

## Eighth Army Smashes Axis Defenses

### Germans Hit Donetz Line, Reds Hold

### Kuban Fighting Fierce, Russians Take Town After Swamp Fight

MOSCOW, Apr. 7 (UP)—The Germans increased the intensity of their attacks on the middle and upper Donetz today, apparently in an effort to relieve Russian pressure in the Kuban.

The Donetz battle has spread from the area south of Izyum, where the Germans have been throwing in wave after wave of troops for several days, to the neighbourhood of Chuguev, which has been quiet for some time.

The Germans are using increasingly large Panzer forces again, after experimenting with smaller attacks by mixed Panzer and infantry units, and are throwing large Luftwaffe formations into the battle.

### Reds Counter-Attack

The Russians have carried out several successful counter-attacks which have protected their own defense lines and cost the Germans heavily in casualties and equipment.

The heaviest air support for the German ground troops has been in the Izyum area, where a large number of air attacks has been made by the Luftwaffe, according to Russian dispatches. The Soviet air force has been heavily engaged in fighting off the German attacks and in hammering at the German positions.

German troop concentrations, prepared for the battle, have been broken up, the Russians claimed.

In one part of the battle zone Soviet planes discovered two battalions of German infantry massed for an attack and bombed them. During the confusion resulting from the attack Russian infantry stormed the position and took it.

### Kuban Fighting Fierce

Fighting in the Kuban area is still fierce as the Russians attempt to drive the enemy from their last positions in the Caucasus. Neither Russian nor German reports give details of the fighting, but the Russians have revealed the capture of another inhabited locality after Soviet troops had forced a passage through a swamp. Fighting is heavy and there have been fierce clashes between Russian and German patrols. The Soviet forces appear to have the upper hand.

Soviet forces are reported by Paris radio, quoting Berlin dispatches, to have renewed their attacks south of Lake Ladoga and around Staraya Russa.

Other sectors of the front are still quiet, and activity has been limited largely to reconnaissance.

Improved weather, however, has brought an increase in air activity along the whole front, and in fierce battles over Leningrad and the northern end of the front the Germans have lost 66 planes in less than a week. Twenty-four of them were destroyed yesterday.

### Trans-Siberian Railroad

STOCKHOLM, Apr. 7 (UP)—The Russians are operating a new trans-Siberian railway to transport British and American supplies to China, says a German magazine, quoted in a Stockholm newspaper report.

The new railway, according to the German report, does not carry arms. It begins about 1,600 miles east of Moscow, and runs east to the Lena river and then continues to the coast of Siberia, about 525 miles north of Vladivostok.

### Bolivia Declares War On Germany and Italy

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Apr. 7—Bolivia entered the war at noon today on the side of the United Nations.

Last night the Council of National Defense recommended to President Enrique Penaranda that a state of war be declared and the Senate took similar action immediately. Bolivia's chief contribution to the Allied cause probably will be in the form of vitally needed tin, of which the country has enormous resources.

### Burma Fighting Breaks Out

CALCUTTA, Apr. 7 (AP)—The India Command today broke a 12-day silence on land activities on the Arakan front to disclose that the Japs had infiltrated westward across the Mayu river and that British and Indian troops had been withdrawn from Donbaik to positions in the Kyau Apandu area, three miles northwest of Indin on the Mayu peninsula.

### Spellman Gives Orphan Fund Donation to Aid Two Children

Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, of New York, has contributed a sum to The Stars and Stripes War Orphan Fund more than sufficient to sponsor two orphans for a five-year period.

The additional amount will be used to provide "extras" for the two children for an additional sixth year.

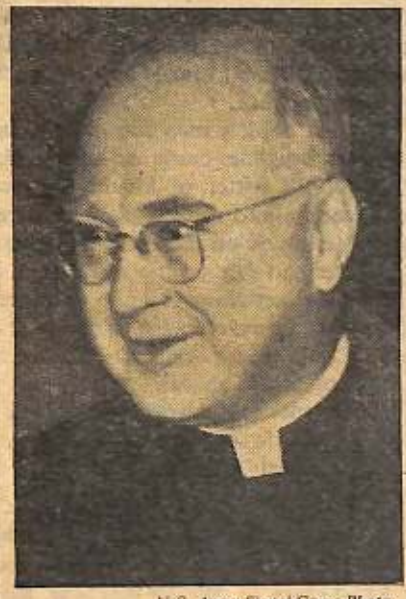
Msgr. Spellman, who is the Chief Catholic Prelate of the Army Chaplain Corps, asked that the amount of his contribution not be made public. At the present time he is in Scotland but will leave the British Isles shortly and return to North Africa. From there he will go to the Middle East, where he will visit U.S. troops, then to India and China before returning to the United States.

The donation, with others received in the last few days, raised the orphan fund total to £19,699.

In a broadcast to the United States Sunday the Archbishop appealed to Catholics to give generously to Catholic charities. He informed his listeners that he has donated \$96,000 to war charities here during his visit.

The —th General Hospital sent in £7 19s. 11d., "collected from personnel of this unit during March, 1943, for blackout violations." The men requested that the money be used to buy clothes for Dennis D., whom they are sponsoring. Maj. M. A. Freedman forwarded the money.

Voluntary contributions from members of the —rd Bombardment Wing (M) raised the general fund by £14 0s. 3d. The money was sent in by Capt. Edwin W.



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo

Archbishop Francis J. Spellman

Stiles. Lt. Frank J. Riordan Jr forwarded £26 to be added to the account of the —rd Bombardment Group with the request that it be used to buy "extras" for the group's orphan, Robert G.

The —rd Observation Squadron sent in £5 12s. 3d. to be added to their previous donation being used to sponsor Allan S.

### Turret Gunner Kept On Firing

### DSC Awarded Sgt. Harris Who Stuck to Guns As Fort Sank

A top-turret gunner who kept his machine-guns blazing at Hun fighters, even as his Flying Fortress settled beneath the surface of the sea, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Eighth Air Force announced yesterday.

The gunner was T/Sgt. Arizona Tedd Harris, of Tempe, Ariz., and the medal given in his name was the second highest honor the United States has for its fighting men.

A second award, a Legion of Merit, Legionnaire's Degree, went to S/Sgt. Antoni Bednarchuk, of Washington, D.C. A B17 aerial engineer, Bednarchuk was credited with using only an emergency tool kit and improvising devices to install an engine designed for another type of aircraft to get his bomber in flying condition after it was forced to make a crash landing in Britain in December.

