

Allies Drive Axis from Kasserine Pass

Berlin Says Reds Open New Drives

Reports Indicate Soviet Is Attacking Where Weather Permits

By the United Press

Big new Red Army attacks on three sectors of the 180-mile central front running from Orel to the Smolensk-Moscow railway in the north were reported by the Axis last night. There has been less movement on this front than on any other since the repulse of the original Nazi drive on Moscow.

These reports may indicate that a new Russian offensive is already under way on a front where weather is not offering the hardships it is farther south.

Attacks by waves of Red Army troops east of Ghatsk, on the Moscow-Smolensk railway itself, were admitted in the Berlin communique, while Berlin radio earlier had reported very heavy attacks 80 miles further south, in the Suchinichi area.

Continued heavy Russian assaults both north and south of Orel itself also were admitted by Berlin.

Southern Drives Go On

Moscow has given no confirmation of these attacks; nevertheless the Russian drives in the south are continuing in spite of the thaw, which comes to the southern fronts some weeks before it affects the more northerly areas.

In the Donetz, the Germans are throwing in more men, planes and tanks—some of which have been drawn from western Europe—in an effort to retain their hold on at least a part of the Donetz.

Fighting is particularly bitter in the Krasnoarmeisk area, where continuous Nazi counter-attacks are being repulsed.

The stiff battle for the Donetz Basin, into which the Germans are throwing an increasing number of reserves, entered its second month yesterday. The fighting—previously reported as the stiffest since the battle of Stalingrad—is now concentrated around three areas.

The most westerly of these is the Krasnoarmeisk district, where the Russians are threatening to bar the German retreat of the troops still fighting there.

Slightly to the northeast are the Kramatorsk and Voroshilovgrad areas, where the Russians are also thrusting southwards.

Planes from Tunisia?

Planes are being sent from France, Germany and Tunisia, and the increase in strength of the German air forces has been particularly noticeable west of Rostov and over the Kuban pocket, where the Nazis are vigorously trying to retain their bridgehead in the Kuban Basin, possibly as a springboard for what they hope will be later offensive actions.

The Russians here are decreasing the area of German occupation, and latest reports tell of two infantry battalions which were surrounded and wiped out west of Krasnodar.

The Russians in the Kuban are facing German and Rumanian reinforcements which are being sent across the Kerch Straits from the Crimea and which are being thrown into battle against the tough Black Sea marines.

Cavalry in ETO Gets New M5 Light Tanks

A U.S. CAVALRY BASE, England, Feb. 25—American M5 light tanks are in England, it was revealed today.

The high-speed M5s form part of this reconnaissance unit's equipment and are training to go into battle with the peeps and jeeps of the cavalry.

The M5, successor to the original light infantry tanks of the M2A4 variety, is armed with one 37-mm. and three machine-guns. The 37 is mounted in a 360-degree turret. The M2A4 was used in earlier battles in Libya, while the M5 is credited with success in helping Alexander's army chase Rommel back to Tunisia.

The new light tank has rubber treads and is faster and more maneuverable, armor experts claim, than either the M2A4 or its new opposite number in Axis armored forces.

Gen. Eisenhower Visits Tunisian Front



Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of Allied Forces in Africa, enjoys a laugh with the men during an inspection tour of the Tunisian front.

Impatient Troops in Britain Promised Chance at Foe Soon

Impatient Allied soldiers were told yesterday that they "will not have to wait much longer" for a mass attack against the enemy. The assurance came in a speech in the House of Commons by Sir James Grigg, British Secretary for War.

Paratroops who participated in the North African invasion, Sir James said, will soon have "new fields of endeavor" open to them. They are ready, said the speaker, for other "possible theaters of operations."

Speaking primarily of Canadian troops, Sir James said that "when their chance does come, we know they will acquit themselves bravely. The mother country and the cause of civilization generally will have abundant reason to be grateful to them."

Sir James couched his forecast for the future with a review of the North African invasion. In that move, said he, 185,000 men, 20,000 vehicles and 220,000 tons of supplies had to be switched from British camps to ports in about three weeks.

It took 440 special trains, 680 special freight trains and 15,000 freight cars to do the job, he said. Prime Minister Churchill recently said that roughly 500,000 men landed in North Africa, so it is presumed that Sir James referred only to the portion sent from Britain.

Grigg said the Allies had been "betrayed by the weather" in their attempt to seize Tunisia, but, in spite of that, had only missed it by a narrow margin. He hailed the Eighth Army as "the finest instrument of war which, so far, has been fashioned in the whole history of the British Empire."

In order to illustrate the gigantic job of transporting the Allied Force to North Africa and keeping it supplied, Sir James disclosed that a million tons of supplies, 500,000 men and 50,000 tanks, guns or vehicles had been sent around the Cape of Good Hope to various destinations during the past year.

"Five months ago," said the General, "I came here when the first of you were formally transferred to the Eighth Fighter Command. You will never know what it meant to us to receive a group of fully trained operational pilots. It has formed a nucleus around which we have built our fighting machine."

"We have been able to select men from among you to send to other units—to train and lead them. All this, plus everything the RAF has learned in three years of fighting the Huns, has been of invaluable aid to us."

"Shoulder to shoulder, side by side, wing-tip to wing-tip, we are steadily mounting in our assault, until we finally

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Roosevelt Is Confined With 'Intestinal Upset'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (UP)—President Roosevelt is ill with a "little intestinal upset," the White House announced today. His complaint is not serious, although he must remain quiet for a few days until doctors are satisfied that it is safe for him to resume activities. He has cancelled all engagements and will remain in private quarters at the White House.

Wilhelmshaven Target in 16th Raid of Month

Night Bombers Blast Port; RAF Bagging One Out of Eight

Turning their night armadas of bombers again to the U-boat yards and naval base at Wilhelmshaven, in northwestern Germany, the RAF saturated defenses at the Nazi port Wednesday night in 20 minutes of bombing.

Nearly all of the squadrons making the sixteenth night raid this month by the RAF were Canadian, part of the two-month-old RCAF bomber group in Bomber Command.

They reported heavier concentrations of defenses than in earlier raids on Wilhelmshaven.

Meanwhile, the Air Ministry announced that one in every eight German hit-and-run raiders over Britain's shores has been destroyed by Fighter Command patrols, nearly three times RAF and Allied fighter losses in sweeps against France and the Low Countries.

One in eight is a percentage of 12½, usually considered a prohibitive rate of losses for continued operations. Most of the enemy raiders are Me109s and FW190s, fastest of the Luftwaffe's fighter-bombers.

The RAF is using mostly Typhoons as fighter patrols, it was revealed. The Typhoon outspeeds and outguns both the FW190 and the Me109.

There was no enemy activity over Britain during the night.

U.S. Losses, Although Heavy, Less Than Expected—Stimson

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (UP)—United States losses in Tunisia included substantial quantities of tanks, scout cars and field guns, but much of this material already has been replaced, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson declared today.

