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USAAF Bags 123 Planes in Rabaul Blow

Great Jap Air Base Gets Knock-Out Punch by Bombers, Fighters

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Oct. 26—The Japanese air fortress at Rabaul, New Britain—already reeling from weeks of severe Allied air batterings—received the knockout punch over the weekend from fighters and bombers of the Fifth Air Force, which hurled 105 tons of bombs on the base and destroyed 123 planes and possibly 43 others.

The announcement of the great attack, apparently withheld until reconnaissance photos revealed the damage, said 300 planes took part and only four were lost. At Kahili, on Bougainville Island in the Solomons, other Allied planes hammered the vital Jap air base into uselessness with 170 tons of bombs. A spokesman at Gen. MacArthur's headquarters said the base "was temporarily knocked out."

Libs Began the Attack

Military experts said the Rabaul blow had destroyed another Jap attempt to reinforce the base which is reported to be the supply headquarters for all their land, sea and air operations in the Solomons and New Guinea areas.

Liberators, escorted by P38s, opened the crippling assault on Saturday evening, and after a successful bomb run destroyed 14 of 50 enemy interceptor planes.

The next day, B25 Mitchells, also escorted by P38s, executed a surprise low-level attack and destroyed 45 bombers parked on the ground. Seventy Zeros attacked the Allied air fleet as they turned for home and after 60 minutes of fierce running air duels, P38s shot down 35 and the Mitchell gunners eight more.

Japs Lose 450 in 14 Days

The new Allied air victories sent the Jap air losses sky-rocketing up to 450 planes lost in 14 days.

Other Jap losses in the Rabaul area were a destroyer sunk, five coastal vessels destroyed, and two other vessels damaged.

Meanwhile, Tokyo radio reported violent land fighting had again flared up in the Finschhafen area in New Guinea, besides admitting the air blow at Rabaul.

Last of British Quit Cos Island

CAIRO, Oct. 26—More than three weeks after the German landings on Cos, the Dodecanese air base off Turkey's southwest coast, the last remnants of the British ground forces holding out in the mountains of the island have been withdrawn.

Long after an estimated 4,000 German paratroops and infantry occupied the island on Oct. 2 with Stuka dive-bomber support, the British held out in the hills and staged guerrilla resistance.

Survivors returning to the Middle East said the enemy staged a second Crete, preparing the way for paratroops with an intensive air bombardment lasting five days. The British were taken off in light skiffs.

Earthquake Shock Rocks San Francisco District

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 26 (AP)—The city area was rocked by an earthquake shock last night which lasted for nearly half a minute.

Peninsula residents described the shock as the most severe of recent years. Telephone communications in the Ingleside district were disrupted. At San Jose numerous plate glass windows were shattered and books jolted off the shelves.

Ploesti Damage Repaired

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 26 (AP)—Damage done in the Ploesti oilfields in Rumania by American bombers has been repaired, according to an official report, Bucharest dispatches said today.

Clark Gable Arrives Home

NEW YORK, Oct. 26—Capt. Clark Gable arrived here from England yesterday. For the last six months he was in Britain shooting an air combat training film.

FDR Is Feeling Better

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—President Roosevelt is feeling better, but he still has a slight temperature from the influenza and cold which he has had since Friday.

He Stalks the Stukas



Maj. William L. Leverette, of Tallahassee, Fla., fighter pilot, has performed the extraordinary feat of bringing down seven Stukas in one flight over German-occupied territory in Italy.

British Thwart Convoy Raid, Get 4 E-Boats

Beaten Germans Withdraw After Long Battle Off English Coast

British destroyers and motor gunboats destroyed four E-boats and damaged seven others in a five-hour running battle with a fleet of 30 light German naval units attempting to attack a convoy off the coast of East Anglia Sunday night, the Admiralty announced yesterday.

Shortly before midnight the enemy vessels converged from several directions on the British convoy. One group, composed of about five E-boats, was intercepted by a British destroyer which forced the group to withdraw after scoring hits on one vessel.

Soon afterward, MGBs attacked an enemy group in the same area and damaged one E-boat. Other German ships were met by another British destroyer whose guns blew up one E-boat and damaged a second. Minutes later, a third British destroyer damaged another E-boat.

Meanwhile, MGBs moved into position to cut off the German fleet, by this time fleeing for home. As the E-boats approached the British vessels opened fire and two were seen to sink. Survivors were picked up.

As the battle drew to an end, other MGBs surprised another force and damaged three with gunfire.

All British ships returned safely to port, the Admiralty announcement said. There were casualties in two MGBs.

Bucket Brigade of Yanks Uses Tin Hats to Snuff Fire

BELFAST, Oct. 26—Using their combat helmets as water buckets, a group of U.S. soldiers aided in extinguishing a fire which threatened to destroy Pynan Abbey, historic landmark in Armagh County, Northern Ireland.

A plumber's torch started the blaze. The soldiers formed a bucket brigade to carry the water up several flights of stairs.

