both sent Craighead spinning, the second for keeps.

Pitted against Williams is Pvt. Don Carlyle, SBS 138-pounder who only Friday night racked up his second triumph in as many starts as he TKOed Pvt. Eli Segue. Carlyle has not fought in the Corner before.

- Here is the lineup for the rest of the card:
- Pvt. Jim Holiday, Uniontown, Pa., 127, vs. Pfc. Ray Wyzkiewicz, Buffalo, N.Y.
 - Pvt. William Cleeland, Arden, Pa., 143, vs. Pvt. Nick Guagliardo, New Orleans, 143.
 - Pvt. Irving Waters, Gary, Ind., 130, vs. Cpl. Junior Lowe, New Orleans, 132.
 - Pvt. William Horri, Boston, 138, vs. Pvt. Robert Irwin, Pittsburgh, 149.
 - Pvt. Laurence Dobbins, New York, 155, vs. Pvt. Frank Drezowicz, Buffalo, 156.
 - Pvt. Willie Dorsey, Gary, Ind., 146, vs. Cpl. Wilbur Wright, Youngstown, 149.
 - Cpl. Lafayette Drummond, St. Louis, 160, vs. Pvt. Garfield Thompson, Pittsburgh, 155.
 - Pvt. Tony Pontarella, New York, 169, vs. Pvt. Dave Morgan, Scranton, Pa., 165.
 - Pvt. Morris Schapiro, Philadelphia, 165, vs. T/4 David Coleman, Niles, Ohio, 161.
 - Pvt. Jesse Morris, Gary, Ind., 176, vs. Pvt. Billy Mason, Bessemer, Ala., 180.
 - Pvt. Bruce Falgout, New Orleans, 131, vs. Pvt. George Witt, Brooklyn, 135.
 - Pvt. Ed Bailey, Cincinnati, 175, vs. Pvt. Carmen Basillio, East Boston, Mass., 179.

Help Wanted AND GIVEN

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

N.Y. Broadcast

MEN from the New York area who wish to take part in a recorded program to be broadcast in New York over WMCA on Christmas Day have been asked to contact Wally Husted, ARC Headquarters, Tel. Kensington 1488.