United States losses in the last ten days have been heavy, but not as large as first expected, since several units cut off have since returned to their lines.

Mr. Stimson described the Allied counter-attack as a clear-cut repulse of the Axis forces.

"The enemy's retreating columns are being harassed by our troops and planes of all types. Air support has been exercised with great skill and has contributed greatly to the success."

"Our forces, unbroken by the Germans, counter-attacked with great vigor.

All complacency has been dropped and they are thoroughly mad and ready to fight."

The First Army, he said, has been extremely helpful in the counter-attack. The greater part of the First Army was, however, immobilized in the mud of Northern Tunisia.

The British Eighth Army, Mr. Stimson declared, is beginning to exert pressure against Rommel's forces in the Mareth Line and has taken two or three strong-points.

"The outlook is that there will be heavy fighting all along the Tunisian front. We must expect setbacks and casualties. We must not expect an easy quick victory."

"There are no soldiers who learn more quickly and who are as resourceful as the Americans."

East-West Squeeze of Foe Begins

Patrols Hit Mareth Line As Alexander Takes Offensive Above

ALLIED HQ, North Africa, Feb. 25 (AP)—The Allied armies, on the offensive both in western and southern Tunisia, today slashed through the Axis rearguard in the Kasserine Pass and penetrated advance positions on the edge of the Mareth Line.

Under Gen. Alexander's field command, the Anglo-American forces launched the long-awaited "double squeeze play" on the Axis bridgehead in North Africa.

Kasserine Pass, from which Rommel on Sunday threatened to break into Algeria, was being savagely cleared of the last Axis defenders, and to the east Allied planes unleashed a deadly air barrage on the enemy rear airfields, supply depots and transport columns.

While crippled Axis forces were losing their foothold in the Kasserine Pass, two other strong points at Sbeitla and Ousseltia were endangered by Allied attacks.

Allied Air Blitz

As American and British troops swarmed into the Kasserine Pass for mopping-up operations, the Allied Air Force spread its air assaults deep into the enemy's rear. American Marauders plastered El Aouina aerodrome and with escorting Spitfires engaged a formation of enemy fighters of between 25 and 30 planes.

(The bulk of Rommel's forces were reported to be retreating through Kasserine Pass under one of the heaviest Allied bombardments of the Tunisian campaign. However, military critics, while loud in their praise of the way the Allies had rushed up air support after losing advanced bases at the outset of the German thrust, cautioned that Rommel's jab had disrupted things enough perhaps to delay the impending full-scale Allied attack by from two weeks to a month and that the price he had paid probably was justified.)

(The general view long has been that Rommel, realizing he has no prospects of holding Tunisia, would keep up his diversionary attacks, as every week he can hang on gives the Axis more time to head off an invasion of the continent.)

"The Axis offensive in Tunisia has been concluded," said a German military spokesman in Berlin, quoted by the German-controlled S.T.B. News Agency in Stockholm.)

Leaves Italians Behind

While Rommel retreated, once again he left Italian infantry behind as an easily captured rearguard. Hundreds of crack Italian mountain troops have been taken prisoner in the Allied counter-attack.

The German strength in the forward zone was crippled by Rommel's costly and abortive drive to Thala, but it was believed here that a large number of Nazi tanks landed in Tunisia from Sicily had not yet been in action. Total Axis forces in Tunisia were estimated to approach 250,000 men.

The Anglo-American counter-attack not only pressed Rommel's battered and retreating armored forces back through the Kasserine Pass, but struck menacingly at his right flank in the Sbeitla area to the northeast with strong patrols.

The communique from the Allied command included a mention of ground activities by the Eighth Army. Strong patrols of armored cars before the Mareth

(Continued on page 4)

U.S. Urges Municipalities To Stagger 'Rush Hours'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—The huge increase in the load thrown on bus and street-car transportation by the halting of most automobile traffic has prompted the Office of Defense Transportation here to appeal to communities for staggered school and business hours.

The ODT said a spreading of the peak hours would result in more efficient use of existing facilities, enabling them to meet the heavier load without putting new equipment into service. Many war-production cities have already embraced such a scheme and the ODT appeal was addressed primarily to those still operating on the old pre-war basis.

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Civilian Air Patrol

Little has appeared in the press at home about a wholly volunteer group of patriotic citizens who are living one of the biggest stories of this war... the Civilian Air Patrol.

From 18 to 60, these civilians in uniform have been giving yeoman service under the direction of the Army. Poor man and millionaire alike have worked out of submarine patrol bases effectively, running most Nazi subs out of waters adjacent to our coastline at home.

Without this air support, supplemented by Army bombers, freighters would not now be plying American shore lines; but available information indicates the Civilian Air Patrol has won a partial victory, at least, in this battle.

In this service, youngsters of 14 work beside shopmen of 73 to keep in the air all types of obsolete planes. One such foreman saw service in the Spanish-American War, and repaired Army aircraft in 1917-18. He is now the oldest aircraft engine mechanic in the country.

But the big story is the story of the entire organization. Pilots and mechanics work long hours together to install bomb racks and other extra equipment needed for sub chasing. When a plane cracks up, all pitch in to fix it up because insurance companies hesitate about paying on present risks taken by owner fliers. Per Diem from Washington is sometimes slow, for members of the new service, so they all chip in to assist one another until the checks arrive.

And the service is not only important... it is also dangerous. The best plane is none too good for seat patrol; but the Civilian Air Patrol will fly anything with wings and a propeller. In the main, all pilots are too young or too old for strictly "military" service; so our hats are off to them all. No soldier will ever question the fact they are doing their full part to win this war.

Manpower Question

American leadership is now struggling with the manpower question. In the coming weeks it must be decided just where America's manpower will be allocated to insure the maximum war effort. The situation is aptly described by Robert St. John, representative of the National Broadcasting Company in Washington. Said St. John:

"Hoover sat in the conference room and said: 'We don't need eleven million men in the armed forces this year. Can't use that many. The shipping bottle-neck will prevent our moving vast armies overseas. Agriculture and the oil and mining industries must have manpower, must have one million workers turned over to them this year. The war's likely to last three to five years more; but time is now on our side. If we don't handle this manpower problem properly we may break the back of the Home Front...'

"Then came along Senator Austin and Representative Wadsworth with a drastic Bill. If it passes, every woman in America, from 18 to 50, will be required to work this year. At the end, if the President can't get enough volunteers to fill manpower requirements, men and women alike could be drafted into war factories and on to the farms. Mothers alone would be exempt. The drafted workers would get the going wage and a guarantee of their old jobs back after the war. That Bill's going to cause plenty of debate on Capitol Hill. Already Congressmen are asking: 'What about workers who are drafted into factories with closed shops?'

Papers such as the New York Mirror and Daily News approved Hoover's view on man-power, but the New York Herald Tribune thought this clamor represented the voice of isolation. On the other hand, both the New York Times and the Herald-Tribune favored the National Service Bill of the two Republicans Austin and Wadsworth; for, as the former wrote:

"If we wish to win the war in the shortest possible time with the least heartbreak and loss of life we cannot afford to rely wholly upon voluntary methods."