War Situation Grave—Hirohito

NEW YORK, Oct. 26—Emperor Hirohito told a special session of the Japanese Diet today, "The war situation is truly grave," a Tokio broadcast heard by OWI said.

Believe Agreement Reached In Moscow on Vital Matters

MOSCOW, Oct. 26—Agreement has already been reached on a number of matters vital to the prosecution of the war, it was believed here today as the American, British and Russian foreign ministers continued their conferences.

A cordial atmosphere was reported prevailing in the discussions of the technical experts and political advisers who are meeting apart from the main conference and drawing up agreements and understandings outlined at the meetings of Cordell Hull, Anthony Eden and Vyacheslav Molotov.

Although no statement has been issued on the progress of the conference, observers pointed out that the number and duration of the discussions indicated

Russians Storm Ahead in South; Near Vital City Controlling Rail System of Entire Dnieper Bend

14 Yanks Arrive in England, First to Be Freed by Nazis

Bands Greet Wounded Captives Being Exchanged; Include 8th Air Force Men and Ground Troops Seized in Africa, Sicily

By Richard Wilbur

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

LIVERPOOL, Oct. 26—Fourteen American prisoners of war, the first from U.S. armed forces to be freed from German prison camps in this war, arrived here at noon today among approximately 790 Allied prisoners brought on the hospital ship Atlantis from Sweden.

The men included air force men brought down over Europe and paratroops and infantrymen captured in the Mediterranean theater.

An American Army band and a British Army band alternated in dispensing cheer to the arriving British, Canadian and American war prisoners.

The South Lancashire Regiment band led off with "Pack Up Your Troubles" as the big hospital ship docked, and the American band, which traveled here from a Replacement Depot and was led by Cpl. Peter Buonconsiglio, of New Brunswick, N.J., played "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

No greater ovation was given during the docking period here, than a rousing yell, several hundred strong, by British soldiers from the ship to the disembarking American soldiers: "So long, Yanks."

First American on the dock was T/Sgt. John Gardner, of Yokum, Tex., radio operator on a Fortress shot down over the Continent May 17. Though suffering a lung ailment, he sat up on his stretcher and called out, "Hi, Sarge," to a U.S. Army photographer, and looked glad to be back in the ETO.

There were three other stretcher cases—S/Sgt. Benjamin Spring, of Denver, Col., a gunner shot down in the Fort raid on Hamburg July 25; Pvt. Robert M. Scott, of Greensboro, N.C., paratroop captured in Sicily on Aug. 1, and Rodney

(Continued on page 4)

Nazi Defense Plans Are Shattered by Huge Drives

Their defensive system completely disorganized, German Army units last night were retreating like chaff before the wind as Russian spearheads over-ran enemy positions at will throughout the entire Dnieper Valley in the Ukraine.

The Russian juggernaut, which already has as good as won the Dnieper Valley, was hurling the Wehrmacht back everywhere in the south, forcing the enemy into more and more hurried retreats to avoid encirclement and raising the possibility the Germans may not be able to call even a brief halt before reaching the River Bug far to the west.

With Dnepropetrovsk and Melitopol in the bag, the lower Dnieper River cleared, with Soviet forces storming the suburbs of Krivoi Rog well within the Dnieper Bend, there yet appeared strong indications that even more sensational Russian victories were within reach.

Three main Soviet columns were advancing. West of Krivoi Rog one force aimed for Znamenska, vital railway junction. A second army was battering at the gates of Krivoi Rog itself, while to the south Red Army units continued their drive west from Melitopol.

Crucial Rail Point at Stake

Znamenska was a crucial point for the Germans. The city lies astride a railway which controls the entire rail system of the Dnieper Bend, and its loss would leave all German forces within the loop without a supply or escape link. At one point the Russians were within five miles of the town.

Krivoi Rog, a great steel center, also is an important communications point. The Germans evidently had decided to hold it to the last possible moment, for its loss would permit the Red Army wedge driving down into the Dnieper Bend to sweep on virtually unmolested, cutting off remaining Nazi units in the loop.

Moving south and southwest of Melitopol, toward the Perekop Isthmus, were Soviet armies which carried with them a strong possibility that the Crimea soon might be sealed off. From Madrid came a report quoting Berlin correspondents of Spanish newspapers as saying that German evacuation of the Crimea already was under way.

Last night's Russian communique announced that the Red Army had advanced 4 1/2 to 12 miles northwest of Dnepropetrovsk, capturing 20 places at a cost of enormous losses to the enemy. Southwest of Dnepropetrovsk, the Russians gained 4 1/2 to nine miles and occupied more than 30 places. The communique claimed several places captured in the thrust to Krivoi Rog.

There was no letup in the pessimism which has pervaded Berlin for the last two weeks.

Berlin dispatches to the Stockholm press quoted a German military spokesman as saying the following regarding the battle of the Dnieper Bend: "This is not just a battle for a small area of the Ukraine. It will decide the fate of the war all along the East Front."

And last night the Russians had all but crushed the Nazis in the Dnieper Bend.