Sgt. Harris, recipient of the Air Medal in November after shooting down two FW190s and keeping fighters away from a crippled Fortress in his formation by long-range fire, is almost a legendary character to fellow fliers.

Christened for his home state, he had less time than other Texans for hunting while he was driving a truck and ranching in Tempe, and, he admitted, he didn't like firearms because the noise of a shotgun hurt his ears.

But Arizona Harris found himself a

(Continued on page 4)

### 25,000 Men Left Gib This Week, Report Says

More than 25,000 men embarked from Gibraltar the past week and great forces of aircraft have been passing over the British base in the last 36 hours, reports from La Linea said yesterday.

On Mar. 30 it was reported that the British battleships Nelson, Malaya and Rodney, the aircraft carrier Formidable and two smaller ones, and escort craft were at Gibraltar but had since left. The report added that convoys enter and leave Gib harbor daily and frequently 100 merchant ships are in the bay at one time.

### Report Luftwaffe Ready To Aid Rommel Escape

MADRID, Apr. 7 (UP)—Preparations for air cover for Rommel's evacuation across the Sicilian narrows have been completed by the German air staff, according to reports reaching Madrid last night.

The Dunkirk evacuation was child's play compared with the difficulties Rommel will face, according to Axis and neutral press and radio reports.

### Germans Claim 14 Ships

A special German communique claimed yesterday that U-boats have sunk 14 fully-laden ships and a destroyer in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. The German communique also claimed that a U-boat in the Bay of Biscay had shot down a heavy bomber which attacked it.

### Barrage of 500 Guns Blasts Hole in Line, Troops Go Through

### Americans Advance Against Stiff Resistance On El Guettar and Maknassy Fronts; Churchill Tells of Big Victory

By the Associated Press

Scoring a major new victory, the British Eighth Army has routed Rommel's forces from the heavily defended Wadi Akarit fortifications north of Gabes in southern Tunisia, and the Axis forces are in full retreat northward, with Lt. Gen. Bernard Montgomery's men in hot pursuit, Prime Minister Churchill announced yesterday.

A frontal assault by British and Indian infantry divisions put the Germans and Italians to flight, Mr. Churchill told a cheering Commons, following a massive 500-gun artillery barrage comparable with the El Alamein attack which started the Axis retreat across North Africa.

Montgomery's carefully prepared attack started at 4.30 AM Tuesday, and by noon all of Rommel's fortified key positions were in British hands after the surprised enemy had made futile but ineffective counter-attacks.

So far, Mr. Churchill said, more than 6,000 Axis prisoners have been taken.

"This frontal assault should enable the Desert Army to join hands with United States forces, which have been pressing the enemy unceasingly from the west," he said.

Lt. Gen. George C. Patton's battle-hardened American infantry and armor were striking vigorously at the Axis from the El Guettar and Maknassy sectors. Seven miles north of Maknassy American forces captured Djebel Maizila, on the Sidi-Bouzd road, and at El Guettar American tanks and infantry were battling for the Kebili road junction under artillery fire.

Under the double jeopardy of these forces and the pursuing Eighth Army, military observers in London said, Rommel could not expect to make a stand before the region of Sousse, which would mean a retreat of 100 miles.

### Reason for Stand

Rommel's reason for making a stand in the Wadi Akarit area, close to his smashed Mareth Line, appeared to have been to extricate his forces facing the Americans advancing from El Guettar.

Gen. Patton still has a big task in forcing Faïd Pass to get at the Axis troops commanding the coastal plain.

According to yesterday's Allied communique, the Eighth Army's smashing attack on Rommel's positions already had smashed a wide wedge in the German positions, and Algiers radio said that British armored and motorized forces are pouring through the 12½-mile breach in an "irresistible onslaught." Tanks and armored cars, the radio said, were acting as shields to waves of infantry which followed.

In the north, Algiers said, operations were progressing satisfactorily, with the Allied forces now less than 44 miles from Bizerta.

### Goal is Tunis

Gen. Montgomery, whose announced goal now was Tunis itself, was quoted by John McVane, American radio correspondent in Algiers, as saying: "My troops fought splendidly—the fighting was as tough as anything at El Alamein."

Despite the new important victory for the Allies, observers in London cautioned that a quick knockout blow was not to be expected. Rommel will not find any suitable natural line short of Sousse—but then he retreated 1,500 miles across the western desert and still managed to disengage a considerable part of his Afrika Korps, these observers pointed out.

Montgomery's latest victory was regarded as a magnificent achievement of administrative organization, since the attack was launched after only six days' preparation. This meant that hundreds

(Continued on page 4)

### Idea for Use of Old Oil Wins Contest

A suggestion that used motor oil be reclaimed for practical use under battle conditions won for 30-year-old Pvt. Harley E. MacDonald, of Los Angeles, first prize in the "Economy Idea Contest," sponsored by the U.S. Army's Services of Supply in the ETO, it was announced yesterday.

A former automotive foreman in filling stations and plants operated by a large oil company, MacDonald was rewarded with a \$100 war bond for first place in a contest that brought forth ideas from several hundred essays on numerous subjects, from saving paper by cutting down margins on letters to ambitious plans for conservation of motor transport.

Results of the contest, which was originated by Maj. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general of SOS, were announced after a committee judged essays submitted by enlisted men and civilian employees attached to SOS installations throughout the British Isles.

Second place in the enlisted men's competition and a \$50 bond went to T/4 Isidor Astor, of Brooklyn, while a \$25 bond for third place was awarded to T/3 Aaron L. Sandberg, of New York. The

next seven prizes went to Cpl. John Schevchik, Ambridge, Pa.; T/5 Hal S. Frazer, St. Louis, Mo.; 1/Sgt. Henry Zeldon, Toledo, Ohio; S/Sgt. Benjamin Levin, Harrisburg, Pa.; T/4 Lawrence Schoenfeld, Martinsville, Va.; T/3 James R. Cleary, Buffalo, N.Y.; and T/4 Arthur Parolini, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Letters of commendation from Gen. Lee will be sent to the winners and to those awarded the first 10 prizes in the civilian competition, judged separately.

The ideas presented by MacDonald in his winning essay were sound, according to motor transport officers, but they pointed out that the Army could not afford to use reclaimed motor oil in combat zones, especially if the re-refining process was done by improvised methods.

However, MacDonald's essay resulted in the propagation of some practical uses for reclaimed oil. It is already being used to camouflage newly turned earth at construction sites, as a cleaning agent, rust preventative and as a means of settling dust.