We believe that America can give no less than Russia, China, and Britain are now giving, and frankly we favor an "all-out" effort participated in by all Americans, started as soon as possible.

Hash Marks

Three cheers for D. M. Warren, vice-president of the Edenton Bank, Edenton, N.C. He has tacked this sign outside his building: "We Will Be Closed On The Day Of Hitler's Funeral."

The clock has really been turned around. In Philadelphia there's a night club that has a 9 AM floor show for "graveyard" shift workers.



Remember the fun you had watching the shows put on over here by Kay Francis, Mitz Mayfair, Martha Raye and Carole Landis? Hollywood is doing a movie woven about their overseas trips. It's called "Four Jills in a Jeep."

Sgt. Anthony Paolino, of Ancora, N.J., has a faraway look in his eyes these days as he goes about his duties of servicing planes with gas and oil. In civilian life he was owner and operator of the Motor Station at White Horse Pike. But now, he reflects, "I put as much fuel in a bomber in 20 minutes as I used to put in cars in a week." Or—we might add—as much as you would put in cars in a year, if you were back in the States now, Paolino.

Pvt. Harry Hammond, of Fort Bliss, Texas, has been trying for quite a while to explain to his girl, Billie Brown, of Omaha, why his letters are always late. He told her that airmail service was overloaded and that he couldn't phone often because the lines were busy. Billie accepted the excuses without complaint—then sent him a homing pigeon.

From private to sergeant—on the turn of a coin! That was the luck of Sgt. Francis J. Sheehan, field artilleryman from Philadelphia. A cook's sergeant technician rating was open. Available candidates were Sheehan and a bosom pal, Pvt. John J. Lank, also of Philly. So they let the goddess of chance decide the winner.

Mark Senigo, who writes the sports you read, wonders if Veronika Lake has caught cold in her newly exposed eye yet.

Here's the kind of military courtesy we go for. On a crowded Washington bus there was one empty seat and two standees—a WAVE ensign and a brigadier general. Both hesitated; the WAVE finally took the seat and by way of a salute—winked.



There was one empty seat and two standees—a WAVE ensign and a brigadier general. Both hesitated; the WAVE finally took the seat and by way of a salute—winked. J. C. W.

PRIVATE BREGER



"Some of your ammunition was delivered to us by mistake!"

A Little Bit of U.S.A. in Ireland



U.S. Navy Photos by Gil Brush

An American-built dive-bomber is assembled at a Northern Ireland air depot (above) shortly after its arrival from the U.S. Chief electrical engineer Frank Eckert, of Los Angeles (left), uses a soldering iron on a part of plane's radio equipment.



Technicians Set Up Atmosphere of Los Angeles

This is the second of two articles telling the story of American civilian technicians at an air base in the ETO who are helping the Air Force to keep 'em flying.

By Tom Bernard

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A USAAF AIR DEPOT, Northern Ireland, Feb. 25—Here, where civilian technicians work night and day in a plant which, to all intents and purposes, is an American war industry transplanted several thousand miles to where it will do the most good, is probably the essence of all that is American in the British Isles.

In the hangars, in the repair shops, in the first aid room where skinned knuckles were repaired to fervent Yankee cussing, you heard American voices, slang, technical terminology. But the machine shops and the hangars are only part of this transplanted bit of the United States. These men have made a war-time home here, too.

After the tour of the hangars you go to one of the living sites and talk with the men before chow. You find that the huts aren't quite like the Army's. They're made of wood, with linoleum covered concrete floors and their roofs slope slightly from a center rafter.

In addition to the standard numbering system which you'll find at any camp, many of the Lockheed huts are named. The names are often selected by the occupants to conform with home town associations, or, better still, to express some crazy idea of theirs. Here are some samples:

- "Universal Joint," "Blessem Hall," "Sleepless Knights," "Duck Inn," "Molino Rojo," "Ragga Dass Rangers," "Hula Hut."

The Hula Hut is an outstanding example of the methods employed by the men to escape boredom or what they call "hut

happiness." Each man is allotted a certain defined area which must contain his bed, stock of books, clothing and whatever other comforts he can manage. Most of them have built complex plywood cabinets, replete with shelves, racks and partitions so that they can store various articles in proper order. Others have constructed desks attached to walls, swinging bed jambs, curtained shelves and shoe racks. When they get a little "hut happy," they tear down what they have built and start all over again.

Named after a famous Beverly Hills cocktail lounge, the Hula Hut, as its name implies, is thoroughly Hawaiian. All huts have two separate rooms at the front for the hut leader and the assistant hut leader. At the Hula Hut, the assistant leader's room has been converted into a bar, complete with Hawaiian murals on the walls, a round table for poker, a fish netting covering the ceiling and dim lights.

The Music Starts

You walk into the hut after stumbling through the mud and the blackout from chow, scrub the dirt off your shoes and take a quick glance into the bar. You gawk at the crowded, smoky room, at the three fellows sitting in the corner with the guitar, the ukelele and the gourd. A song starts:

"Give him a drink bartender. For we love him, yes we do—" Someone shoves a large white mug with blue lettering on it into your hand and you take a sip of cool beer. You listen to the singing and find that it's damned good.

Later the trio—John Dryer, guitar, Bill Chelew, ukelele, and Bob McLain, gourd, all of Los Angeles—start whipping out superb Hawaiian music, songs like "The Hawaiian War Chant" and "Aloha Oe." For variety they swing "Java Jive" à la Ink Spots and then answer some nostalgic requests with "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now." The more you listen the more you realize that they're plenty good.

Another guest pops in and the gang breaks into the welcoming hymn—"Give Him a Drink Bartender."

Hula Hut Approved

You'd think that base officials would object but, on the contrary, they've given the Hula Hut their heartiest approval. They feel it's the best method of combating homesickness and they know that there's not a single man in the hut who's fed up with his job.

Another hut has turned up with another blues-dispensing idea. The residents have set up a model radio station and each night they broadcast, over a direct wire, to other huts. The boys have collected a large assortment of recordings and break in with corny and personal jokes between the music. They figure their nightly audience totals more than men.

The next day you talk with Maj. James S. Shaw, Montclair, N.J., intelligence and security officer of the base. He was one of the first soldiers here so he can tell the story:

The base was conceived and planned

by the Army long before America entered the war. When action started, U.S. officials contacted the British and the Ministry of Aircraft Production started construction.

Runways, hangars and some smaller buildings were erected and some sites were laid out. Then the LOC men started to arrive. They put in their own sewage disposal system—large enough for a city of 10,000 people—built their own laundry, a hospital, a movie theater, water purification plant, dry cleaning plant, canteens, mess halls, living quarters, and added to the shops and hangars already constructed.

Soon after the first batch of Lockheed workers arrived, an Army contingent moved in. The Army's main job is to guard government property and to protect the base. It has nothing to do with the actual operation of it.