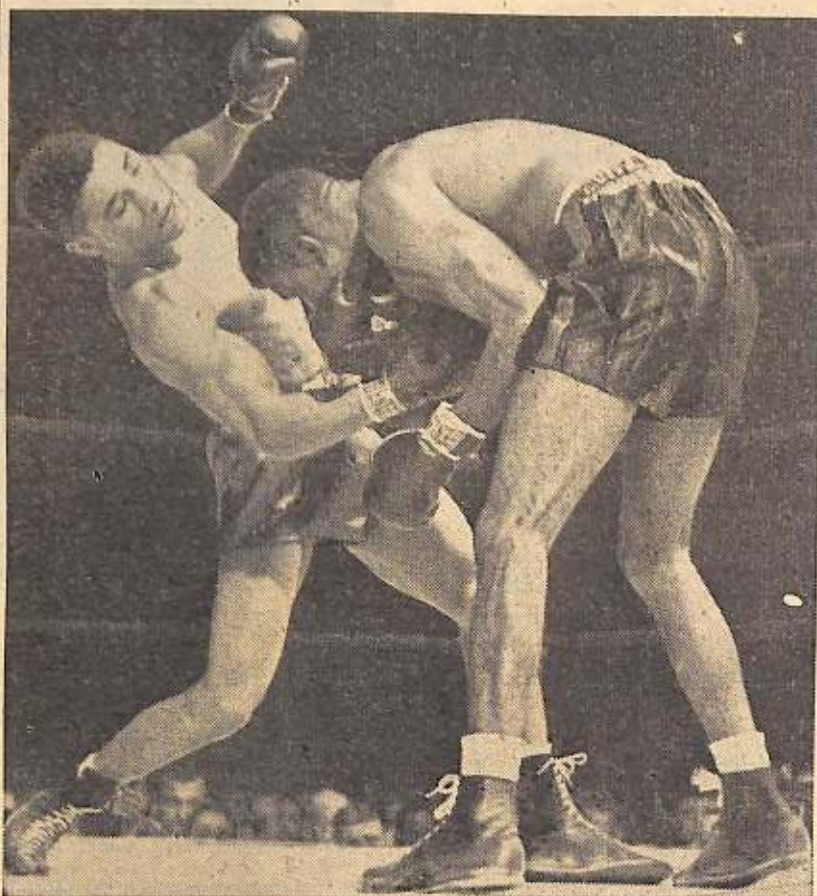
Lost

WALLET, in London, on Dec. 11, contains my discharge papers from the Canadian Army and other papers.—Pvt. Dillard I. McFarland, care of Help Wanted.

Found

OVERNIGHT Bag, brown zipper (officer's), containing underwear, shoe kit; initials "C.R." on the shirt; found about two weeks ago.—Cpl. Warren Doimany, care of Help Wanted.

Beau Bangs One Home



Beau Jack, the shoeshine boy from Georgia, lands a looping right into the breadbasket of Bob Montgomery, of Philadelphia, during an early round of their 15-round bout for the lightweight title at Madison Square Garden. Jack took the decision and championship.

Boxer Awarded TKO On 'Unintentional Foul'

BINGHAMTON, N.Y., Dec. 20—Johnny Green, Buffalo middleweight, received credit for a "TKO on an unintentional foul," when Don Eddy, of Niagara Falls, N.Y., knocked himself out in the second round of a scheduled eight-rounder.

Near the end of the second round in close mixing, Eddy's head rested on Green's chest. Green shot an uppercut and barely touched Eddy. Eddy, bringing his head up to avoid any further uppercutting, struck the back of his head on Green's chin and went down bleeding profusely. The fight was stopped and the referee awarded Green a TKO despite the crowd's clamor for no decision.

Rangers Topple Red Wings, 6-2

Cellar-Dwelling New York Six Annexes Second Victory of Season

NEW YORK, Dec. 20—The New York Rangers came alive before 15,000 fans and trounced the world champion Detroit Red Wings, 6-2, last night in Madison Square Garden for their second victory of the National Hockey League season.

Strengthened by the addition of Fernand Gauthier and Jack Mahaffey, the Rangers scored twice in every period and had little difficulty in overcoming Detroit's rookie goal tender, Harry Lumley, recently brought from Indianapolis.

Grant Warwick and Bryan Hextall tallied for the Rangers in the first period, but Carl Liscombe and Syd Howe tied it up with quick goals within three minutes of the second stanza.

From then on, however, the Rangers were in control with Heller and Oscar Bubuchon scoring before the second period ended.

In the third frame at 12 minutes 14 seconds Warwick went in again for the Rangers and within two minutes Gauthier netted his first major league goal.

Angels Clean Up QM Five In Slow Contest, 44-33

AMERICAN SCHOOL CENTER, Dec. 20—The ASC Angels cleaned up the — QM Laundry quintet last night, 44-33. The contest started out at a slow pace with both teams shooting ragged.

The second half found the boys taking the lid off the basket and potting a few on each side. Then both squads dropped back into their coma and straggled away to a slow finish.

T/Sgt. Reid Moy found the hole in the bucket often enough to top the Angels with 11 points, while Sgt. Steve Olah led the Laundrymen with 16.

DIAMOND SIDELIGHTS

All Three New York Clubs To Broadcast Home Games

NEW YORK, Dec. 20—The Giants and Yankees will return to the air waves next season, broadcasting all home games over station WINS. Negotiations have been completed with a razor blade company which will sponsor the broadcasts of both clubs.

This announcement followed news from Brooklyn that the Dodgers again would air their games with Red Barber and Connie Desmond handling the mike. This puts all New York clubs in the radio field. While the Dodgers already have chosen their announcers, the New York clubs made no mention of theirs, though it is believed that the same men will describe the games of both clubs. Don Dunphy is said to be the leading candidate.