Cpl. Schevchik, former newspaper cartoonist, who won fourth place, presented his ideas in the form of cartoons

which will be used as advertising posters by SOS.

Many other practical ideas were submitted in the contest. A Medical Corps man said glass could be saved by returning medicine bottles to the dispensary. Another suggestion was to use V-mail envelopes over again to aid paper conservation.

Sgt. Zeldon, fifth-place winner, who was a tailor in civilian life, suggested knitted collars and cuffs on all field jackets manufactured in the future to prevent the jackets wearing out at cuffs and collars. SOS officials said this already was being done.

Another soldier praised the cafeteria system of serving meals but asked for signs in mess halls to indicate the number of helpings each man is entitled to receive to protect those at the end of the line.

Judges of the essays were Maj. Albert Barden, of Springfield, Mass., salvage officer in the Chief QM office; Capt. Fred A. Hanna, of Columbia, Mo., Special Service Division, and Capt. Milton Witt, of Arlington, Va., Inspector General's Department.



Eighth Army passes Wadi Akarit fortifications, pursuing Axis forces in full retreat to north. Lt. Gen. Patton's forces strike vigorously in El Guettar and Maknassy sectors.

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 Vol. 3, No. 134, April 8, 1943

*Hash Marks*

With the manpower shortage, women are apparently becoming the big shots in all lines at the home front. Human cannongals have begun to replace men in the profession of being shot from big guns at carnivals and fairs.

Our nomination for the cleverest thief of the week is the guy who accomplished this job. A Boulder, Colorado, motorist



reported to police that his spare tire, tube, wheel and bumper were stolen while he was driving.

Blackout version of the oldest gag in the world: "Who was that lady it was too dark to see you with last night?"

Our last moron joke, we hope: "Did you hear about the moron who thought a 'mushroom' was a place to neck?"

Even haircuts are being rationed these days. Barbers at an army airfield back in the States have found it advantageous to limit shaves, shampoos and massages to Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The other days are for haircuts. According to some reports, good haircuts have been rationed by company barbers for years.

Two South African monkeys were mentioned in a recent BBC broadcast as being engaged in essential war work. Their super keen eyesight and hearing have made them invaluable as airplane spotters, we understand. At the approach of aircraft the two monkeys, "Adolf" and "Japie," scramble to the top of a tree and scream. They are now accepted as valuable aids, but at first they had some trouble proving they weren't members of the Nazi high command.

A lion cub brought home by a Los Angeles husband has been named correspondent in a divorce case. The dis-



gruntled wife testified, "The lion hung out in the bathtub, ripped up my satin sofa and pounced on the bed at night. I stood it until my husband told me that he liked the lion better than he did me!"

Backseat drivers got the goat of a California bus driver, so he refused to let any of them off until they said "please." They said "please." Feeling his sense of power, he increased the price of exit to "pretty, please." Police were called to quell the riot which followed.

An Indiana farmer was having trouble with rats raiding his corn cribs—until one day he hit upon a happy solution. He put radio sets in his corn bin and found that continuous radio entertainment drove the rats out. They liked the corn in the crib but couldn't take the corn pouring out of the loudspeaker. Which leads us to believe that rats are almost human.

**PRIVATE BREGER**



**Picks Up Pins With Power Shovel**

**Engineer Unit Claims the Title Of 'Champion Operator' For Corporal**

By Bryce W. Burke  
 Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

—TH ENGINEERS (GS), England, Apr. 7—The men of this unit swear that Cpl. Lloyd Williams can pick up a handkerchief, or a pin if necessary, with the teeth of the big powershovel he operates; but, one way or the other, they claim the title of "champion powershovel operator of the U.S. Army" for him.

When there is heavy work to be done or when equipment that necessitates careful handling needs to be shifted, the former general construction worker from Jamestown, Tenn., wheels out his 16,750-pound machine and goes to work.

"I don't think a man can get any better at operating a shovel, dragline, crane or clamshell, than Williams," 1/Lt. John F. Ritter, of Austin, Tex., commander of the headquarters and service platoon here said. "He has the gentle touch on the controls necessary for handling explosives and can get the work done in a hurry."

Williams' activities are not confined to powershovel operating, however. He also runs bulldozers, pile drivers, caterpillars and tractors, but his pride and joy is the long-armed shovel.

"Maintenance is the main thing on a shovel," Williams said. "We do our own work here. I can tear my machine down from start to finish and put it back together again."

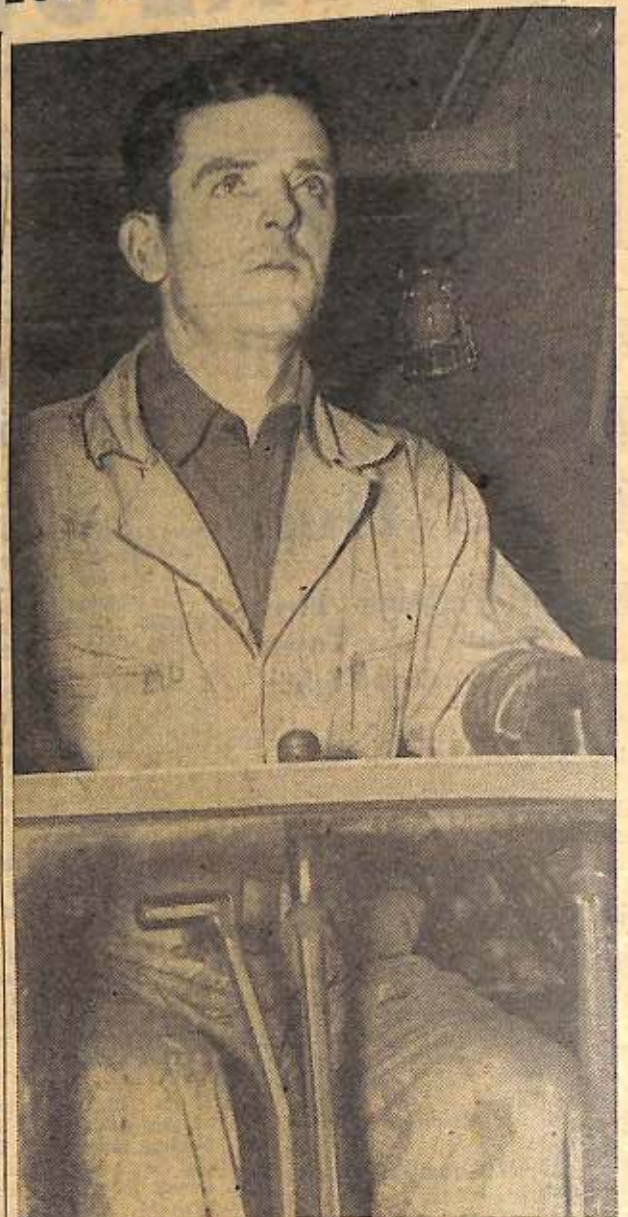
**Never Broken a Cable**

The number of cables an operator breaks tells whether he knows how to run the machine, Ritter said, pointing out that Williams hasn't broken a cable since he has been working the machine, although he has worn out several. Seven other men in the unit also operate the big shovels, but Williams is considered the master among them.