More Equipment Added

As the base progressed, Lockheed sent over more and more equipment. The finest collection of cars and trucks in the British Isles is stationed here, from jeeps to great 20-ton dump trucks. Mobile cranes that can hoist unbelievable tonnage are used to carry crated planes from one hangar to another. One of the largest lumber yards in the British Isles is here.

When the civilian workers first arrived, they brought with them, in addition to equipment, sufficient supplies and food to operate for 90 days without outside assistance.

Now that the base is in full swing, several hundred Irish laborers are employed to handle tasks in and around the sites in addition to the American personnel.

So, you see, in a much vaster way it's like those little stores that "fix anything." And it's like an aircraft factory in Dallas or Kansas City.

But most of all it's like Los Angeles. Not in climate, nor in sprawling, Spanish-style homes, nor in Hollywood night life—but in the speech and the thoughts of the men. A good two-thirds of them are from Southern California. Los Angeles newspapers clutter the huts. Pictures of Los Angeles girls are pasted on the walls. Sometimes, in their conversation, they say:

"Nice little burg, this East Los Angeles."



The Soothsayer

If I sleep late in the mornin' Or stay out late at night, I always trust the Adjutant To make things come out right.

He has a strictly poker face, And how I'll never know; But what he's almost sure to say Just fills my heart with woe.

He will shuffle through his papers, Adjust his coat and tie, As he listens to my story He never blinks an eye.

An' when he's heard my alibi; It might be keen, or lame, I know I need not worry much His answer is the same.

"I'm very sorry, Sergeant Jones, You know the Army's ways. You're restricted to your barracks For exactly seven days."

Sgt. Don Learnard.

Spontak Draws With Schnappauf in Division Finals

Bucky Harris Picked as Phils' New Manager

Major League Veteran Has Led Nats, Tigers, Red Sox

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25—Stanley "Bucky" Harris, veteran of 23 years in the major leagues, has received the job of rebuilding the last-place Philadelphia Phillies. He has been named manager of the club by William D. Cox, new president of the organization.

Enthusiastic over the choice, Cox waded a Philadelphia sports writer that the Phils would finish in sixth place or better at the end of the season.

Harris, 46, famous as the "boy manager," led Washington to a world championship in '24 after succeeding Donie Bush as manager that year. He stayed with the Senators through '28 and then went to Detroit for five years. He managed the Boston Red Sox in '34 and returned to the Senators in '35, remaining there until last Fall. Asked how it felt to come into the National League, Harris replied, "It's still the same game with the same rules. The main thing is to win."

Lobert to Coach Reds

Cox added, "I saw Harris play that '24 World Series. I liked the way he handled players. When I got the Phils I asked about ten men, who should know, what they thought of Harris. Everyone rated him A-1."

He revealed that he had received a telegram from Tom Yawkey, Red Sox owner, saying, "My sincerest choice for manager of your team Bucky Harris." Cox replied, "Your choice is my choice."

A native of Port Jervis, New York, Harris started his professional baseball career in 1915 with Pittston of the Eastern Pennsylvania League. He went to Washington in 1919 and played second base.

He is married and the father of three children. He said here that he had never met Cox until they got together in New York. Harris remarked, "He has a dynamic personality."

Hans Lobert, retiring manager of the Phils, has accepted a coaching position with the Cincinnati Reds.

Andy Phillip Clinches Big Ten Scoring Title

CHICAGO, Feb. 25—Andy Phillip, Illinois forward, has been conceded the Big Ten individual scoring championship. In ten games he has amassed 199 points and has the best ten-game average in conference history.

Ralph Hamilton, of Indiana, who has played 12 games, trails Phillip by 42 points. Phillip has two more games to play.

Texas League Latest to Quit

Only Nine Minor League Circuits Likely To Operate

DALLAS, Texas, Feb. 25—The Texas League, once one of the strongest in the I-A baseball leagues, has suspended operations for the duration after San Antonio announced that it was dropping out of the loop.

The League said that all its players not sold by the clubs prior to disbanding would automatically become free agents.

Only nine of the 31 circuits which operated last year now seem likely to start the '43 season. They are: AA Leagues—International, Pacific Coast and American Association; A Leagues—Southern Association and Eastern League; B Leagues—Piedmont and Interstate; D Leagues—Pony and Appalachian.

With the suspension of the Canadian and American League earlier this week, there are no more Class C leagues.

Rutgers, Lehigh, Lafayette Also to Curtail Athletics

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J., Feb. 25—Rutgers, Lehigh and Lafayette athletic departments have announced a drastic curtailment in their Spring intercollegiate athletic programs.

All contests will be limited to home-and-home games with one another. This action followed similar steps taken by Harvard, Yale and Princeton.

High Man on the Pole



The nation's outstanding pole vaulter, who holds all the indoor and outdoor records, Cornelius Warmerdam shows the best of form in a recent indoor meet. He is the only vaulter in track history to have jumped more than 15 feet.

Kozak Scores Over Dircks; Pavone Wins

Grantham Tops Silverman; Ruby Knocks Out Provenzano

By Fred Patton

Stars and Stripes Special Correspondent
— DIVISION BASE, Feb. 24—Nine men were crowned fistic champions here last night as the divisional boxing tournament came to a close after seven weeks in which over 900 men of this station participated. Over 2,000 persons jammed the gymnasium to see the final bouts.

Climax of the final card saw the 135-pound crown shared by Cpl. George Spontak, of Pittsburgh, Artillery, and Pvt. Charles Schnappauf, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Infantry. The judges felt that the boys fought equally well, and after the three rounds calling it a draw, crowning the fighters co-champions.

Schnappauf started the opening round with hard lefts and rights to send Spontak to the canvas early in the heat for the count of nine. Spontak then came back strong and stood off the Infantryman for the remainder of the round.

A Quick Finish

In the second heat Spontak led off on the offensive, catching Schnappauf with hard blows to the head which rocked him, but Spontak started to slow up and Schnappauf slammed away with body blows at every opening. The final round was even, with both men rallying at times.

Two knockouts featured the eight bouts, one a technical kayo and the other a straight knockout. Sgt. Chester Ruby, of Baltimore, Infantry, recorded a knockout over Pvt. Louis Provenzano, of New York, Infantry, when the referee decided that the New Yorker had enough in 1.16 of the second round.

The quick finish came when Pfc Donald Webber, of Roanoke, Va., Infantry, floored Pvt. David A. Dutch, of Philadelphia, Infantry, with a hard right to the jaw in 1.42 of the first round.

Rocks Dircks

In the heavyweight class, Pvt. Vincent Kozak, of Hazleton, Pa., Headquarters, scored a hotly contested triumph over Sgt. William Dircks, of Cumberland, Md., Infantry. In the opening heat both men slugged hard, with Kozak getting in more telling blows in the first few minutes. Dircks rallied fast and kept jabbing Kozak with hard rights, opening a deep cut over Kozak's left eye.