Reports from the south overshadowed all others from Russia. Stiff fighting continued to the north at Kiev, where the Russians were drawing closer to the city, which is invested from both north and south. Further north, fresh gains were reported in a second encircling movement near Gomel, on the White Russian front.

Take Steel City Near Sarajevo

The Germans lost their last industrial center in Bosnia yesterday as Free Yugoslav headquarters announced that Tito's Partisans, after a heavy 12-hour battle, had captured the steel-manufacturing center of Vares-Maydan, 20 miles north of Sarajevo.

Many enemy troops were killed and large quantities of supplies captured, the communique said.

The capture came a few hours after the Yugoslav government in Cairo announced that Mihailovich's army had captured from the Germans the land-locked harbor of Kotor, 120 miles across the Adriatic from Bari, Italy. Kotor is big enough to accommodate the entire Allied Mediterranean fleet.

Forts' Accuracy Hailed By a Tommy Who Saw

LEITH, Scotland, Oct. 26 (AP)—The recent Flying Fortress assault on the Focke Wulf factory at Marienburg, East Prussia, was so amazingly accurate that while the factory itself was destroyed not a single nearby house was damaged, according to a repatriated British Tommy who saw for himself.

Pvt. James Johnson, of Aberdeen, a British Army medical orderly, told here of being called from Marienburg Hospital, where he was an orderly, to tend wounded in the factory after the raid.

"Houses not very far in the rear were absolutely untouched, and in a French prisoner of war camp about 100 yards from the plant there was only one man wounded during the raid," he said.

Berlin's Show Is Free to EMs

One-third of all seats—or 700—at all performances of Irving Berlin's "This is the Army" at the London Palladium Nov. 10-27 will be distributed free to enlisted men of the U.S. and Allied forces, it was announced yesterday.

In addition, special performances will be held exclusively for service men and women on the evenings of Nov. 8 and 9 and on Sunday afternoons Nov. 14 and 21.

Tickets may be obtained from the theater ticket pool of the London District Welfare Office at Trafalgar Sq. and at the ARC Rainbow Corner. For the special performances tickets also may be obtained from unit commanders. Tickets will be distributed only prior to the specific performance for which they are intended.

Army Discharges 550,000

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26—The War Department revealed that about 550,000 officers and men had been honorably discharged from the Army since Pearl Harbor. Some 200,000 of them were over 38 and a "large majority" of the others were discharged for physical or mental disability.

Detectives Seek Flier's Uniform

NEW YORK, Oct. 26—Detectives today awaited the arrival from Toronto of Wayne Lonergan, RCAF airman, for questioning in connection with the murder of his beautiful 22-year-old wife, Patricia Lonergan, in her fashionable Beekman Hill apartment on Sunday.

Lonergan, who was separated from his wife, had scratches on his face when picked up in Toronto, police said. New York detectives were searching for a uniform which Lonergan said was stolen from him during his week-end visit. After questioning several of his associates, they said the case was an unusually sordid one.

Mrs. Lonergan's nude body was discovered in her bedroom Sunday night when a Marine captain called to take her out to dinner. She had been bludgeoned to death, apparently with a table lamp, and police said it was evident she had fought "a battle royal" against her assailant. It was not disclosed whether she had been criminally attacked.

USAAF's Rescue Service Saves 70% of Ditched Crews

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—Specially trained squadrons of the air force's new Emergency Rescue Branch rescued 70 per cent of American air crews forced down by enemy action in one large theater of operations during September, the War Department announced yesterday. The organization was set up late in August.

Lt.-Col. Charles Whitehead, the commander, said that other theaters were reporting an increase in the percentage of crews rescued, and added, "it is an excellent morale builder to the crews to know that these trained squadrons are on the alert at bases ready to come to their aid if they crash or are shot down."

Ask 30-Hour Post-War Week

NEW YORK, Oct. 26—R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers, CIO affiliate, said that a 30-hour week would be the greatest single means of putting every able-bodied man to work after the war.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Newspaper published daily except Sunday by and for personnel of the U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations...

Chief of Special Services and Publication Officer ETO, SOS Col. Theodore Arter

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Navy Tribute

Every man in the Army owes a debt of gratitude to the United States Navy, for it was our Navy that escorted us safely through "troubled waters" and has since kept open the sea lanes...

It was the Navy, too, that suffered first casualties of this war in a shattering blow from which it quickly recovered to win the brilliant victories at Midway, Guadalcanal and Coral Sea.

And one reason for this come back can be found in the record of Captain Laurence Allen Abercrombie, who now wears three navy crosses. He brought his destroyer into Pearl Harbor and saw the still smoking wreck of the battleship Arizona...

As a result Hirohito has fewer planes, submarines, destroyers, cruisers and transports and some thousands less of sailors and soldiers.

But Captain Abercrombie is no exception. The Navy of the United States is filled with officers and men who have proved we have a Navy second to none. These men have won impossible victories, for they operate on just one principle—fight, fight, fight.

So break out that famous signal "Well Done" and run it clear up to the top of the mast.

Badoglio's Pledges

The New York Times in a published interview with Marshal Badoglio reveals him as prepared to put first things first.