"The men of our crew here are considered experts," 1/Lt. R. B. Thompson, of Boston, Mass., pointed out. "I'm not afraid to send them out on any type of heavy construction. They can all operate most of the machines we use, but we keep them where they work best. They're a damned fast crew."

Williams doesn't go in for tricks with his pet machine, and he, himself, won't say he can pick up a handkerchief with the big teeth of the shovel. He would rather be known as a man who can get necessary work done in a hurry.

The unit, which is part of the regiment headed by Col. "Hitch Hike" Harry



Cpl. Lloyd Williams, of Jamestown, Tenn., who is a crackshot steamshovel operator for the —th Engineers (GS), in England.

Hulen, came to the British Isles on their thumbs. Their equipment was left behind, but they have picked up pieces here and there and are now working throughout England on construction and unloading jobs.

They were pressed into service during preparations for the African offensive. They unloaded lumber and transferred building materials at the rate of 60 to 80 cars a day.

They can build roads, buildings, and drainage systems; unload sheet metal for Nissen huts, pipes, steel frames and tent material at a 110-car-per-day average.

In charge of the upkeep of all the construction machines is T/5 Kenneth K. Kirlin, 43, of San Antonio, Tex., a master mechanic, who came back from four years of U.S. government construction work in the Panama Canal Zone and the British West Indies to enlist in the Army.

**India Fighter Unit Claims Lowest Losses**

**Score Is 46 to 2 in 500 Sorties to Protect Transport Routes**

NEW DELHI, Apr. 7—Eagle-beaked, lean-jawed Tex Sanders disclosed yesterday that the American fighter group he commanded on the Assam-Burma aerial front shot down 21 Japanese planes confirmed and 25 probable and damaged 13 in the last six months for the loss of only one pilot and two planes.

Sanders—Lt. Col. Homer L., of Houston, Tex.—is on his way home now

after six months of the hottest fighting this theater has known. Members of the "Assam Dragon" group he commanded since October believed they had set a possible world record for low combat losses compared with the number of missions performed.

"We have been rather fortunate," Sanders said. He disclosed only one pilot was lost, despite the fact the squadron has been conducting a three-ring circus guarding American bases in Assam, which is on the Burma frontier; protecting American transport planes flying from India to China, and shooting up Japs in northern Burma.

**Keep Hitting Airdromes**

"We have made over 500 sorties over Burma since October," he said, describing the group's flights to protect the area through which freight-carrying transports have to fly. "My object is not to defend but fight. We take the war as far as we can into Burma and constantly hit airdromes from which the Japs would take off to attack our transports."

"These strafing missions are not easy. The boys would much rather fight Zeros than strafe. You can see what's shooting at you when you're fighting a Zero, but when you go down over a drome you don't know how many people on the ground are going to shoot at you."

The Japanese ground defenses often have hit the P40 fighters the Americans use, but the pilots always managed to get them home, and not a single pilot has been lost that way, Col. Sanders said. The terrain over which the Yanks have to fly is jungly, mountainous and shrouded with clouds, but "most of the pilots know the humps as well as they know any country at home."

**Willing to Engage**

Asked what he thought about Japanese pilots and planes, Col. Sanders said: "There's not much doubt about their willingness to engage."

"The Zero is a nice Sunday afternoon plane, but the controls tighten up and they have no armor and no self-sealing tanks."

Col. Sanders said bad weather had held up the Japanese attacks recently, but that he expected more of them.

"I think the Japs are definitely on the move," he said. "They've got to move before we do."



**Over Done**

Sure I can stand corn willie  
 Or army beans and grin,  
 Wheatless bread and chicory;  
 Or goldfish from a tin;  
 But when I get back home  
 The guy will get thrown out  
 Who takes me out to dinner  
 And serves a brussel sprout.

T/Sgt. Tom Reeves.

**Lenten Message**

JOHN 15:13—"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

A memorial plaque was dedicated recently to Harvey Dalton Johnson, a 23-year-old American fighter pilot who crashed to death in flames to save residents of a suburban street in Walthamstow, England.

With his plane on fire Lt. Johnson made his sacrifice deliberately, for he flew his burning ship to the first clearing in a sea of houses, then crashed

**A New Title**

The Cincinnati Enquirer has coined a new title for Rommel in these choice words: "The desert fox now can only pride himself on the speed and efficiency of his flight. He outran the Italians, and if further distinction is to come to him, it should be as the 'racing camel of the desert.'"

In all of this war no army has retreated so far, so precipitously, as have Rommel and his vaunted Afrika Korps, and it is an altogether fitting bit of irony that it should be the British who have humbled this celebrated German military combination, the British whom the Nazis ridiculed with such gusto when they were forced into so many retreats during the earlier state of unpreparedness.

Well, those same Tommies lived to secure the modern arms and equipment they needed in order to meet Rommel on even terms. Their fighting ability was then proved, and Rommel has won his new title.

**Kwitcherbelliaken**

Camp Kwitcherbelliaken is the address given by 13 sailors and two marines in London on leave from Iceland. The unique name was well chosen when it first appeared on a large sign at the Iceland naval base.

"We weren't kidding when we posted that sign," says Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate Ray Eubanks, of Dothan, Ala., one of the leave party. "We were among the first Navy men to arrive in Iceland and there was damn little there at the time. Now we have a bowling alley, the only gym in the country and a canteen where we can get American beer. Even so, London looks mighty good to me."

Most of the Kwitcherbelliaken contingent have been there since the Navy established bases in Iceland. Entertainment, other than that created through their own ingenuity, has been at a minimum. Naturally they grew just a little tired looking at their own shows and they expect to make up for lost time while here in London.

But all in all it sounds to us mighty like the Navy has the right spirit. No matter how tough things got, and they can get very tough in Iceland, their password remained Kwitcherbelliaken.

We know a few politicians, newspaper editors and ordinary citizens who could stand a shot of the Iceland Naval spirit.