The second round saw both men tire fast, but Kozak kept up the offensive, rocking Dircks with hard smashes to the face and body.

Here are the summaries:
120-pound class—Sgt. Chester Ruby, Baltimore, Infantry, scored a technical knockout over Pvt. Louis Provenzano, New York, Infantry, in 1.16 of the second round.

126-pound class—Pfc Donald Webber, Roanoke, Va., Infantry, stopped Pvt. David Dutch, Philadelphia, Infantry, in 1.42 of the second round.

135-pound class—Cpl. George Spontak, Pittsburgh, Artillery, drew with Pvt. Charles Schnappauf, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Infantry.

145-pound class—Pvt. Tony Pavone, Lynn, Mass., Infantry, outpointed Pvt. Louis Gendel, Miami, Va., Artillery.

155-pound class—Pfc James Grantham, Pulaski, Va., Infantry, outpointed M/Sgt. Hyman Silverman, Norfolk, Va., Signals.

165-pound class—Pvt. Benny Droll, Peoria, Ill., Infantry, outpointed Pfc Robert Kelly, Norfolk, Va., Artillery.

Heavyweight—Pvt. Vincent Kozak, Hazleton, Pa., Headquarters, outpointed Sgt. William Dircks, Cumberland, Md., Infantry.

Doughboy Golfers Getting Ready for Ulster Season

AN AIR FORCE STATION, N.I., Feb. 25—Nearby Irish golf courses will soon be attracting artists of the fairways in this unit, and most of all Joe Maruszewski, of Dearborn, Mich., former golf professional at the Hollywood, Cal., Country club.

The biggest problem will be securing clubs, but Joe believes that can be ironed out.

Maruszewski has played golf with the best of them. On the Hollywood course he played regularly with Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Paulette Goddard, Carole Landis, Andy Devine and Richard Arlen. Following his summers at the club, Joe toured the Winter circuits, which included Phoenix, Ariz., and Miami, Fla. He matched strokes with such stars as Ben Hogan, Jim Demaret and Johnnie Bullock. Just a year before the war, he was a member of a good will tour to Argentina, South America.

NEWS FROM HOME

New Zealand Bases For U.S. After War, Minister Hints

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—Walter Nash, New Zealand Minister, today expressed the belief that New Zealand would be willing to grant the United States use of her air and naval bases after the war as part of the mutual defence system.

Stressing that such a system should be on a reciprocal basis, Mr. Nash said he thought his government would be willing to discuss it with all the nations concerned before the end of the war, as an important step towards implementing the Atlantic Charter.

The nations which should be included in negotiations, Mr. Nash said, were New Zealand, Australia, The Netherlands, Britain, China, India and the United States.

"The burden of defending the Pacific in the post-war years should be equitably shared. Each nation should make a contribution in some proportion to what it has to defend—its people, its living standards, its resources, its wealth."
Mr. Nash expressed his views without committing his government, he said, in answer to questions of correspondents who had asked about the post-war collaboration, particularly in the uses of bases for defense.

Alienation of Affections

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25—Because her pet turkey did not know her when the bird returned from the mating season at a neighbouring ranch, Mrs. John Cannel, of Los Angeles, is suing the ranch owner. In court, Mrs. Cannel charged that the rancher had switched birds and was retaining "Edna" who, said Mrs. Cannel, used to follow her around like a dog.

Veteran Seaman Volunteers

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—George W. Dunn, 72-year-old ship's engineer, who has been on the beach in Sailors' Snug Harbor, Staten Island, for the last five years, will return to sea in a few days as first assistant engineer on a liberty ship. All he had to do was display his chief engineer's ticket and prove to the medical board he was still hale and hearty, a formality which took less than an hour.
"I got tired of watching the ships go down the bay with a lot of young fellows aboard while I sat on the porch and did nothing," he said.

Official Soaked for Funds

ALBANY, N.Y., Feb. 25—Clifford G. Westervelt, of the State Division of Public Buildings, wasn't getting to first base yesterday in his efforts to persuade Budget Director John Burton that he needed additional funds to repair public buildings. Suddenly, an ancient water pipe, running through Burton's office, burst.

A sheet of water washed Burton into Westervelt's lap. Westervelt got the money.

Vegetable Prices Limited

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—The Office of Price Administration clamped emergency price ceilings on five fresh vegetables—tomatoes, green and snap beans, carrots, cabbage and peas—yesterday. Growers are not affected but retailers will not be allowed to increase prices above present levels. The step was taken to halt a speculative price increase which appeared after canned goods rationing went into effect a few days ago. The ruling on fresh vegetables will last 60 days.

Berlin Show Aids Fund

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25—Songwriter Irving Berlin announced in a nationwide broadcast here that his show "This Is The Army" had earned \$1,951,000 from the Broadway opening last July 4 to the final performance Feb. 13. The money was contributed to the Army emergency relief fund. The fund will also receive all profits from the screen version. Berlin estimated they would amount to another \$3,000,000 or more.

Biggest Eagle Store Burns

GREENSBORO, N.C., Feb. 25—Eagle's five-and-ten-cent store here has been destroyed by fire. It was one of the largest of the Eagle chain, which operates in the Carolinas and Virginia. Loss was estimated at \$30,000.

Wallace to Tour Latin America

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—Vice-President Henry Wallace said yesterday he had accepted invitations to visit Costa Rica, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru about the middle of March.

Basketball Results

Syracuse 63, West Virginia 46.
Rutgers 56, Lehigh 33.
Harvard 57, Pennsylvania 56.
Fordham 65, NYU 45.
Amherst 45, Holy Cross 33.
Cornell 51, Yale 34.
Navy 55, William and Mary 30.
CNY 49, Brooklyn College 42.
Washington and Jefferson 49, Carnegie Tech. 33.
Gettysburg 57, Bucknell 36.
Muhlenberg 69, Lafayette 56.
Niagara 51, St. Bonaventure 20.
Coast Guard 60, Massachusetts State 47.
Panzer 50, Upsala 41.
Siena 45, St. Lawrence 44.
St. Michaels 48, Middlebury 44.
Rhode Island State 97, New Hampshire 58.
Bethany 58, Westminster (Pa.) 55.
Loyola 39, John Hopkins 34.
Fairmont State 43, Marietta 36.
Waynesburg 55, Indiana Teachers (Pa.) 47.
Allegheny 47, Hiram 44.
Davidson 48, Citadel 44.
North Carolina Preflight 56, North Carolina State 30.
Kansas State 45, Olathe Naval Air 32.
Akron 65, Baldwin Wallace 32.
Great Lakes 56, Marquette 37.
Otterbein 41, Muskingum 33.
St. Louis 63, Missouri Mines 40.
Iowa Wesleyan 43, Parsons 40.
Penn (Iowa) 52, Central 30.
Mount Union 55, Oberlin 51.
Southwestern Kansas 33, Emporia State 27.
Dayton 41, Bowling Green 24.
Moorehead Teachers 44, Concordia 42.
Macalester 46, St. Olaf 41.
Luther 65, Wartburg 27.
Kent State 42, Wittenberg 38.
Cincinnati 52, Hanover 48.
Bethel 44, College of Emporia 34.
Calvin 49, Hope 42.
Alma 54, Kalamazoo 44.
Valparaiso 65, Manchester 58.
Milwaukee Teachers 50, Oshkosh Teachers 44.
Loyola (Chicago) 54, Illinois Wesleyan 40.
Augustana 53, Knox 45.
Midland 42, Hastings 28.
York 59, Wesleyan 27.
Kansas Wesleyan 42, Rockhurst 38.
Westminster 47, Tarkio 30.
Warrensburg Teachers 50, Wentworth Military 42.
Hamline 29, Carleton 28.
Augsburg 45, St. Marys 41.
Kearney Teachers 69, Doane 45.
North Texas State 43, East Texas State 32.
Howard Payne 73, Southwestern Texas 49.
Southern California 55, California Tech 29.
Oregon State 51, Washington State 35.
Santa Barbara State 39, San Jose State 35.
College of the Pacific 73, Mather Field 48.
Gonzaga 89, Whitman 68.