Paramount aim and duty of all Italians will be to free Italy from the Germans by working in close collaboration with the Americans and British already fighting on Italian soil, declared Badoglio. For that task, he claims, the path was cleared by doing away with the Fascist Party and its "trigger men" and he now proposes to enlarge the basis of his government to include in it representatives of all the active parties, "none excluded."

He also pledged himself to resign as head of the government as soon as hostilities ceased in order "to allow an exclusively political ministry to hold elections throughout the country," and renounced for Italy territorial claims resulting from the "purely Fascist conception" of conquest at the expense of neighbors.

Now if the Badoglio pledges are promptly and faithfully carried out it will be difficult for anyone to quarrel with the program.

What Worries You Most

Doc Gallup's sampling of public opinion has given on the whole a genuinely correct expression of the public mind on questions of the moment. Being human we have disagreed at times with a few of his questions, for we thought some were misleading and resulted in answers that were at variance with our own opinion; but we can offer only praise for the poll recently conducted.

According to this poll, the chief worry of all citizens at the moment is the high cost of living. In the survey, more questions were asked about what Congress is going to do about that problem than any other. Then, in order, came gasoline, rationing, post-war problems, the draft, labor disputes and government red tape.

The question asked by Doc Gallup was, "If you could sit down and talk with the Congressman from your district before he returns to Washington, what questions would you like to ask him about problems here in the United States?"

That was the question that touched off the fireworks. It was possible of no misunderstanding. It left no chance to equivocate. It was not involved. It asked in effect: "What worries you most?"

Some people, of course, had other principal worries; but the six mentioned led all the rest, with the cost of living well to the front. People after all are interested most in essentials, and Doc Gallup, with his question, touched on subject Number One in the lives of the masses.

But in considering these material worries it is well to keep in mind our spiritual problems. This is particularly true in time of war and is best summed up by that old quotation attributed to Cromwell: "Trust in the Lord and keep your powder dry."

And those who follow this rule find they have little to worry about.

Hash Marks

When the war's over all the girls back home will probably have to take to wearing two pairs of silk stockings at once—or Japan will never be able to pay her reparations.

Desert incident. Ebenezer S. Thrasher comes from Kansas City, and he likes to collect souvenirs. Now he's with the Red



Cross and has been to Africa and Sicily. One day while walking through the ancient dust of N. Africa he noticed a small metal disc. Ah, he thought, a relic of some extinct civilization. He picked it up and looked it over—it was a Kansas City street car token.

GI Philosophy: Marriage is a book in which the first chapter is a poem—the rest prose.

Conversation in a Berlin restaurant. "I'll have calves' liver, please." "Sorry, sir, liver is off. The factory where it was made has been bombed."

Sgt. A. B. Meyers, of Brooklyn, is one GI who can't complain about British hospitality—in fact the hospitality he encountered recently was much too effusive. He had the address of a girl he had met in London; so he located the block of flats and, after fumbling his way up two flights in darkened hallways, knocked at the door. He was greeted by an elderly gentleman, who said, "My daughter is out, but we expect her back any minute; so come in and make yourself comfortable." Meyers went in, was given the most comfortable chair in the room, had a cup of tea, and was soon bouncing the youngest member of the family on his knee. In fact he was having a swell time until the proud father showed him a picture of his four daughters—then, and only then, Meyers discovered that HIS girl friend lived next door!

Sights we wish we'd seen. Toledo police were mildly surprised, as it were, to see a 29-year-old woman dancing about



on the lawn of the Federal Building, scattering war bonds and cash to the winds. She was graceful about it indeed and quite a crowd gathered to watch and share the wealth. When the cops broke up the party the generous lady admitted having just left home with the bonds and \$385 in cash, admitted having experienced a "light-headed feeling," and said she was on her way to enlist in the WACS.

Say, guys, maybe we're in the wrong theater of operations. Pfc Ed Lewis, home in the States on furlough after a year in the S. Pacific, likes American girls better than New Guinea damsels. Trouble with the latter, he complains, is that "they didn't have any modesty."

PRIVATE BREGER



"Stars and Stripes newspaper? I think I gotta news item for you."

Prof. 'Pancho' at Cambridge Is Right at Home Off the Range



Prof. J. Frank "Pancho" Dobie, late of Texas, is dishing out the dope on American history at Cambridge University. Here he talks things over with a couple of fellow compatriots in the ETO, Cpl. Paul L. Gaffney, left, of Johnstown, Pa., and Pfc Arthur G. Voss, of Milwaukee.

By Carl Larsen

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

CAMBRIDGE, Oct. 26—Hollywood brought "A Yank at Oxford" to the United States in 1940, and now the war has transplanted a died-in-the-wool Texan on Cambridge University's tradition-bound campus.

He is J. Frank "Pancho" Dobie, of Austin, Tex., who in his 55 years has become an authority on the culture and literature of the southwest. The stocky, grey-haired sage of the "Lone Star State" has romped through the

tunities to study Britain's life and culture which they might not have had under normal circumstances.