**Service of Supply**

Since November of last year the British Eighth Army has been conducting offensive operations in the Near East and North Africa. To supply that army, ships from Great Britain and America went around Africa and up through the Red Sea to carry millions of tons of supplies and millions of separate items needed by the Army, Navy and Air Force units that, in a combined operation, made the success of the Eighth Army possible.

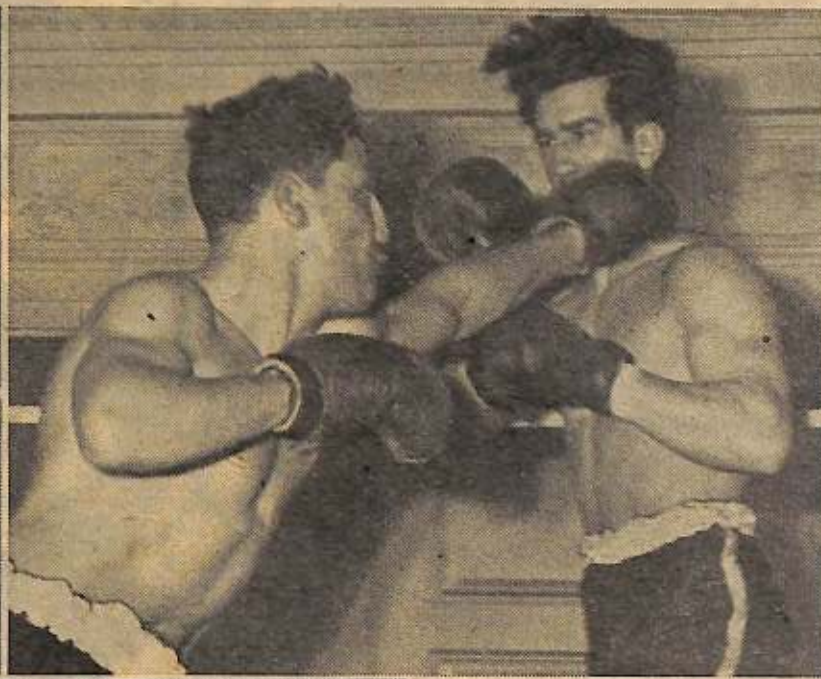
Other ships from Great Britain and America transported a huge expeditionary force, together with all the supplies they needed for a forced landing on hostile shores and for offensive operations that followed, in West and North Africa.

Both of these operations were successfully conducted in spite of the greatest number of obstacles ever faced by a Service of Supply. The success of these operations in such circumstances stands as a tribute to those individual leaders who were charged with the task of planning, coordinating and executing the supply service.

Much has been written covering the efficiency of German military planning, particularly in the field of supply, but when this war is over military leaders will

# ETO Track and Field Meet to Be Held in May

## Clinch and Break at Rainbow Corner Fights



## 14 Individual, Team Champs To Be Crowned

Competition on May 15 at Chiswick Stadium, London

A 14-event track meet to determine individual and team championships of the ETO for 1943 will be held at the Polytechnic Sports Stadium, Chiswick, London, on May 15.

This meet, following closely on the heels of the ETO basketball tournament, is the second in the series of championship events sponsored by The Stars and Stripes Athletic Committee, representing the Army Special Services, American Red Cross and The Stars and Stripes.

The meet will be open to both officers and enlisted men of the Navy, Marines and Army stationed in the ETO. It is planned to sponsor a later meet in which Americans will participate against the best performers of other Allied nations stationed in this theater.

### May Enter Five Events

Events on the program will be: 100-yard dash, 220-yard dash, 440-yard dash, half-mile run, mile run, mile relay, mile medley relay, 880-yard sprint relay, shot put, discus, high jump, pole vault, 120-yard high hurdles and 220-yard low hurdles.

Each competitor may enter five events, of which not more than three may be individual events and not more than two may be relays.

Suitable medals will be awarded the first three winners in individual events and members of the first three winning relay teams. The team champion will be awarded a plaque.

Polytechnic Stadium has full facilities for a track championship, including an eight-lane, quarter-mile, well-packed cinder track, jumping pits, dressing rooms and a seating capacity of 1,000. It is located four miles from the Milestone Red Cross club in London. Teams will be billeted at Red Cross clubs at the expense of The Stars and Stripes Athletic committee.

The entry form on this page must be in the hands of The Stars and Stripes Athletic Committee, Printing House Sq., E.C., not later than May 10.

### Entry Blanks Needed

Individual and team entries must be submitted through their unit Special Service officers, who will in turn submit them to the following Command Special Service officers listed:

Members of the Navy and Marines must submit their entries through Lt. Barry Bingham, USN; Eighth Air Force entries will clear through Lt. Col. William Bailey. Col. George Ramey, Special Service officer, Army Corps, will clear all entries from units served by Special Service officers working with him. SOS entries will clear through Col. Theodore Arter. Entries for London Base Command will be cleared through Capt. Ward J. Walker, and all Northern Ireland entries will be handled by Capt. Kenzie. Western Base section entries come under Capt. Noble Buell, Southern Base under Lt. George Shoemaker, and Eastern Base Section under Capt. C. O. Beer.

## Wings, Hawks Place Two On All-Star Hockey Team

TORONTO, Apr. 7—The Detroit Red Wings and the Chicago Black Hawks shared honors in the All-Star National Hockey League team chosen by 30 hockey writers of the Canadian press in the six National League cities.

Goalie Johnny Mowers and Jack Stewart, left defenseman, both of the Wings, and Earl Siebert, right defenseman, and Doug Bentley, right wing, of the Hawks, made the All-Star squad. Center Bill Cowley, of the Boston Bruins, and Lorne Carr, Toronto right wing, round out the sextet.

Siebert, the only member of the '42 team to retain a berth, is a veteran of a dozen National League seasons. Cowley, who was the nearest thing to a unanimous choice, drew 25 first place votes.