Statesmen Quintet Trips Medic Hoopsters, 23-15

AN ARTILLERY STATION, Feb. 25—In a rough and tumble game that looked more like football than basketball, the Statesmen, an artillery five, defeated a Medical unit, 23-15. It was sweet revenge for the Statesmen, who in a tournament held in Belfast were knocked out by this same quintet, 34-20.

With Cpl. Koons, Harrisburg, Pa., finding the loop for five double deckers and two fouls, the Statesmen led all the way. Freeland was the big pill roller for the Medics, sinking three buckets and one foul for seven points.

3 Repair Fives Win in 4 Tilts

By Wade Barton

Stars and Stripes Unit Correspondent
AN AIR DEPOT STATION, Feb. 25—With every game a thriller, the — Air Depot Group basketball league was the place for the fans on the latest night of play here. In the first game, Sgt. Joe Seeley, of Houston, Texas, and Pvt. Asa Burch, of Rozel, Kansas, set a scoring pace too hot for their opponents to match, giving Team H, Repair, a 43-9 victory over Team B, Headquarters.

League leaders, Team A, Headquarters, found plenty of trouble before finally disposing of Team D, Repair, 33-30. The Repair team led 10-8 at the quarter and 17-16 at the half, but with Sgt. Ray Zimmerman, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and M/Sgt. George McVey, of Sabina, Ohio, leading the way, the Headquarters boys came back to outscore their opponents, 10-4, in the third quarter in what proved to be the decisive period.

In a defensive game, Team C, Repair, defeated Team A, Supply, 23-19. The lead changed hands seven times in the fourth game with the outcome remaining a toss-up until Sgt. Harold Wick, of Canoga Park, Cal., took charge with three baskets from the floor and two charity tosses in the last quarter to give Team A, Repair, a 32-25 victory over Team C, Headquarters.

H Repair				B Hdqts.			
Seeley, f	7	0	14	Trimble, f	3	0	6
Burch, f	5	0	10	Johnson, f	0	1	1
Brooks, c	2	0	4	Schnellinger, c	1	0	2
Sullivan, g	4	1	9	Demos, f	0	0	0
Wilson, g	1	0	2	Morris, g	0	0	0
Johnson, f	2	0	4	Pitcairn, f	0	0	0
				Phillips, g	0	0	0
Totals	21	1	43	Totals	4	1	9
A Hdqts.				D Repair			
McVey, f	3	0	6	Floyd, f	3	0	6
Zimmerman, f	5	1	11	Machock, f	4	2	10
Shrimplin, c	2	0	4	Pederson, c	0	0	0
Samuel, g	2	0	8	Riegel, g	2	0	4
Enser, g	2	0	4	Finch, g	1	2	4
Totals	15	3	33	Totals	13	4	30
C Repair				A Supply			
Cooper, f	2	0	4	Zakem, f	2	0	2
Massalia, f	1	0	2	Karpis, f	1	0	2
Maine, c	0	1	1	Rigo, c	2	0	4
Parker, g	5	2	12	Rozeman, g	4	1	9
Peshoff, g	1	0	2	Ranker, g	0	0	0
Faugh, f	1	0	2				
Totals	10	3	23	Totals	9	1	19
A Repair				C Hdqts.			
Wick, f	3	3	9	Larkin, f	3	0	6
English, f	6	3	15	Rosen, f	1	0	2
Dichr, c	2	0	4	Flagella, c	6	0	12
Fasold, g	0	2	2	McGraw, g	0	0	0
Ruby, g	0	0	0	Demos, g	2	1	5
Cummings, g	1	0	2				
Totals	12	8	32	Totals	12	1	25



Again Forts Hit Jap Shipping in Rabaul Harbor

Direct Hit On Large Cargo Ship, Force Another To Run Aground

ALLIED HQ., Southwest Pacific, Feb. 25—Japanese warships in Rabaul harbor were blasted for the third night in succession by strong force of Flying Fortresses that scored direct hits on a 10,000-ton cargo ship, near hits on two other warships and forced a large warship to run aground, according to the official communiqués issued today.

All of the Forts returned to their bases despite heavy anti-aircraft fire and numerous searchlights.

On a reconnaissance a single Liberator shot down four out of 13 attacking Japanese fighters near Open Bay (northern coast of New Britain) and returned to its base undamaged.

Fires Started at Lae

Other attacks on Jap-held villages in the Lae, New Guinea, area were carried out by medium bombers carrying 500-pound and 1,000-pound bombs. Fires were started and were visible 20 miles away.

Allied heavy bombers, attacking a small enemy cargo vessel near Powell Point, New Britain, were intercepted by three enemy fighters and shot down one of them.

Villages and airdromes were strafed and bombed by medium bombers at points near Maluhang, Waria river, and the Mubo area in New Guinea.

Inspect Silver Medallion for Eagles



Wing commander Raymond Duke-Wooley (left), only British pilot to receive an American DFC, inspects a Silver Medallion given to Lt. Col. Peterson (right) and other former RAF Eagle Squadron pilots by the British in a ceremony at an Eighth Air Force airdrome yesterday.

Ex-Eagle Pilots Get Medals; U.S. DFC Goes to British Flier

(Continued from page 1)

annihilate the Huns' Luftwaffe—and we are going to annihilate them!"

Previously Air Marshal Leigh-Mallory broke the happy story to the birdmen who got in before Pearl Harbor that the score against the enemy over Dieppe last August was not just 91 German planes downed, as already claimed, but 170. And in this victory the Eagle Squadron had played a big part.

During the proceedings, Gen. Hunter presented to Wing Commander Raymond Myles B. Duke-Wooley, of the RAF, who for two months led an American Fighter Group, the American DFC.

Maj. Coen, who comes from Carbondale, Ill., received at the same ceremony two Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal.