On leave from the University of Texas, Prof. Pancho lectures both British civilian and military students on American history. His civilian classes are composed mostly of Cambridge co-eds, while RAF and Royal Navy cadets make up the military classes.

"The British students are greatly interested in American history and contemporary events," he said. "I have learned that the movies have a great influence on their thoughts about life in the United States."

Dobie said that he had startled British students by informing them that Great Britain sent a minister to Texas while the state was a republic from 1836 to 1845, and that there also was a Texas minister to the Court of St. James.

"The English student differs somewhat from those I taught back in Texas," he continued. "Here they seem to be more interested in ideas, while Americans—and Texans are Americans—like to follow personalities in the news and also are fact-conscious."

Texas Sunshine Missed

Wearing a modified version of the West's 10-gallon hat, Dobie ambles about the widespread campus with the grace of a Wild West horseman. "I left my artillery back in Texas, but my spurred boots are on the way," he tells interviewers.

Contrasting England with Texas, Dobie said that "I naturally miss the sunshine and open spaces of Texas, but it's a small price to pay for the education that I'm getting." He added that he had observed that England had a minimum of steak, which is plentiful in Texas—or used to be, at least.

The professor, who has been described as "the most colorful citizen of colorful Texas," revealed that he hoped to visit an English pub "to see how important a role they play in British political, economic and social life."

Dobie, who served in France as a military police and artillery lieutenant in World War I, said that he had visited several Eighth Air Force stations since his arrival here and that he had been impressed "by their organization and the spirit of the men who really are fighting this war."

\$10,000 Playwright Contest Offered Aspiring GI Authors

Cash prizes and a chance at post-war scholarships are offered aspiring GI playwrights in a \$10,000 contest sponsored by the National Theater Conference under auspices of the War Department.

Designed to promote soldier-talent, the contest offers the following rewards: Three cash prizes, one of \$100, two of \$50, for long plays; four \$50 prizes for one-act plays; 50 \$10 prizes for short skits and "blackouts"; one \$100 prize for a musical comedy; and cash prizes of \$250 for radio plays classified as (1) radio shows (dramatic or variety) of about 28 minutes, and (2) "spot" shows not exceeding seven minutes.

Winning authors will be recommended for 23 post-war scholarships and fellowships at 17 leading American institutions.

Manuscripts must be typed or written on one side of the paper alone and accompanied by the author's address and military post office designation. Mailing deadline is Dec. 1. The mailing address is: Playwriting Contest, National Theater Conference, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Army Notes In the ETO

MICKEY McKeogh has been promoted along with Dwight D. Eisenhower again.

It's M/Sgt. now, in front of the name of the general's chauffeur, according to a letter recently received from North Africa. It used to be S/Sgt., but that was when he was chauffeur for only a lieutenant general.

Since McKeogh started out as a private with Col. Eisenhower, his promotions have dated with the general's. When Col. Eisenhower became Brig. Gen. Eisenhower, Mickey was promoted to corporal. On becoming a major general, Gen. Eisenhower elevated Mickey personally, pinning three stripes on his sleeve. Mickey became a staff sergeant in the ETO, and "the boss" became a lieutenant general.

Here's a postscript to Stars and Stripes list of soldiers without first names (just initials). A cook in one of the fighter groups has initials for a LAST name. He's Sgt. James Ng, of San Antonio, Tex. In Canton, China, where Ng was born, his name was pronounced "Eng," but to avoid confusion he started calling it "Enn-Gee."

TAKING time off from clicking shutters and dodging hypo splashes, the photography section at a post "somewhere in England" voted on the "three leading dance bands in England." Geraldo's won by a big majority, receiving 78 points. Ivy Benson's orchestra was second and Jack Payne's a close third.

Add the ironies of war. Cpl. John S. Bivens, of Monroe, N.C., is saluting a former high school basketball star he once "flunked" out of an algebra course. Bivens, an orderly-room clerk, was teaching mathematics in the Bladenboro, N.C., high school ten years ago. The pupil who couldn't make the grade was Earl E. Frink, of Bladenboro, now an air corps captain and the utilities officer at a fighter station. Incidentally, the captain still addresses the corporal as "Mister Bivens."

COMES to light another sturdy ETO chin, property of Pfc Joe Parella, of Irvington, N.J., who is said to be capable of balancing the following on it: a GI wheelbarrow, a billiard rack with two bottles and two billiard balls, 10 chairs, three bottles on top of each other, an indefinite number of knives, forks, spoons, "and anything he can get his hands on." Not all at once, naturally.

Even so, Pfc Parella would be a challenge to Cpl. Johnny Taub, of Brooklyn, reported recently as claiming the only chin in this theater capable of supporting a bicycle. Pfc Parella, this column is reliably informed, balanced two bicycles on his chin as an added attraction at one performance of the Billy Gilbert USO-Camp Show.

Member of an aviation engineers battalion, Parella started balancing broomsticks and soda bottles at the age of 12, graduated to stumps of trees, chairs and tables, and now asserts, "When I'm in trim I can balance up to 125 pounds on my chin."