### Fliers Hold Field Day

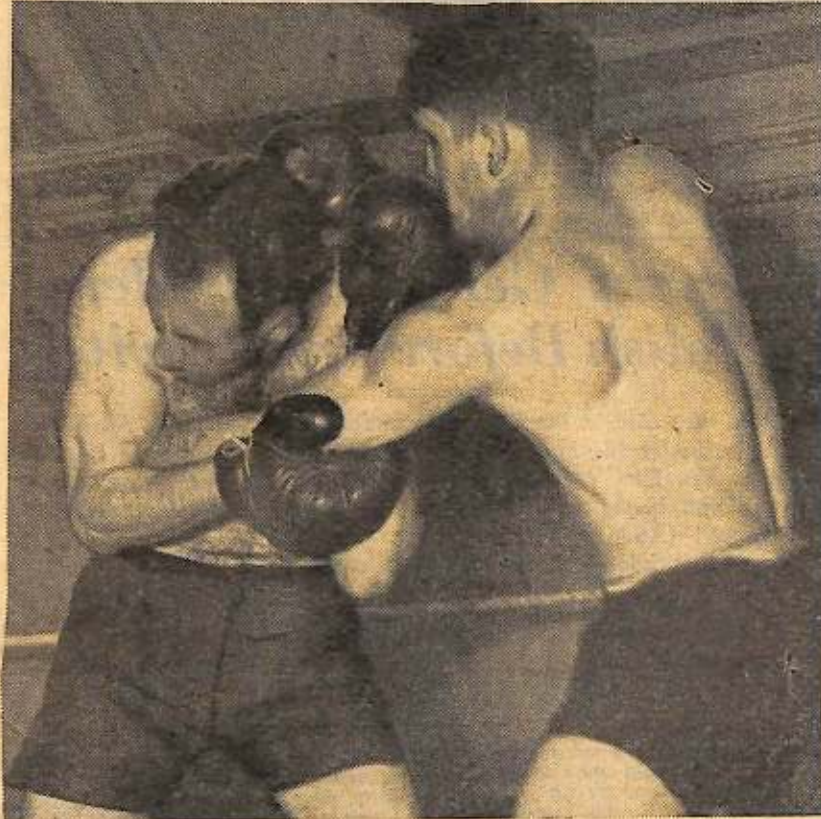
BOMBER GROUP, England, Apr. 7—The first anniversary of this group was celebrated with a gala field day. Events of the day included softball, tug-of-war, an invitational track meet and a volley ball game.

## Jack to Fight Montgomery

NEW YORK, Apr. 7—Reassured by a clause wherein Beau Jack, world lightweight king—New York style—will get a return bout within 60 to 90 days if he loses, Jack's board of strategy has signed a contract with Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia Negro, for a title match May 21 at Madison Square Garden.

Montgomery impressively kayoed Roman Alvarez in the fourth round of their scheduled ten-round at the Philadelphia Arena Monday night before a sellout crowd. Getting a shot at Jack's title is the realization of a frustrated Montgomery dream. He has fought five non-title matches with lightweight champions—two with Lew Jenkins and three with Sammy Angott, recent upsetter of Willie Pep. Incidentally, Angott is now in a position to grab a match with Henry Armstrong at the Garden in June. Hammering Henry wanted to wait for an encore with Jack, but the latter's program is full.

Under physician's orders, Beau is going to Hot Springs, Ark., where he plans to rest for a month before resuming training for the Montgomery rumpus. He has cancelled a ten-round non-title party with Ralph Zanelli, scheduled for Boston on Apr. 16. An examination revealed that Beau is lacking vitamins which his medico declares is responsible for the lightweight champion tiring rapidly in recent bouts. It is unlikely that Jack will engage in any bouts prior to facing Montgomery, whose recent record, including a decisive victory over Lulu Constantino, rates him as a tough opponent.



Clinches were frequent in the first two rounds of Tuesday's heavyweight scrap at the Rainbow Corner as Pvt. Pete Sinuk, of New York, left, lost to Cpl. Rudolph Koch, of Ritzville, Wash. (above). Welterweight Pvt. Harold Alle, of N. St. Paul, Minn., pastes Pfc Paul Phaneuf, of Holyoke, Mass. (upper right). Alle went on to win. Pvt. John Smith, of New York, didn't miss many rights like this (upper left) in his victory over Pvt. George Soukup, of Cicero, Ill.

## Cleveland Quits Pro Grid Loop

CHICAGO, Apr. 7—The National Professional Football League opened its annual draft meeting here yesterday amidst a swirl of confusion.

Major point was the fact that the Cleveland Rams have dropped out of the League for the duration since co-owners Maj. Fred Levy and Lt. Daniel Reeves are in the services. The Cleveland players will be distributed among the remaining nine clubs which have voted to continue despite the terrific manpower shortage. An estimated 350 players left the League after Pearl Harbor.

League coaches announced that they expected to train near their home grounds except the Washington Redskins, who hope to return to San Diego, Cal. The League voted to defer the draft of college players until tomorrow.

## Golf Tournament Benefits To Go to War Charities

NEW YORK, Apr. 7—George Blossom Jr., president of the U.S. Golf Association, has announced a unified program of tournaments aiding the Red Cross and the National War Fund.

He said that the tournaments on Memorial Day and Independence Day weekends would be held for the benefit of the Red Cross, while Labor Day receipts would be turned over to the National War Fund, an organization embodying every major war charity, including the USO and British War Relief.

Blossom added that golf tours last year netted over \$310,000 for war relief and recreation funds, while the Red Cross was given \$101,301.

### NEWS FROM HOME

## Supreme Court Refuses Review Of Traitor's Death Sentence

WASHINGTON, Apr. 7—Max Stephan, the Detroit, Mich., restaurant owner, who was sentenced to death for harboring an escaped German prisoner, lost his appeal for a Supreme Court review of his case today.

Stephan was convicted of giving money, shelter and advice to Peter Krug, German aviator, who escaped from a Canadian prison camp and appeared at Krug's Detroit home seeking help.

In refusing a review of the case, the Supreme Court denied an appeal based on the contention that Stephan acted from personal, not treasonous, motives in aiding the enemy soldier.

### Progress At Willow Run

DETROIT, Apr. 7 (UP)—Charles Wilson, executive chairman of the War Production Board, visited the Ford Motor Company's Willow Run bomber plant today, and said afterward that he could "see no reason why we may not expect a heavy production out of here." Willow Run production has been delayed, mainly because lack of housing made it impossible to get sufficient workers.

### N.Y. Soldiers' Tax Exempt

ALBANY, N.Y., Apr. 7—Gov. Dewey today approved a bill under which New York State residents in the armed services are excused from paying State income taxes on their Army, Navy or Marine Corps pay last year.

### Chicago Re-Elects Mayor Kelly

CHICAGO, Apr. 7 (AP)—Mayor Edward J. Kelly has been re-elected for the third time. Kelly, a Democrat, defeated George B. McKibbin, veteran Republican leader.

### No LaGuardia Commission

NEW YORK, Apr. 7 (AP)—Wide-spread rumors that Mayor Fiorello H.