Other Air Medals were awarded to Capt. Carl H. Miley, Toledo, Ohio; 1st Lt. Le Roy Gover, San Carlos, Cal.; 1st Lt. George E. Mirsch, Chicago; 1st Lt. Glenn J. Smart, Sedan, Kas.; 1st Lt. Donald A. Willis, Fort Leavenworth, Ind.; 2nd Lt. Robert G. Patterson, Los Angeles, and 2nd Lt. Robert E. Smith.

A posthumous award of the Air Medal was made to Capt. William P. Kelly, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal also were awarded to Capt. Roy W. Evans, San Bernardino, Cal.; 1st Lt. Stanley M. M. Anderson, Washington,

and 2nd Lt. Robert A. Boock, Springfield, Ill.

RAF medallions were presented to:

Lt. Colonel C. G. Peterson, Santa Quin, Cal.

Majors O. H. Coen, Carbondale, Ill., and G. A. Daymond, Burbank, Cal.

Captains W. J. Hollander, Hawaii; G. O. Halsey, Chickasha, Okla.; R. D. McMinn, Salt Lake City; T. J. Andrews, Costa Mesa, Cal.; C. B. Fetrow, Upton, Cal.; J. C. Dupont, Ford, Sussex, England; M. L. Stepp, Ketchikan, Alaska, and R. W. Evans, San Bernardino, Cal.

1st Lieutenants D. S. Gentile, Piqua, Cal.; F. D. Smith, Molokoff, Tex.; C. V. Padgett, Bethesda, Md.; R. L. Priser, Troy, Ohio; J. A. Clark, New York; E. L. Miller, Oakland, Cal.; D. A. Young, Buffalo, Kan.; F. R. Boyles, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.; A. H. Hopson, Dallas, Tex.; J. W. Wilkinson, Swarthmore, Pa.; W. T. O'Regan, Los Angeles; J. F. Lutz, Fulton, Mo.; H. D. Hively, Athens, Ohio; D. E. Booth, New York; D. K. Willis, Fort Leavenworth, Ind.; L. R. Gover, San Carlos, Cal.; G. F. Smart, Sedan, Kan.; W. C. Slade, A. C. Stanhope, New York, and G. Carpenter, Oil City, Pa.

2nd Lieutenants R. E. Smith; R. U. Douglas; S. H. Pissan, New York; A. Rafalovich; R. A. Boock, Springfield, Ill.; R. C. Care, Angola, Ind.; H. L. Mills, Leonia, N.J.; E. D. Beattie, Albany, Ga.; D. D. Nee, Long Beach, Cal.; H. G. Ayres, Indianapolis, Ind.; A. W. Chatterley, Braley, Lemoora, Cal.; K. D. Patterson, Mesa, Ariz.; P. M. Ellington, Tulsa, Okla.; A. J. Stephenson, Los Angeles; K. G. Smith, Boise, Idaho; F. I. Smolinsky, New York; V. A. Boehle, Indianapolis, Ind.; F. M. Fink, Philadelphia; F. J. France, Oklahoma; J. C. Bennett; J. D. Dyer; W. K. Norton; R. Eastman; W. Katz; L. Gleason; D. H. Ross, Huntington Park, Cal.; V. R. Castle, Bluff, Ill.; F. O. Merritt, Rockland, Maine, and G. C. King.

Navy Gun Crew Fought 30-Foot Waves on Raft

The commanding officer of a Navy gun crew, rescued with five of his men from a raft in mid-Atlantic, arrived in London yesterday and described the torpedoing of his ship and seven hours on the drifting raft.

He was Lt. (j.g.) Marshall T. Ismond, of Chicago, a law student before he was commissioned last April.

"The sea was running 20 to 30 feet high when the torpedo crashed into the ship without warning," Lt. Ismond narrated.

When they launched a lifeboat, a wave crashed it against the ship's side. Lt. Ismond leaped overboard, swam to a raft where he was joined by seven other men.

"We had one waterproof flashlight and a couple of small red lights used on life jackets. We took turns waving the light on the crest of waves."

When a British merchant vessel picked them up, two men had died.

Northampton Services Dance

NORTHAMPTON, Feb. 25—The Red Cross Day Club here has scheduled a tea dance for Sunday afternoon. Hostesses will be provided, but if they wish American soldiers may bring a girl from the uniformed forces. The Fourth Special Service Orchestra will play from 3 to 5.30 P.M.

Yanks Guests of CD

BELFAST, Feb. 25—The Civil Defense organizations here will present a variety show for U.S. servicemen and technicians and their Irish girl friends at the Red Cross club Sunday night.

Blondie

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



New Tank Is Driven 3 Months Without Halt

FORT KNOX, Ky., Feb. 25—In a demonstration at this armored force training center, American tanks have been in continuous operation 60 minutes an hour, 24 hours a day, since Nov. 10.

The tank marathon was staged to test a new tank engine, now in production, but so far untried in combat. Four shifts of drivers kept the tanks going over all kinds of terrain.

Original ETO Unit Celebrates

Officers Who Set Up Task Force Observe First Anniversary

The men who came to England a year ago yesterday to set up the European Theater of Operations held their first anniversary dinner last night in London. Not all the original 75 officers could be there; many are in North Africa, and special BBC recordings of speeches were relayed to that field of operations.

Guest of honor was Col. C. H. Barth, Chief of Staff. Lt. Gen. Frank M. Andrews, Commanding General, ETO, was unable to attend.

Speeches were made by Maj. Douglas Eiseeman, W/O Rex McKinney, Col. James L. Blakeney, Senior Chaplain, ETO, and Col. Fred A. Meyer.

Distributed at the dinner were two service ribbons—the American Defense Ribbon and the ETO Ribbon.

Present at the dinner were:

Col. James L. Blakeney, Little Rock, Ark.; Col. George M. Bostock, San Antonio, Tex.; Col. Earle M. Jones, Fresno, Cal.; Col. Fred A. Meyer, Berkeley, Cal.; Col. William W. Reynolds, Scranton, Pa.; Col. Alexander M. Weyand, Drexel Hill, Pa.; Lt. Col. John M. Pitzer, Nebraska City, Neb.; Lt. Col. Bradford T. Schantz, Hamilton, N.Y.; Lt. Col. Henry C. Settle, Atlanta, Ga.; Maj. Paul E. Armeson, Minneapolis; Maj. Paul K. Brown, Philadelphia; Maj. Douglas W. Eiseeman, Philadelphia; Maj. Harry B. Cuthbertson, Washington; Maj. Samuel H. Gamble, New Rochelle, N.Y.; Maj. Elmer N. Rudolph, Buffalo, N.Y.; Maj. Martin H. Steffen, Minneapolis; Capt. Royden C. Booth, Cleveland; Capt. William H. Saunty, Savannah, Ga.; Capt. Gordon P. Webber, Aberdeen, South Dakota; 1st Lt. Thomas J. Bell, Harrisburg, Pa.; Capt. G. O. Gumbart, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.; 1st Lt. E. W. Boettcher, Chicago; 1st Lt. Clark Craig, Minneapolis; 2nd Lt. Tom Beauchaine, Minneapolis; 2nd Lt. F. J. Corbett; W/O James R. Hill, Columbus, Ohio; W/O Rex McKinney, Fort Thomas, Ken.; W/O John R. Welsh, Dallas, Tex.; W/O E. Williams, San Antonio, Tex.; 2nd Lt. Munroe H. Sherman, Chicago.

