

U.S. Planes Give Naples Worst Raid

Sardinia Bases Also Hit As Air Offensive on Italy Heightens

The United States Army Air Force, opening an intensified aerial assault from bases in both the Middle East and Tunisia, struck two smashing blows at Italy on Sunday, it was disclosed in official communiqués yesterday.

Liberator bombers, flying unescorted in broad daylight across hundreds of miles of enemy-patrolled area, gave Naples its heaviest pounding of the war. At least three merchant ships in the harbor were hit, and great fires were burning along the waterfront of the port, biggest Italian supply base for Tunisia, before the Libs turned back toward their Middle East airdromes. Despite attacks by Messerschmitts, Focke-Wulfs and Junkers 88s, only one bomber was lost.

The raid, said Brig. Gen. Patrick Timberlake, USAAF commander in the Middle East, was a "prologue of things to come."

Sardinia 'Dromes Raided

From bases in North Africa, meanwhile, American Flying Fortresses and Marauders, combined with RAF Wellingtons, struck directly at the heart of the Luftwaffe for the first time in this campaign with raids on airfields in Sardinia, the big island to the west of Italy.

The airfield and seaplane base at Cagliari, which is 150 miles directly north of Tunisia, suffered most. The U.S. planes struck there twice within 40 minutes Sunday afternoon, starting large fires and destroying aircraft on the ground.

The severity of the raid on Naples was indicated in the Italian communiqué yesterday. Issued 24 hours after the raid, it said: "Damage and casualties are being ascertained."

Heavy AA at Naples

Gen. Timberlake described the attack as "one of the most successful ever carried out" by the Middle East force. Approaching the city in two waves, six minutes apart, the Liberators met intense anti-aircraft fire from the ground, as well as interception by a large formation of enemy fighters above the target area. The operation was carried out as planned, however.

Two Me109s were destroyed. The single Liberator lost was shot into the bay of Naples after it had dropped its bombs, the communiqué said.

The number of planes sent over Sardinia was far greater than the number of bombers the Luftwaffe has been able to raise for any single effort over North Africa.

The Forts and Marauders were supplemented by Wimpeys, which had been the draught-horses of the RAF. They splashed high explosives over the Axis fields with good results and without losing a single plane, an RAF spokesman said.

Pall Over Naples

A pall of smoke covered Naples when the raiding Liberators left. Besides scoring direct hits on the three ships, which were almost certainly being used in the North Africa run, the Libs blasted the Massaniello and Vittorio Emanuele moles and other harbor targets.

"There was fire and smoke as far as you could see along the water-front and the moles," one pilot said. "The formation that went in ahead of us hit two merchant vessels, which were smoking heavily when we arrived."

"I did not see a single bomb fall into the water. Apparently they all found their mark on the quayside and the boats. I don't believe we wasted any either. There weren't any ripples in the water when we turned away, but there were a lot more fires and a third merchant vessel was hit and smoking. I should say we did some damage."

Describing the raid, Gen. Timberlake said: "To reach a target like Naples you have to make sure of a heavy bombardment. To attack it with precision you have to attack during daylight. You can't have fighter protection because fighters can't fly that far and get back to their base."

Another Canadian Force Arrives in Great Britain

Another contingent of Canadians has landed safely in Britain, Canadian Military Headquarters announced yesterday.

Artillery, armored corps, infantry, ordnance and service corps units are included in the new force. Several senior artillery officers arrived with the convoy, as well as air and ground crews for the RCAF, and Canadian naval personnel.

Returns to London



Adm. Harold R. Stark

Admiral Stark Back from U.S.

Capt. Paul H. Bastedo Is New Naval Attache in London

Admiral Harold R. Stark, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces in Europe, is back in London after consultations in Washington with President Roosevelt, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and other Navy officials.

Returning after an absence of six weeks and one day, Adm. Stark announced the appointment of Capt. Paul Henry Bastedo, of Buffalo, N.Y., and Washington, to replace Rear Adm. Alan G. Kirk as U.S. Naval Attache here.

Rear Adm. Kirk will continue as Chief of Staff to Adm. Stark, it was announced.

In his first conference after his return, Adm. Stark declared, "We are striving every way we can to increase our facilities against the submarine," which he characterized as still a "major" problem.

Air Blows 'Helpful'

Although he declined to discuss any new methods of combating enemy submarines, Adm. Stark referred to bombing raids on sub pens as "very helpful."

Speaking of the war in the Pacific, the Admiral said American forces on land and sea have taken a great toll of the enemy, and pointed out that the United States has a greater ability to replace losses.

"That makes it a mathematical certainty what will happen, but there may be a lot of tough going before that day," he added.

Of the war in the Atlantic, Adm. Stark pointed out that Brazil is a "great help."