Notes from the Air Force

A former Chicago newspaperman holds the unusual distinction of being a lieutenant in the USAAF and serving as a flight officer in the RCAF at the same time. Glen J. Ferguson, of Lake Worth, Fla., originally joined up with the Canadians. After receiving his wings in Canada, he hunted U-boats and protected convoys with the RCAF. When it came time to switch to the USAAF, he didn't want to leave until he had completed his tour of operations with his old buddies. American authorities agreed, so as F/O Ferguson he continues not only to help pilot a Sunderland Flying Boat but to eat at an RCAF mess and sleep in an RCAF bed.

L.T. Douglas Winter, of Toledo, is one of those air midgets known as a "two-cushion" man, since he needs that much propping under his five-foot-five frame to handle the controls of a Flying Fortress. But to his crews he's a big man, plenty big.

He was piloting the Fort The Great Profile recently over Europe when the oxygen system exploded, temporarily blinding Winter and sending the ship into an uncontrolled dive. Seconds later and 2,000 feet lower, Winter recovered to find four of his gunners gone—bailed out—two engines afire, the interphone shot out, hydraulic system gone and fires in the nose. But he brought the ship back. While remaining gunners blasted away at swarms of enemy fighters, he expertly flew the wounded Fort across the Channel and set her down on the English coast, with no brakes either.

Recently this column carried an item crediting Capt. R. A. Stevenson, an Eighth Air Force squadron operations officer, with being the only bomber pilot officially credited with knocking over an enemy fighter.

The usual happened. No sooner did we hit the street than came a counter-part to the claim. It seems Capt. Leonard B. Roper, of Bullock, Tex., also a bomber pilot, downed an FW190 while acting as tail gunner in the Fortress The Duchess in a raid last Aug. 17. Another operations officer in the same squadron, Capt. Orville Oldham, of San Diego, Cal., has shot down an Me110, accomplishing this while manning the tail guns in the same ship.

Nazis Retreat To New Line Across Italy

Allies Move Forward Along 90-Mile Front; Eighth 13 Miles From Isernia

Allied armies, closing in on Marshal Kesselring's new defense line from Venafro, 25 miles northwest of Capua, to Vasto on the Adriatic, pushed forward all along the 90-mile front in Italy yesterday in spite of heavy shelling covering the Nazis' orderly retreat.

Fifth Army forces tightened the ring around German forces in the canal region north of the Volturno mouth by capturing Francolise, a road junction 11 miles inland from the west coast.

While the Fifth Army was making the day's biggest advance by pushing forward five miles on the road to Venafro, other Allied columns slightly to the east occupied the commanding heights of Baranello, six miles west of Vinchiaturo, and the Eighth Army penetrated within 13 miles of the key railway junction of Isernia. Along the Adriatic, Bari radio reported the Eighth was three miles beyond Vasto.

The new Kesselring line, protected by hills and the upper reaches of the Volturno and the Trigno river, was described as a "tough nut to crack" but the Allied advances were said to have given the British and Americans useful jumping off points for the impending assault.

Bombers and long-range fighters struck across the Adriatic again to bomb the airfield of Podgorizza in Yugoslavia while other aircraft bombed enemy troop concentrations and gun positions and swept northwest of Rome to attack Tarquina airfield.

Name Three U.S. Cruisers With Force at Salerno

ALLIED HQ., North Africa, Oct. 26—Three American cruisers—the Philadelphia, Savannah, and Boise—and 18 U.S. destroyers were among the more than 500 Allied ships which took part in the initial battle for Salerno, it was revealed here.

The Philadelphia fired 2,946 six-inch rounds and 1,161 five-inch rounds while sharing in what experts termed the heaviest and most concentrated naval bombardment in history. Vice Adm. H. K. Hewitt, U.S.N., commanded the Western Naval Task Force which made the assault on the Nazi positions near Salerno.

Anne Shirley to Take Vows With Victor Mature Soon

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 26—Anne Shirley, slender blonde film actress, yesterday announced she would marry Vic Mature, Adonis-like ex-actor now serving in the Coast Guard, "as soon as we have time."

Both have been married previously. Miss Shirley to actor John Payne, while 28-year-old Mature was divorced from Mrs. Martha Kemp only last February.

Better Living Standard Asked

DALLAS, Tex., Oct. 26—Vice-President Henry A. Wallace said in a speech here that "the full use of our physical and human resources to produce a better standard of living" was the key to the building of "domestic peace" in America.

Aeroclub Opens

AN EIGHTH BOMBER STATION, Oct. 26—The aeroclub at this post commanded by Col. Joseph J. Nazzaro, of Brooklyn, is now open. Betty Purdy, of Sarasota, Fla., is the director and Rosanne Coyle, of Seattle, Wash., is the recreational assistant.

French Get Destroyer Back

ALGIERS, Oct. 26—The 1,300-ton French destroyer Trombe, seized by the Germans when they occupied Toulon and given to the Italians, was turned back to the French at Bizerta yesterday, Algiers radio said today.