Of the original group, those unable to attend last night were:

Brig. Gen. Ray W. Barker, Rochester, N.Y.; Col. Edward C. Betts, Washington; Col. John B. Doyle, Detroit; Col. Frank B. Jordan, Washington; Lt. Col. Henry M. Zeller, Parsons, Kan.; Maj. Howard B. Jordan, Xenia, Ohio; 2nd Lt. R. Max Rader, Heirmanville, Mich.; 2nd Lt. Munroe H. Sherman, Chicago; W/O R. C. Davis, Columbus, Ga.; W/O Max C. Smith, El Paso, Tex.

First U.S. Tanks in Russia

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 25 (UP)—The first American-built tanks have made their appearance on the Central Sector of the Russian front, according to S.T.B., German-controlled news agency in Scandinavia. Twenty of them made an attack on the Moscow-Smolensk highway, it said.

Sheeran Gets New Post

BRISTOL, Feb. 25—Joe Sheeran, former American Red Cross program director here, has gone to a new assignment, turning over the job to Miss Thadea Harder, of San Francisco, Cal. A complete entertainment program, along with fight sponsorships, has been developed.

Liberator 'Flying Dutchman' Goes 2,000 Miles Unmanned

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25—A "Flying Dutchman" of the skies, abandoned by its crew after it had become unmanageable, wandered over the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico for 2,000 miles and ended one of the strangest chapters in aviation history when it ran out of fuel and crashed against a lonely mountain-side in Mexico, the War Department said today.

The airplane, a four-engined Liberator, express cargo type, took off from southern Florida Feb. 9 for South America. Eighty miles out a bad flutter developed in the tail, and the plane dropped rapidly from 9,000 to 5,300 feet.

Turning the ship around and fighting to keep its nose up, Lt. Ulmer headed back for the Florida coast, the plane traveling at 150 miles an hour and

racked by vibration. Thinking the plane was over the coast, the pilot ordered all to bale out.

Heading the plane out to sea, Lt. Ulmer set the automatic pilot for level flight so the ship would not become a menace ashore. Then he also left. In the darkness shallow coastal waters had been mistaken for land and all the jumpers alighted in the ocean, each wearing a "Mae West" preserver.

The plane when last seen was heading roughly on a course toward the northern tip of Norway. Apparently the relief from the weight of cargo and then personnel improved the aerodynamic qualities of the crippled plane. It flew on and somehow reversed its course, cutting across hundreds of miles of ocean and gulf until its tanks ran dry and it crashed in northern Mexico 10 or 12 hours later.

by Chic Young

Two Effective Weapons Joined In Mark Sixes

Heavy Armor, 88-Mm. Gun Imposing Force, But It's Been Licked

By Edward Kennedy

Associated Press War Correspondent

CAIRO, Feb. 25—The Germans seem to have combined two of the most effective weapons of the desert warfare—the heavily armored tank and their famous 88mm. anti-tank gun.

The new Mark Six tank the Germans are using in Tunisia mounts the 88mm. gun. The largest gun mounted on any tank in use by the Allies is said here to be a 75mm.

There is every reason to believe, however, the new tank was no great surprise to the Allies, but was anticipated, and that the answer to it, if not yet ready, is in preparation. (The Mark Sixes have been successfully repulsed by the Anglo-American forces in Tunisia in the current counter-attacks, but technical details of how it was done have not yet been divulged.)

Allies Have as Good

The reason for the German superiority in 88mm. guns is that they started production of this weapon in 1933 and tested it in Spain in 1937. The Allies have guns as good but they started production years later and have not yet been able to produce them in sufficient volume.

It takes at least two years to get such a big gun into mass production, but rapid strides have been made.

The 88 is a long-barreled dual purpose anti-tank and anti-aircraft gun. As used in this theater it is on a sturdy chassis which can be towed by a tank or tractor, and is, therefore, highly mobile. It fires several kinds of shell, including long-range armor-piercing shells for knocking out tanks.

Its biggest advantage in desert fighting is that its range permits it to reach tanks before tanks get close enough to reach it with their smaller guns. This range, therefore, makes up largely for the lack of armor around the crews which man the 88s.

Tanks Provide Armor

In mounting the 88 on tanks, the Germans have thus given these the protection of heavy armor plates (front, four inches thick, side three and one-quarter inches) around them and increased the gun's mobility.

The Mark Six weighs about 56 tons and is the heaviest armored tank yet reported in the desert war. There is nothing revolutionary about it or the gun it carries—it is simply a heavier tank with a bigger gun of longer range.

One of the main reasons for British reverses in the desert during the last two years has been the German skill in luring British tanks into ambushes of 88s. Eventually the British forces developed a technique to avoid falling into such traps and that is one of the reasons for Gen. Montgomery's success.

Axis Broadcast Amuses Yanks

Rome Radio is broadcasting to American troops in North Africa, urging them to retreat or surrender, in a propaganda assault which most of the men find more ridiculous than appealing.

The announcer speaks with a strong American accent. After a news item reporting that President Roosevelt might run for a fourth term, he said: "Who cares a damn? Music is what we want."

The singing which followed was interrupted by a woman, who said:—

"Write and let us know what you think of our programs. Address your letters to Axis Radio, Tunis. You need not post them. Just pin them up in some conspicuous place when you retreat."

"Let us know if you are tired of fighting this ridiculous war, or you can take a piece of white paper and write laissez passer (the announcer spelled the letters) and bring it over personally."

"You will be well treated, according to the Geneva Convention, and your relatives will be informed."

The program ended with "Rock-a-bye, baby"—"so you boys can get a good night's sleep."

Eagle Club Broadcast Links Troops, Homefolks

They wore British, Canadian and American uniforms, but as they stepped up to the microphone at the Eagle Club last night every man had the same thing in his mind—a radio message to the folks back home in the States.

Pilot Officer Robert Calvin, RCAF, told his people in Los Angeles about a trip to Spain; Flight Officer Robert J. Campbell, DFC, wanted Eleanor Lynch, of Yonkers, N.Y., to know he was being true to her; Sgt. Jewell McLaurin assured the folks back in Dillon, S.C., that flying isn't much like farming.

Others who had a chance to put a few words on the air were: Flight Sgt. Tom Clifford, Upper Darby, Pa.; Pilot Officer Joseph E. Hart, RCAF; Flight Officer Carl W. Holmes; Foster Bussinger, Elizabeth, N.J., serving through his second war as a private in the Army of the United States; Trooper J. D. Austin, Royal Canadian Dragoons, and Cpl. Bernard A. Gray, Cincinnati.