Warga Takes Miami Crown

War Worker Tops Field Of 123 With 280 Final Total

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 20—Steve Warga, Miami war worker, scored a stunning upset, coming home with an even par 70 to win the \$1,000 first prize in the 20th annual Miami Open golf tournament with a 72-hole total of 280.

The 27-year-old Sunday golfer led a field of 123 professional and amateur stars across the finish in the four-day contest.

Sammy Byrd, former major league outfielder, shot 69 yesterday, earning the runner-up spot with a total of 283.

Ensign Willie Turnesa, former National Amateur titleholder, shot a 69 yesterday, leading the amateurs and tying Johnny Bulla, of Atlanta, Ga., for third place with 284.

Playing in wind, rain and cold the first three days, Warga established a three-stroke lead entering the final round. Yesterday, with a slight breeze annoying the name stars, the war worker kept his long drives consistently down the fairway, annexing the title. Warga had two under a par 33 the first nine, but pressure told and he shot two over par coming back.

Craig Wood, Willie Goggin and Tony Penna were in a three-way tie for fifth place.

Hawks' Streak Ended by Leafs

Toronto Strengthens Hold On Second Place With 5-2 Victory

CHICAGO, Dec. 20—The Toronto Maple Leafs strengthened their hold on second place in the National Hockey League here last night with a 5-2 triumph over the Chicago Black Hawks, ending the Hawks' streak of seven straight wins on home ice.

Ted Kennedy shot his first of two goals for Toronto within three minutes of the first period.

The Leafs made the score 2-0 early in the second stanza when Babe Pratt sank a long lazy shot. George Allen then tallied for Chicago, helped by Mush Marsh and Clint Smith. Kennedy whipped one in again and the second period ended 3-1 to Toronto.

Last period goals by Gus Bodnar and Jack Hamilton put the Leafs beyond reach. The final Chicago score was by Bill Mosienko.

Here's One Guy Who's Just Right For Old Flatbush

WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 20—Raymond Dumont, president of the National Baseball Congress, is at it again.

The inventor of the microphone behind the home plate which allows spectators to listen to arguments between the batter and the umpire, and the automatic compressed air plate duster to save the umpire the trouble of bending over with a brush, now has advocated a rule change. Dumont proposes to allow the batter to select whether he desires to run to first or third after hitting the ball.

When reminded of the possibility of two runners attempting to steal second from opposite directions, Dumont said, "It would add interest to the game and the fans would get double for their money."

Dumont failed to explain what would happen to the unfortunate second baseman.

Hockey League Standings

	W	L	T	Pts.		W	L	T	Pts.
Montreal	13	2	3	29	Chicago	9	9	0	18
Toronto	10	8	2	22	Detroit	6	7	3	15
Boston	8	8	3	19	New York	2	14	1	5

Hockey Results

Hershey 3, Buffalo 3
Indianapolis 3, Cleveland 1
Providence 3, Pittsburgh 1

Victors to Meet Bears for Title In Chicago Tilt

Baugh's Passes Set Up Scoring Plays to Upset Favored Giants

NEW YORK, Dec. 20—The underdog Washington Redskins climaxed a season of dizzy upsets at the Polo Grounds here yesterday by defeating the New York Giants, 28-0, before 42,800 fans to capture the Eastern Division championship of the National Football League and earn the right to meet the Chicago Bears for the world title at Chicago Sunday.

Led by Sammy Baugh and Andy Farkas, the Skins, who lost twice to the Giants, rebounded as 9-5 underdogs and stopped the New Yorkers cold.

Farkas, former Detroit star, rammed over three times on short plunges after Baugh's passes had set up the plays. The fourth touchdown, which came in the final period, ended a 60-yard drive motivated by Baugh's uncanny accuracy when Sammy passed 11 yards to Ted Lapka. Bob Masterson, former Miami University star, added four extra points.

Stalled in First Period

The Giants stalled the Marshallmen in the first quarter, although Washington was on the Giant five-yard line when the period ended, having marched from midfield on passes from Baugh to Masterson and injured Wilbur Moore, who played only briefly.