American Forces Network

- Operated by Radio Branch, Special Service Division, SOS, ETO
- 1402 kc On Your Dial 1420 kc
- 213.9m. 211.3m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 27
- 1100—GI Jive.
- 1115—Hi, Neighbor.
- 1130—This and That.
- 1200—Paul Whiteman Presents.
- 1230—Jay Wilbur and his orchestra (BBC).
- 1300—World News (BBC).
- 1310—Barracks Ban—A Grab-bag of entertainment.
- 1400—Sign off until 1745 hours.
- 1745—Program Resume and Spotlight Band Ina Ray Hutton.
- 1800—World News (BBC).
- 1810—Personal Album.
- 1825—GI Supper Club.
- 1900—Sports—Presented by the Stars and Stripes.
- 1905—Symphony Hall—Boston Symphony plays popular classics.
- 2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A., presented by the Stars and Stripes.
- 2010—Fred Waring Program.
- 2025—Miniature—A musical spot.
- 2030—RAF Balloon Center Dance Band.
- 2100—World News (BBC).
- 2110—Melody Roundup—Western Music.
- 2130—Duffy's Tavern—with the regular cast.
- 2200—Sonny Dunham and his Orchestra.
- 2220—Final Edition.
- 2230—Sign off until 1100 hours Thursday, Oct. 28.

No Beard, Nose Shiny, Lady Mose Is In Town

Lady Mose came to London town for the first time, ariding on a railroad.

Bedecked in a tablecloth plastered with Air Forces insignia, the Arab donkey, mascot of an Eighth Air Force bomber base, will appear at an exhibit sponsored by the North African Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, at Stagg and Russells, Leicester Sq., today and Thursday.

The donkey was brought to the ETO in August by the crew of the Flying Fortress Miracle Tribe from North Africa on the return flight of the Regensburg shuttle raid. Lady Mose's nose, shaven to fit an oxygen mask she wore on the flight, still is beardless and, unbecoming to a lady, a big shiny.

'Be Hospitable' N. Ireland Told

Prime Minister Requests Joint Entertainment for Yanks, Tommies

Under direction of Northern Ireland's Prime Minister, Sir Basil Brooke, Northern Ireland is planning a drive to develop entertainment and hospitality for officers and men of the Allied forces stationed there, it was announced by the government office yesterday.

The Prime Minister summoned a meeting of officials of the Area Voluntary Committees set up to organize entertainments for the forces, and he told them that their work was of international importance and should be developed to the utmost.

"Many members of the British forces stationed in Northern Ireland," he said, "are at a considerable distance from their homes and cannot visit their relatives and friends when on short leave."

"So far as the Americans are concerned the successful organization of hospitality will strengthen further the understanding between our two peoples; thus it will prepare the way for the day when we shall face together the problems of the post-war world."

Jap On Way Home Asks Latest Baseball News

MURMUGAO, Oct. 26 (AP)—"How did the world series come out?" That was the first question a Japanese repatriate aboard the ss Gripsholm asked when he arrived here.

No one knew the answer because the last news which trickled into this small Portuguese East Indies port was that the Yankees had won the first three games. The Japanese said that with such a lead the Yanks doubtlessly were the series victors and went on his way back to Japan.

14 Yanks Arrive in England, First to Be Freed by Nazis

L. Graham, of Atoka, Okla., an infantryman.

Among the nine Eighth Air Force men who disembarked, some with legs missing, were T/Sgt. Frank Bartnicki, Moosic, Pa.; T/Sgt. Norman Goodwin, Bradford, Mass.; 1/Lt. Albert Glass, Macon, Ga.; 2/Lt. Glenn Harrington, Ogden, Utah; S/Sgt. Lester Miller, Hartford, Conn.; S/Sgt. August Tornow, Mossyrock, Wash.; and Sgt. Milton Williams, Omaha.

The others were Pfc Herbert Ehrlich, Brooklyn, and Pvt. Leroy Keith, Denver, Pa., both captured during the battle for Troina in Sicily, and Sgt. E. M. Nelson, Marshall, Minn., captured in Tunisia.

Goodwin's left leg, damaged by a 20 mm. during a raid on Bremen, his first mission, was amputated below the knee.

Miller, a tail gunner, whose left elbow was shattered on a Marauder raid on May 17 on Holland and who was picked up by Germans after his plane crashed in the sea, was one of five Americans at the dock who were given checks amounting to the money they had left behind. His check—\$189 worth—was about one-third as much more than he remembered leaving behind, Miller said.

Terry and the Pirates



Bluejackets Hit London on Leave



Betty Humann of the Red Cross was on hand yesterday with cigarettes and smiles when several hundred sailors arrived for a three-day liberty in London. First to be greeted were (left to right) T. G. Caldwell, Ste. of Houston, Tex.; and John F. Bannon, of Philadelphia.

President Hails Yank Sailors 'Mightiest' Fleet

Navy Day Message Says Victories to Come Will Dwarf Those of Past

President Roosevelt in a Navy Day message yesterday to Secretary Knox predicted that future victories of the fleet would dwarf the Navy's achievements in the past.