LaGuardia would soon be commissioned as a Major General and sent to North Africa in preparation for a job as administrator of Italy when that country is invaded have been officially denied. Word came from President Roosevelt, in Washington, that he had no plans for making LaGuardia an officer.

### Start 'Write-Russia' Campaign

NEW YORK, Apr. 7—A campaign intended to produce 5,000,000 letters of friendship from Americans to individual citizens of the Soviet Union has been started by Edward C. Carter, president of Russian War Relief. Soviet authorities have agreed to distribute the letters which will be included in shipments of relief supplies.

### Rubber Shortage End in Sight

WASHINGTON, Apr. 7 (AP)—Rubber Director William Jeffers said today that the United States would be over the rubber shortage "hump" by this time next year, and that he believed synthetic rubber would eventually take care of American needs.

## The Stars and Stripes Athletic Committee Track and Field Meet —Entry Blank—

ETO championship track and field meet, Polytechnic Stadium, Chiswick, London, Saturday, May 15, 1943.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RANK \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ APO \_\_\_\_\_

EVENTS \_\_\_\_\_

TRACK EXPERIENCE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_

(Submit to Unit Special Service Officer)



# British Smash Axis Defenses North of Gabes

## 500-Gun Barrage Blasts Hole for Tanks, Troops; Americans Advance

(Continued from page 1)

of tons of shells had to be brought up in a short time to feed the tremendous artillery concentration.

The Eighth Army now should be able to move on at high speed, it was declared in London, since the fighting now is moving into the open plains, and the Allies have definite air superiority.

Berlin radio admitted last night the Axis forces had withdrawn before the Eighth Army's attacks. It said the Allies had launched attacks from the Oudref-El Hamma area and from Gafsa and Maknassy, but that this "pincer movement could not be developed."

While the Eighth Army blasted the Nazi wadi positions, American troops attacking nine miles east of El Guettar and nine miles north of Maknassy fought desperately yesterday to dislodge the strongly-entrenched Germans. In the Maknassy area they succeeded in capturing Djebel Maizila. Here the Americans have been systematically reoccupying the high ground as a step towards gaining control of the 34 miles of straight road which leads along the western Dorsal from Maknassy to Sidi Bouzid.

(On the El Guettar front the Americans have made only slow progress against German positions, which are among the strongest in southern Tunisia, the United Press reported.

### 88s Well-Placed

To the natural defenses the Germans have added heavy machine-guns, mortars and 88 mm. guns, which are so well placed they are next to impossible to hit. This road, called the "Gum Tree Road," is now the only route of retreat for the Germans in this area, since the Gabes road has been cut off.

(The biggest stumbling block facing the Americans is the tenacious German core of resistance on the slopes of a hill several miles behind the most advanced American positions on the right flank. This part is being cleaned up, but it is a slow and nasty business. One look at the troops, with ragged pants, torn jackets and worn shoes, tells its own story, United Press said.)

The Wadi Akarit line collapsed within two hours of the Eighth Army's first assault at 4.30 Tuesday morning. The infantry charge was protected by the thundering bombardment of hundreds of British guns, which opened fire at 4 A.M. in one of the heaviest blows ever dealt by Allied artillery in the war in Africa.

### Axis Held Two Hills

The enemy held two hills, the Djebel Tebaga Fatnassa and the Djebel Rouma, about two miles apart, inland from the coast highway. These constituted the only high ground in the battle area, and British regiments attacked them under blazing counter-fire.

By 6 A.M. both hills were in British hands, and 30 minutes later the enemy tried to retake them, but met a bloody repulse. Soon all organized enemy opposition in the area had ceased.

There was no official information on how far the British advance had proceeded north of Wadi Akarit since then, but there seemed every indication that other battles would soon be launched.

## More Axis Ships Sunk As Libs Hit Messina

CAIRO, Apr. 7 (UP)—Messina, Sicily, the important terminal of the Italy-Sicily ferry, was successfully attacked again by Liberators of the U.S. Ninth Air Force last night.

Heavy and medium bombers and fighter-bombers sank six enemy ships in a convoy nearby and blew up an ammunition ship. At Trapani, many ships of all classes were sunk and others severely damaged. A total of 27 enemy aircraft were destroyed throughout the day for the loss of only five Allied planes.

## Medical Service Offered Free to Merchant Seamen

Hospital, dental and all other medical facilities of the Army are now available free of charge to U.S. merchant seamen in the ETO, according to an announcement by the U.S. War Shipping Administration.

Besides treatment of injuries or illness, a physical checkup is offered to seamen who have taken part in the battle of the Atlantic.

The agreement was made between Brig. Gen. Paul R. Hawley, Chief Surgeon, ETO, and Charles Hogan, of the U.S. War Shipping Administration.

## Fighter Base for Washington

NEW YORK, Apr. 7—A new fighter aircraft base in Maryland, for use in defending the Washington area, is to be turned over to the Army on May 15. Army engineers say that it is the biggest of its kind in the country, occupying 4,700 acres.

## Know Any British Evacuees?

American soldiers who have met any of the British children now evacuated to the United States are asked to communicate with The Kinmen organization, 4600 House Kingsway, London.

# Flying Fortresses Strike at Vast Renault Works, Near Paris



Great clouds of smoke pour from factories of the great Renault motor and armaments plant at Billancourt, near Paris, after Eighth Air Force Flying Fortresses hammered the factories last Sunday. The Renault works are reported to have been making tanks for the Germans and were last attacked by the RAF on Mar. 3, 1942

U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo

## Occupy Tokyo, Report Urges

### Japs Should Be Disarmed, Stripped Of Colonies Institute Says

WASHINGTON, Apr. 7 (UP)—Allied troops should occupy Tokyo temporarily after the war, a report by the Institute of Pacific Relations said today.

Released under the title—"War and Peace," the report was drawn up following a meeting in Quebec several months ago attended by unofficial representatives and observers from all the United Nations.

The report recommended that Japan be completely disarmed and that all her colonies and territories be taken from her, including Korea, Manchuria and the mandated islands.

### U.S. Post-War Role

Much of the report was devoted to the place of the United States in the post-war world.

American delegates to the conference were sharply questioned as to the willingness of the United States to fulfill the terms of the Atlantic Charter, particularly as they relate to international collaboration after the war.

The conference devoted considerable time to discussing the role of the U.S. after the war with a Canadian delegate, making the point that America had not made up its mind what it will do about the principles enunciated by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. An American spokesman assured him that the "Four Freedoms" were in the American tradition and would be upheld by the United States.