On the second play of the second stanza, Farkas hammered through from the one-yard line and a few minutes later the Redskins marched 56 yards to a score with three Baugh passes consuming 33 yards and Farkas going over for the tally. The half ended 14-0 in favor of the Skins.

The Giants started a drive in the third frame, but Sam Baugh again proved a stumbling block. The New Yorkers marched 45 yards to the Redskins 32, then Baugh broke it up with an interception on the 17. Bob Seymour moved to the 24-yard line, then Baugh got off the longest kick in playoff history, sending the ball 65 yards to roll dead on the Giant 11 and the third quarter ended without either team scoring.

New York Aerial Threat Stopped

Deep in their own territory, the Giants took to the air in the closing period and once again Baugh broke up the threat. He intercepted a pass by Tuffy Leemans on the Giant 43 and raced back 37 yards to the New York six. Farkas needed two tries to score. Then, with time running out, Baugh escorted the Skins downfield again, hitting his receivers in a 60-yard drive which ended with the 11-yard heave to Lapka in the end zone.

From start to finish, Baugh, lanky former Texas Christian star, proved the difference between the two teams after the Redskins successfully bottled up Giant Bill Paschal, ace ball carrier of the entire League. Sammy shot 21 passes, completing 16 for a gain of 199 yards, three falling incomplete and two being intercepted.

Here are the statistics:

	Giants	Redskins
First downs 8	13
Yards gained rushing 41	83
Passes attempted 26	22
Passes completed 4	17
Yards gained passing 57	213
Number of punts 10	7
Average distance punts, yards 36	44

Pro Grid Standings

Eastern Division				
	W	L	T	Pts.
Redskins	7	3	1	257
Giants	6	4	1	197
Stealers	5	4	1	225
Dodgers	2	8	0	65

Western Division				
	W	L	T	Pts.
Bears	8	1	1	303
Packers	7	2	1	264
Lions	3	6	1	178
Cardinals	0	10	0	95

Toe Blake Leads Canadiens To 3-1 Margin Over Bruins

MONTREAL, Dec. 20—Toe Blake, with two goals, led the Montreal Canadiens to a 3-1 victory over the Boston Bruins before a sellout crowd of over 12,000 here last night.

Herb Cain's score midway of the second period saved the Bruins from a shutout. Jerry Heffernan netted one for the Canadiens early in the opening frame and Blake made both his late in the second, with Elmer Lach receiving assists on each score.

LIZABETH

THAR HE GOES!!
—TH' MURDERER—
IT'S TH' RIGHT PHIZEEK!!
AS ANY FOOL KIN
PLAINLY SEE!!

PAPPY!! — THET TRAIN IS YOON' OFF WIF ZOON' PAPPY!!

Gilberts Fields Send Bombers Over Marshalls

Fighters Help in Attack; Sixth Army Strengthens Hold in New Britain

The spotlight shifted from the Southwest to the Central Pacific yesterday when escorted U.S. bombers of the Seventh Air Force, flying from new bases in the Gilberts, smashed Jap installations in the Marshall Islands, possibly sinking four ships, a Pearl Harbor communique said.

Fighters and light bombers attacked Milli Island airfield, destroying six zeros on the ground and damaging four. Liberators strafed and bombed vessels along the southeast coast of Kwajalein, "possibly" sinking four, the communique said.

No air opposition was met by the attackers, indicating that incessant air blows already have dealt severely with Jap air strength in the Marshall area.

In the Southwest Pacific, ground fighting was quiet, with troops of the Sixth Army unloading heavy equipment on their Arawe beachheads of New Britain, making ready for new pushes toward Gasmata and Cape Gloucester.

In the air Fifth Air Force bombers dumped 190 tons of bombs on the Cape Gloucester area, while other heavies smashed at Cape Hoskins, a few miles southeast, with 130 tons of bombs.

There still was no sign of any big Jap counter-attack designed to break the New Britain foothold. Only weak Jap air attacks have met the Sixth Army invaders in the last few days. The enemy's main ground garrisons have been withdrawn to new positions in the center of the island.