Capt. Bastedo, the new attache, graduated from Annapolis in 1908. During the last war he served on the staff of Adm. William E. Sims in Europe and also was commander of the destroyer Shaw out of Queenstown, Ireland. He (Continued on page 4)

Nazis Blasted Fort's Bomb Bay But 'Thumper' Battled Home

A U.S. BOMBER STATION, England, Feb. 8—"The Thumper" and her crew had a close one.

En route to the target "The Thumper," a B-17, was attacked by FW 190s. One FW, screaming up under the belly of the ship, let go with a cannon burst that exploded in the Fort's bomb bay. Three bombs dropped from the ship and fell to a spot of enemy soil that hadn't been marked for destruction.

There were a few tense minutes but the bombs left in the racks remained there, unexploded.

1st Lt. John A. Castle, of Seattle, Wash., pilot, and 2nd Lt. Kent M. Fitzsimmons, of Las Animas, Col., copilot, kept the ship on her run for the raid objective.

Over the objective, 2nd Lt. Louis B. Sinopoli, of Denver, the bombardier got the remaining bombs away towards the target.

But their troubles were only beginning. An enemy burst tore half the plexiglass from the nose, leaving Lt. Sinopoli and 2nd Lt. Charles L. Herman, of Houston, Tex., in a freezing gale. They stuck to their guns.

Another shell burst in the cockpit, blowing the vital instrument panel into junk. The same burst blew out the hydraulic system. A fire started in the cockpit. Lt. Castle managed to put it out.

The No. 4 engine went out. The Nazi fighter pilots knew "The Thumper" was

Soviets Turn South in Ukraine, Blasting Armor Hurlled in Path, In Attempt to Trap Huge Force

U.S. Considers Draft of Labor For War Jobs

Men, Women Would Be Called If Not Enough Volunteered

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AP)—A National Service Act, granting President Roosevelt sweeping powers to utilize the nation's manpower and womanpower in any job deemed necessary to achieve victory, was introduced in Congress today by two Republicans, Rep. James W. Wadsworth, of New York, who drafted the original Selective Service Act and the "teen age" bill, and Sen. Warren R. Austin, of Vermont.

The measure, if passed, would make millions of Americans eligible to be called for service on the assembly lines of tanks and planes and in the fields to sow and reap the nation's crops.

The act would involve the registration of women between the ages of 18 and 50 except mothers with children under 18 and would include men registered for military service but not yet in the armed forces.

The President would be authorized to issue an appeal whenever necessary for volunteers to work in essential industries, and to draft additional workers by means of the selective boards if an insufficient number responded.

Workers would be paid the customary wages for the job and would be assigned to tasks suited to their abilities near their homes.

Behind the introduction of the bill were complaints from agricultural areas that farm labor was flocking to better paid jobs in war industries and from war industries that there was unfair traffic in jobs.

Former President Herbert Hoover asserted today the nation must have 1,000,000 more workers, including some from the armed forces, to avert a shortage in the farm, metal and oil industries.

Remarking that the armed forces intend to have over 11,000,000 members by the end of 1943, Mr. Hoover told a press conference that "if we attempt too much on the military side, we may commit the fatal error of overstrain on the home front and thus damage our effectiveness in ultimate victory."

U.S. to Pay for Crop Failures

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard announced yesterday that the department of agriculture had established a \$200,000,000 wartime food production loan program, under which the United States Government would assume losses from crop failures on products needed for war.

The Rings Tighten



Striking south from captured Kramatorskaya (shaded arrow), Russians were attempting last night to encircle entire Donetz Basin, trapping huge enemy force. In Caucasus, moving steadily westward, other Red forces drew another ring tighter around Germans already trapped.

P40 in Hot Fight With No Bullets

Pilot Just Flies in Circles Till Dogfights End, Then Lands

A FORWARD U.S. FIGHTER BASE, Tunisia, Feb. 8 (AP)—The luckiest pilot in the world flew his P40 fighter in circles through one of the biggest and hottest aerial battles ever seen over this most advanced American air base in Tunisia without any bullets in his guns and lived to tell the story.

Lt. Richard E. Marks, 23, of Toledo, Ohio, one-time police reporter for the Toledo News Bee, "got tired sitting around dugout" as assistant group operations officer, so he decided to get in some flying time on patrol over the field. Suddenly about a dozen Messerschmitts swooped in to attack.

"I didn't know anything was up and was just loafing along until the Messerschmitt snuck up behind me," Lt. Marks related.

A Perfect Shot

"He hit my propeller and wings but he was a damned fool and instead of turning off he came on right over me, so I turned up into him. It was a perfect shot and I gave a squeeze. Nothing happened. I couldn't believe it."

"I checked the gun switches and they were okay, but I didn't know until I landed later that somebody forgot to put ammunition in my plane."

"Our Spitfires came up and I could see them and the Messerschmitts whizzing all around me. At one time four Messerschmitts seemed to be after me but I couldn't do anything about it so I just kept going around and around, then landed when the fight was over."

Fellow pilots and ground crews now call Lt. Marks "Angel" and solemnly tell visitors that bullets can't hurt him.