## Ration Chiefs Strike At Cafe Meat Sales

WASHINGTON, Apr. 7—Rationing authorities have cracked down on restaurants—plugging a hole through which meat-hungry citizens were able to reach for steaks, slices of rare roast beef and choice cuts they couldn't buy from their butchers.

Bringing restaurant consumption into line with the point system which limits retail purchases of meat, OPA issued restaurant rules which make it a violation to serve more than a two and one half ounce portion of fresh or canned meat with each meal.

Even more drastic is a proposed regulation which would oblige restaurant patrons to produce their food cards when they gave their orders. Points would be checked off for meat, coffee, sugar, butter and canned goods.

## 14 Yanks Get Final Order In Polish Before Army Switch

Fourteen men clad in the light blue uniforms of the Polish Air Force marched in double file into the U.S. Army recruiting office in London yesterday. Sgt. Pilot Alex Kucharenko, in charge of the group, giving orders in Polish, halted them, made them about face, then commanded: "Bacznoes! (Attention!)"

It was the last order in Polish they were to receive in the war, for a few minutes later they were given honorable discharges by Col. Bogdan J. Kwiecinski, Air Attache of the Polish Embassy, and immediately afterward were sworn in as soldiers in the U.S. Army.

## Airfield Hit By RAF Planes

German-operated railroad facilities in Belgium and an airfield and a steel works in France were out of service yesterday as the result of RAF raids Tuesday.

An Air Ministry announcement said fighter bombers, escorted by fighters, bombed the landing field at St. Omer, France, and a steel works and power plant at Mondeville, near Caen. RAF Mosquitos attacked engine sheds and railroad yards at Ronet, near Namur, Belgium, at dusk.

The latter attack was designed to increase Germany's already acute shortage of locomotives and other railway rolling stock. One fighter was lost in the Ronet raid.

Two German Me109s were destroyed off the south coast yesterday morning, one of them by a 21-year-old former London bank clerk.

## FDR's Messages Printed By British Government

A British edition of "Addresses and Messages of Franklin D. Roosevelt," containing 36 of the President's most important speeches, is being published today by H.M. Stationery Office. The 119-page book sells for one shilling.

Beginning with the speech in 1933 in which Mr. Roosevelt outlined the Good Neighbor policy, the volume traces the development of U.S. foreign policy until after the President asked Congress to "recognize a state of war" between the United States and the Axis nations.

American spelling is used throughout the British edition, making it an exact reproduction of the original document printed by the Government Printing Office in Washington for the Senate.

## Red Cross Supplies to Britain

American Red Cross supplies worth \$30,413,000 have been received for civilian relief in Great Britain between Sept. 1, 1939, when the war started, and Mar. 1 this year, Commissioner Harvey D. Gibson announced yesterday. Cash grants and supplies en route but not yet here were not included in the figure, it was explained.

# Report British Agents Landed On Dutch Coast

## New Invasion Rumors Reaching England From Abroad

A new invasion jitters story was going the rounds in Nazi-occupied Europe yesterday—this time involving British agents supposed to have been landed along the heavily-fortified Dutch coast.

It added to the Norway "ghost army" and the underground activity in France, Denmark and Belgium in providing headaches for the German occupation troops and hope for the conquered peoples of the Continent.

Yesterday's version came from Holland, via Dutch sources in London.

"Scores of British agents," the reports said, have been landed in Holland and are secretly preparing the country for an invasion from across the Channel. First result of the story has been a new wave of sabotage and outbreaks against the Germans.

Dutch circles in London said that two Hollanders, recently arrived from the occupied territory, reported hearing about the secret landings "everywhere in Holland, and even in Germany."

According to the rumors, British commando specialists in sabotage and the psychological preparation for invasion have been coming ashore at night in twos and threes throughout the past six weeks, and making their way into the interior.

### Supplied With Names

Presumably they have been supplied with the names of Dutch patriots, together with maps, plans and directions for their part in the widespread underground activity.

German-controlled Paris radio gave credence to the reports yesterday by broadcasting a program called "Prelude to a Second Front." The broadcaster took an invasion for granted, saying that the only questions still unanswered were "When and where?"

The broadcaster made no guess as to where the attack might develop, listing four danger spots which blanketed the Continent. They were Sicily, Sardinia and southern Italy, the Balkans at the mouth of the Danube and the French coast.

Somehow the speaker seemed to have got his wires crossed with another Paris broadcaster, Jean Paqui, who told the country, in a later bulletin and commentary that the United Nations couldn't invade the Continent at all.

### Preparing for Landing?

"Are the British and Americans, by dropping bombs on Paris, Antwerp, Rouen, Lorient and other places, really preparing for a landing?"

After proving to his own satisfaction that an invasion would be impossible, Paqui concluded:

"Are these raids a preparation for invasion? No, they are only a show."

Paqui's speech ignored the earlier one in which the unidentified speaker had admitted that the German campaign in Tunisia was drawing to its close, although it had, he claimed, upset the Allied invasion schedule.

Scattered cables from neutral capitals continued to stress, yesterday, the flurry of defense activity in which the Germans are engaged.

## Dog-Bite Soldier Safe, Teeth Didn't Break Skin

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Apr. 7—The Army's three-day hunt for a soldier bitten by a mad dog here last week ended today when Pvt. Trantino Scarpino, 20, of Pittsburgh, reported for treatment.

He explained that the animal's fangs had only torn his trousers, not broken the skin, and doctors decided that rabies treatment was not necessary. Had he actually been bitten, it was explained, he would probably have died within ten days unless he received treatment.

## DSC - - - -

(Continued from page 1)

top turret gunner in a Fort. On his first mission, when his tail gunner's caliber 50s jammed and a yellow-nosed enemy fighter came in at 6 o'clock, Harris spun around in his turret, got a bead on it and fired a short burst. He didn't see the fighter fall but the grateful tail gunner did.

Harris got another FW190 shortly afterward with a short burst.

"Can't waste ammunition. Besides, short bursts keep the gun from getting hot," he is reported to have said. His pilot boasted to superiors he felt safe at all times with Arizona in the top turret.

Returning from a mission in January, Harris' B17 was knocked out of formation and attacked by a swarm of fighters. Observers said the top turret guns destroyed one of the fighters and were still blazing as the ship was sinking after making a forced crash landing in the sea.

The citation accompanying the DSC said: "Throughout the descent of the plane and as it disappeared beneath the waves, Sgt. Harris was seen to be still firing his guns at enemy airplanes. The dogged determination to fight against all odds and the sheer bravery displayed on

## Blondie

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



## by Chic Young