Russia - - -

(Continued from page 1)

reported poised for fresh blows against the important Zlobin-Minsk-Orsha railway triangle.

Though the day brought reverses to the Germans at both ends of the 2,000-mile front, they fought on savagely, especially in the Nevel sector, where their shattered divisions, restored by reinforcements, took up strong defensive positions in swamps, quicksands and along river banks.

Moscow dispatches said the Russian drive-through at Nevel almost halted German counter-offensives on every other sector.

Tremendous artillery barrages, supported by air bombing on an impressive scale and followed by a great tank assault, opened the first breach in the great "iron wall," and infantry surged through.

Two GI Shows Set for AFN

Two new "live" shows, "Take the Air" and "Rhapsody in Khaki," both featuring ETO talent, have been added to the expanding American Forces Network programs.

Produced under auspices of the radio section of the Eighth Air Force, "Take the Air" will contain personal glimpses of pilots, aerial gunners, ground crews and other Air Force men.

"Take the Air," a 20-minute weekly feature, will be presented for the first time at 8:10 PM Saturday, Christmas Day. Feature of the inaugural will be a Christmas message by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, chief of the USAAF in the ETO.

"Rhapsody in Khaki" will bring AFN listeners a half-hour of the finest GI talent, shifting microphones to a different SOS base section each week.

Produced and announced by Cpl. Syl Binkin, of St. Louis, Mo., the mobile show will begin Sunday, Jan. 9, at 5:30 PM.

Featured on the first in the new series will be the Headquarters Command SOS Band, under direction of W/O Louis Ferrero, of Teaneck, N.J., and the SOS Glee Club, lead by Sgt. Don Quartel, of Dayton, Ohio.

AFN Radio Program

- 1402 kc On Your Dial 1420 kc
- 213.9m. 211.3m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 21
- 1100—GI Live.
- 1115—Personal Album—Mary Healy.
- 1130—Happy Norman's Ranch House.
- 1200—Band of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (BBC).
- 1230—Bing Crosby and Truddy Irwin.
- 1255—Quiet Moment.
- 1300—World News (BBC).
- 1310—Barracks Bag.
- 1400—Visiting Hour—Special Hospital Show.
- 1430—Sign off until 1745 hours.
- 1745—Program Resume—Spotlight on Stan Kenton.
- 1800—World News (BBC).
- 1810—GI Supper Club.
- 1900—"Seven O'clock Sports"—Cpl. Johnny Vrotsos.
- 1905—Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street.
- 1930—Boxing Bout—on the Rainbow Corner, with Sgt. Marty Smith and Pfc Keith Jameson.
- 2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A., presented by The Stars and Stripes.
- 2010—Fred Waring Program.
- 2025—Human Interest in Books.
- 2030—GI Journal.
- 2100—World News (BBC).
- 2110—Music in Three-quarter Time.
- 2125—Into Battle—A BBC dramatization of heroic incidents of this war.
- 2135—Duffy's Tavern.
- 2200—Downbeat.
- 2225—Final Edition.
- 2230—Sun off until 1100 hours Wednesday, Dec. 22.

Blind Beggar Earned Average of \$3 an Hour

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20—William R. Ramey, 31, a blind singer, was arrested in the downtown shopping section for begging.

Police discovered that he had been living at the Biltmore Hotel, one of the most expensive and exclusive hotels in Los Angeles. Ramey told the police that he generally averaged about \$3 an hour. "At Salt Lake City, where I just came from," he said, "I once made \$80 in eight hours."

Jugoslav Battles Are Now a War

Berlin Admits It; Patriots Tell of Inflicting Heavy Casualties on Foe

Germany admitted yesterday that the Yugoslav partisan offensive had turned into a major war.

Substantiating the German admission was a partisan communique which told of large-scale battles and a mounting toll of German dead and wounded in the Germans' ill-fated "mopping up operation."

In the beginning of the third week of major fighting in the Balkans, Marshal Tito's army, in Kordun province alone, killed more than 200 German officers and men in the last few days.

Another gauge of the size of the fighting was provided by a German claim that 3,000 partisans were killed in battles in the Bosnian mountains.