Saluting what he called the mightiest and most efficient fighting navy in American history, the President declared this year's Navy Day was the most significant ever observed.

Listing the fleet's great resources, which now include more than 700 combatant ships and more than 20,000 planes, President Roosevelt said more ships and planes were on their way and would be ready as needed "to protect human life, restore human decency and preserve human liberty."

A promise of impending victories was given in a Chicago speech by Ralph Bard, assistant secretary of the Navy.

Bard said America was on the offensive in every theater and would strike harder in every direction.

Bard said one of the "cornerstones of naval strategy" was the ability of the nation to produce instruments of war at record speed.

Declaring that victory was assured, Secretary Knox told men of the fleet to "seek out the enemy and destroy him."

14 Yanks Arrive in England, First to Be Freed by Nazis

(Continued from page 1)

At the Allied air officers' prison camp in Sagan, Germany, the Germans put out a camp newspaper.

Sgt. Williams, a gunner, bailed out over Bremen Apr. 17 after his right foot was blown off.

At a Catholic hospital a quarter of a mile away he was "treated like a visiting king for 18 days."

Two soldiers, Ehrich and Keith, captured in the Troina battle, were taken to Messina, then to Naples prison camp and finally to a hospital at Memmingen. There they shared a room with two British soldiers, they said, and were given "marvellous treatment by Yugoslav doctors, some of whom were prisoners and some of whom had come there from Belgrade."

As the Americans got off the boat, all in British battle dress except S/Sgt. August Tornow, they were well-showered with gum, by three Red Cross workers—Jane Goodell, of Bound Brook, N.J.; Lucille Houck, of Cumberland, Md.; and Frida Scharman, of New York.

Several of the Eighth Air Force men mentioned being treated at a German hospital by captured British doctors and nurses and praised the care they had given.

NEWS FROM HOME

'Pub-Crawling' Grows Dearer; Liquor Tax Up

House Group Approves 66% Increase From \$6 to \$10 a Gallon

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26—"Pub-crawling" as a means of forgetting the war, already a costly business in the U.S., threatened today to become even harder on the pocketbook as the House ways and means committee approved a 66 per cent increase in the tax on liquor—from \$6 to \$10 a gallon.

Smokers escaped, however. The committee rejected all proposals to increase the taxes on tobacco and gasoline.

Lend-Lease Change Predicted

CHICAGO, Oct. 26 (AP)—A prediction that the Lend-Lease Act would be revised to require a country which sells materials to its citizens to return funds to the U.S. Treasury was made today by Sen. Styles Bridges (R.-N.H.).

Sen. Bridges at a press conference said that the "public would be shocked" if it knew what touring senators "had uncovered" about the waste of funds in the distribution of Lend-Lease goods and war materials.

155 Howitzer Being Produced

BENICIA, Cal., Oct. 26—Army Ordnance officers announced the U.S. is producing in large quantities the 155mm. howitzer which knocked out German batteries in North Africa and was rated one of the most effective artillery weapons in the Allied advance in Italy. The gun has a range of nine miles and fires a 95-pound shell.

Navy to Get Normandie

NEW YORK, Oct. 26 (AP)—The former liner Normandie, now the USS Lafayette, will be returned to the Navy tomorrow by salvaging contractors who righted the 83,000-ton hull in the Hudson river after the ship burned and capsized in February, 1942. Nine months more will be needed to refit her as a transport.

New Southwest Pacific Chief

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26—Vice-Adm. Thomas Kinkaid, former northern Pacific commander, has been assigned to a new command in the southwest Pacific, replacing Vice-Adm. Arthur S. Carpenter, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox announced at a press conference today.

Coxey Running for Mayor

MASSILLION, Ohio, Oct. 26—Jacob S. Coxey, who led an army of unemployed to Washington almost 50 years ago, is running at the age of 90 for mayor of this city. His platform covers the war effort, circuses and drunks.

Infantile Paralysis Mounts

CHICAGO, Oct. 26 (AP)—Infantile paralysis cases in Chicago and suburbs have reached 1,170, almost triple the 1942 total for the entire state and exceeding the record of 1,100 established in the 1917 epidemic. Deaths in the present epidemic total 102.

Post-War Helicopter Plans

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26—Igor I. Sikorsky, inventor of the helicopter, told the Civil Aeronautics Board that 14-passenger helicopters were entirely feasible and that they could be ready for use within two or three years if the war ended soon.

Irrigation to Boost Crops

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26—Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes has announced that war food production would be materially increased by 1945 through extension of irrigation service by nearly 800,000 acres of land in eight western states.

25,000 B24 Engines Built

FLINT, Mich., Oct. 26 (AP)—The Buick division of General Motors produced 25,000 Liberator bomber engines, representing about 30,000,000 horsepower, in less than 21 months, Harlow Curtice, division head, has revealed.

Joseph Widener Dies at 70

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 26 (UP)—Joseph E. Widener, millionaire race horse owner and art collector, died today at his Elkins Park residence. He was 70.

By Milton Caniff