Fighting with Allied air support and equipped with Allied supplies shipped across the Adriatic the partisans have pushed forward in snow-covered terrain to disrupt German communications, destroying several rail lines.

A delayed dispatch reaching Cairo reported a 30-hour battle Nov. 29 in which partisans captured the town of Cazma, killed 280 Germans and ambushed 200 more sent to relieve the Cazma garrison.

Meanwhile, it was reported in Cairo that efforts were under way to heal the breach between Marshal Tito and the Yugoslav government-in-exile.

Raids - - -

(Continued from page 1)

Eighth Bomber Command has announced since last April, two officially were described as aimed at the big Focke Wulf works, and the others at port and industrial facilities.

Bombers went to Bremen once in April, once in June, once in October, three times in November—13th, 16th, 29th—and once in December.

In addition, German radio reported another attack on Bremen on Dec. 13. USAAF headquarters announced that day that bombers attacked targets in northwestern Germany, but did not specify any single objectives.

"It looks as though we did a tremendous amount of damage," said Col. Maurice A. Preston, of Dulare, Cal., a B17 combat wing commander, who led one of yesterday's Fortress formations.

"It is certainly one of the best operations we have ever had. I saw our bombs dropping right in the target area. There were plenty of German fighters around, but our fighters kept them away from the formation."

"I followed our bombs all the way down until they struck," said Sgt. Walter R. Cyr, of Tacoma, Wash., a ball turret gunner on the Fort Miami Clipper. "There were a lot of fires burning in Bremen, sending up big clouds of smoke."

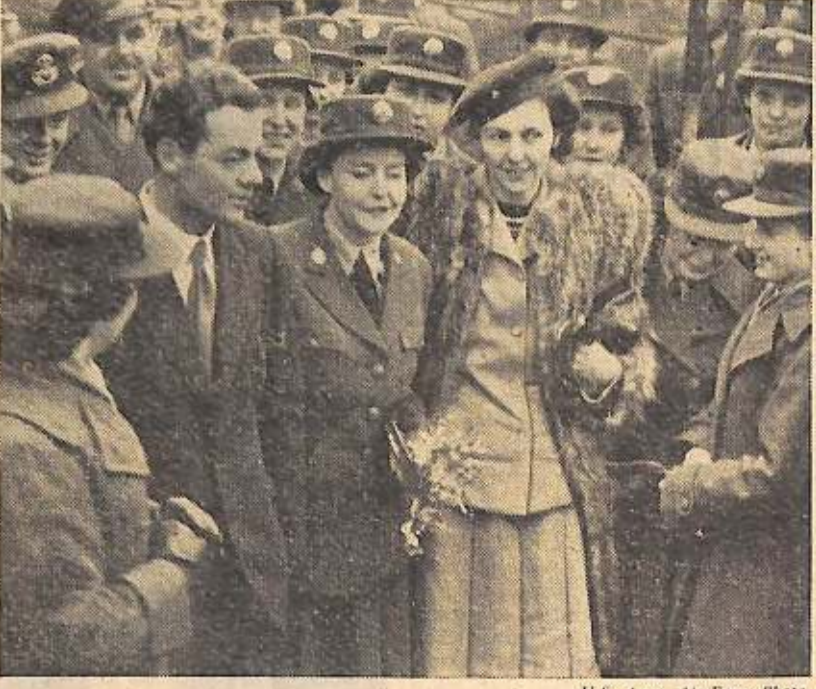
Heavy Flak Encountered

M/Sgt. A. W. Gibbons, of Jamaica Plains, Mass., a navigator formerly with the RAF, said, "It was the heaviest concentration of flak I have ever seen."

It was the sixth day this month of operations for Eighth Bomber Command. Other attacks were on Dec. 1, 5, 11, 13 and 16, but only two targets of the first five were announced—Solingen and Emden; two of the others were described as "on northwestern Germany" and one on military installations in France.

The two new American fighter aces to emerge from yesterday's air battle were Lt. Col. Glenn E. Duncan, of Houston, Tex., commanding one of the escort groups, and Lt. Joe Powers Jr., of Tulsa, Okla. Each got one enemy aircraft to bring his total to the requisite five.

British Civilian Lands a WAC



Sgt. Jane M. Freytag, first WAC in the ETO to marry a British civilian, leaves the church after the ceremony with her husband, who fought at Dunkirk.

NORWICH, Dec. 20—Sgt. Jane M. Freytag, of Utica, N.Y., was honeymooning today in London after becoming the first WAC to marry a British civilian. Her husband is Thomas C. N. Thompson, former British infantryman and swimming champion.

Their wedding took place in St. George's Catholic Church before a gathering which included many members of the detachment to which the Sergeant is assigned. Maj. George L. Paul, of Arlington, N.Y., gave the bride away. Her bridesmaid was Sgt. Mildred E. Cornwell, of Los Angeles.

Thompson, unabashed by the flock of

WACs at the ceremony, confessed that he "moved in on Jane" after a certain GI was restricted to camp. They had met a few nights earlier at a dance.

"I wanted to double in a foursome with Jane and her boy friend, an American soldier, on a date, if she would agree," he said. "But she told me he couldn't get out that night, so I took her out and—here we are."

Thompson was with a British infantry regiment at Dunkirk. He received severe wounds and later was given a medical discharge. The bridegroom hails from a titled family. His father, who died recently, was a captain in the Royal Navy and a prominent member of Parliament.

The Flying Tackle, U.S. Style, Pays Off For Scotland Yard

Scotland Yard got its man Saturday, thanks to a U.S. Army sergeant's rough and tumble American-style football tactics.

Several detectives had chased a house-breaker into a U.S. garage in London, where S/Sgt. William J. Ferguson works as dispatcher. The suspect was outdistancing his pursuers until Ferguson, a 23-year-old veteran of Philadelphia sandlot games, took a short cut and S/Sgt. Wm. J. Ferguson brought the man down with a flying tackle.

"I sure felt good," commented Ferguson. "I haven't tackled a man in years. Of course, this concrete floor is a little rough for football, but it was worth a couple of bruises. That guy didn't seem to know what struck him."

The suspect was taken to a police station, while the sergeant sat down to write his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ferguson, of Philadelphia, about his first "real action" in the United Kingdom.

Huge Fire at Bomb Factory

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 20 (AP)—Magnesium stocks worth several million dollars were destroyed Thursday in a fire at an incendiary bomb casing factory. The blaze was visible for 70 miles.

Lady Astor Takes To Air on a Dare, Wins Herself a Pig

A U.S. ARMY STATION, England, Dec. 20—The strange spectacle of Lady Nancy Astor, Virginia-born member of Parliament, dragging a squealing 41-pound pig off a stage was unfolded at a local theater last night at a special performance of a U.S. division's new musical, "Get Crackin'."

The incident resulted from a challenge to Lady Astor and the division commanding general. The general brought it to light at the intermission, recalling that Lady Astor had a special talent for Cornish dialect stories and that she had often expressed a desire to obtain some real Virginia ham.

"Lady Astor," said the general, "I once made you a wager. If you will tell three of those stories before my outfit here tonight, you can have your pig."

At a signal, a soldier entered dragging a squirming, beribboned porker to the platform. Slightly aghast, Lady Astor stared for a moment, then gamely stepped up to the microphone to win her pig—and did.

Adm. Stark Leaves ETO For Washington Parleys

Adm. Harold R. Stark, commander of U.S. Navy forces in Europe, has returned to Washington for conferences, it was announced yesterday.

He was accompanied by Lt. Cmdr. J. G. Bray, of Norfolk, Va., his flag secretary, and Lt. John G. Williams, of Evanston, Ill., his flag lieutenant.

WAC-Aided Orphan to Meet Her New Mamas at Yule Fete

WACs in the ETO have collected £124 just in time to have Muriel, the orphan they are sponsoring, as guest of honor tomorrow at a children's Christmas party at the WAC Enlisted Club, Charles Street, London.

Muriel—known as Miss WAC—is the daughter of an RAF sergeant gunner who was listed as missing after a mission over Cape Bon, in the Tunisian campaign, and is being sponsored by the WACs under The Stars and Stripes War Orphan Fund. The party is being given for 80 children—sons and daughters of the

Bermundsey, London, women who have volunteered to work at the WAC club.

The WACs have not yet met Muriel—she is a seven-year-old redhead with gray eyes—but they have her measurements, and as a surprise they have made her a WAC uniform, complete even to hat and bag. Gloves will also be provided if the Board of Trade will release some coupons.

There will be toys and candy for Muriel and all the rest at the party. ETO WACs have been saving part of their candy rations for several weeks, and many have written to the folks at home to send across some party makings.

NEWS FROM HOME Second Parley Is Scheduled in Rail Wage Row

Operators, Unions Strive For Agreement to Avert Nationwide Walkout

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—Representatives of the five operating railroad brotherhoods and the railroad management will meet here again tomorrow in an effort to reach an agreement to avert the nationwide rail strike scheduled to begin Dec. 30.

Although the White House announced that yesterday's five-hour conference had failed to produce a pact, it was said that a clearer understanding of the problems involved had been reached.

Earlier, the brotherhood presidents said that "the railroad workers do not believe that swollen railroad earnings, larcenous profiteering, soaring prices and depressed real wages are necessities of the war effort."

The brotherhoods' present demand of a 30 per cent wage increase was turned down last January by a special Presidential emergency board, which granted the workers a wage boost of four cents an hour.

Bundist Loses Citizenship

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 20—An order issued by Federal Court Judge F. P. Schoonmaker has revoked the citizenship of Arthur Heinrich Wolter, a native of Germany who was a member of the German-American Bund. Judge Schoonmaker said Wolter "was a constant champion of Germany, and at the time he took the oath of allegiance to the United States he mentally reserved his allegiance to the German Reich."

Blast Causes Raid Scare

ALBANY, N.Y., Dec. 20—When leaking gas caused an explosion which blew out the front of a one-story building here people in the neighborhood thought the city was being bombed. Mrs. John J. Browne said: "I've heard so much about bombing I thought sure Hitler was over the house."

Record Coal Output

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—All bituminous coal production records set in the last 16 years were shattered the week of Dec. 11, when miners produced 12,975,000 tons, Solid Fuels Administrator Harold L. Ickes announced yesterday.

Christmas - - -

(Continued from page 1)

Sully, Wales. T/5 Ben Fedrow, of Brooklyn, will play Santa Claus, passing out candy and gifts which his outfit has been collecting for weeks.

As part of its holiday contribution to enlisted men the PX has purchased \$10,000 worth of Christmas trees, which are being distributed to ETO Army units by the QM Department, Lt. Col. E. E. Farman, ETO chief of the Army Exchange Service, said yesterday.

Thousands of pounds of special candy are being distributed for sale, one pound per man, among selected ETO units that have been in combat, Col. Farman said. This is in addition to the one pound of candy guaranteed to be available, either before or shortly after Christmas, to every enlisted man in the theater, he said.

English families have flooded the Special Service Division's hospitality department with invitations for American enlisted men and officers to spend Christmas with them in their homes. "Some invitations are from the owners of large country houses, others from ordinary folk in all parts of London," a Special Service bulletin said. "All of them are anxious to find an American and give him a better, friendlier Christmas than he would have on his own."

Four Christmas radio programs, on which soldiers will appear, will be broadcast to the New York area. Five New Yorkers—two from the Air Force, two from a convalescent hospital and one from a London dispensary—will talk to their families on a Christmas day program via the Blue Network at 3:30 PM.

Show at Rainbow Corner

An all-GI cast will appear in "You've Had It," a musical show, at Rainbow Corner, London, tomorrow at 8 and 10 PM. The show is directed by Sgt. T. Franks. The music was written by Sgt. Isidore Rosovsky and the lyrics by Ben Irwin, of the ARC.

By Milton Caniff

Terry and the Pirates