Hitler Makes Appearance, Confers With Nazi Heads

Hitler has spent two days at his headquarters talking with Nazi party leaders about the "total mobilization" of Germany, according to reports from Berlin.

This is the first time there has been any mention of Hitler's activities since Jan. 10, apart from what was said of him by Goebbels on Jan. 30.

The meeting apparently dealt with the measures to be taken for mobilizing Germany. "It can be taken that the gauleiters will direct all measures for mobilization on the home front," said Berlin.

Using Germans' Own Panzer Method of Encirclement

A battle which gave evidence of being one of the greatest outflanking maneuvers in the history of warfare was in progress in the Donetz Basin of the Ukraine last night as Russian forces swept through Kramatorskaya, a big chemical city west of Voroshilovgrad, and turned southward towards the Sea of Azov.

Battering back heavy armored divisions which the Germans threw into the conflict to bar their path, the Russians moved steadily on in their effort to encircle the entire basin and lock huge numbers of Nazi troops into a pocket, with their backs to the sea.

The northern flank of the German Army has been turned, according to dispatches from Moscow, threatening the Germans with a disaster as serious as Stalingrad if they do not begin to move their troops out quickly over the only two railways left to them in the area.

Nazis' Own Tactics

The powerful Russian offensive was a streamlined version of Nazi panzer tactics at their best. Time and again the Russians have drawn up before their objectives and, while the Germans assembled heavy forces to withstand a frontal attack, have deployed fan-wise with tanks and ski-troops armed with tommy-guns, avoiding the heavy losses of a frontal attack. Unable to prevent encirclement, the Germans have fought feverishly to escape.

It was in this fashion that the Red Army took Kramatorskaya. Detouring around the strongholds of the region from the north, the Soviet fighters cut the railway, swept aside German screening forces and attacked from the south.

In the Rostov area to the south fierce fighting was still going on last night, but the collapse of Hitler's Caucasian campaign was imminent.

In Outskirts of Rostov

Russian forces were battling their way forward in the outskirts of the city, and had already taken key towns and ports on the Sea of Azov south of Rostov, but Moscow gave few new details yesterday of the fighting there. It was possible the Reds were drawn up before Rostov and had delivered an ultimatum to the troops virtually trapped there.

South and southwest of Rostov the Russians consolidated their whole position by taking the city of Azov, midway between Yeisk and Bataisk, and Kagalnik, halfway between Azov and Bataisk.

Hourly they were drawing closer to the only remaining route of escape left to the huge German forces still in the Caucasus—across the narrow Kerch Strait to the Crimea.

Berlin Admits Advance

The admission that the Russian offensive on the middle Donetz was continuing with unabated fury was made in yesterday's Berlin communiqué, which spoke of "furious attacks with the support of strong tank formations."

Berlin made no claims of any successes in this fighting beyond saying that a Russian regiment which crossed the Donetz river at dawn was wiped out.

The suddenness of the attack in this western sector of the Donbas has apparently thoroughly disorganized any attempt by the German High Command to estimate which point to protect next. Gen. Vatutin has a force of such power (Continued on page 4)

Churchill Met Giraud In Africa On Way Home

ALLIED HQ, North Africa, Feb. 6 (delayed) (AP)—With the inevitable cigar clamped between his teeth and clad in a RAF uniform, Winston Churchill combined business with pleasure in his visit here by getting his first hot bath for many days and conferring with Gen. Giraud and British and American military leaders.

The Prime Minister held several "social conferences" with Gen. Eisenhower, but the main business of his 24-hour stay was done with French leaders.

Gen. Giraud and Gen. Catroux had conferences which lasted for some time.

It was not considered an accident that the night that the Prime Minister spent here coincided with the announcement by Gen. Giraud of the reconstruction of his administration on the "war committee" with places left open for de Gaulles.

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Isolationism is Dead

The question of American isolation after the war is extremely important as it relates to the future of the world. Discussing this important question the New York Herald Tribune recently said: "The best preparation which America can make for peace in the general sense lies in an adjustment of national view point. That adjustment is well under way. Isolationism is dead. Too many Americans however are still convinced that the alternative to Isolationism is to erect their nation into a sort of charitable institution for the world at large. In a well balanced speech at the University of Maryland, Mr. Sumner Welles dealt some telling blows to that theory. Practical self-interest, he said, and not emotional altruism, nor sentimental aspiration should be the basis of American policy. But such self-interest must recognize the incontrovertible fact that in the world of today not even a hemisphere can live in peace and enjoy its liberty, much less achieve prosperity, if the rest of the world is going up in flames.

The United States then must not approach the peace table either confused by a haze of good intention; or blinded by old fears and suspicions. It must be resolved soberly to seek a way to put the tremendous productive power, the organizing genius of America to profitable use in a world which has desperate need of both. If there should be risks the country must be prepared to face them; if temporary sacrifices should be demanded they must be made. The only sacrifice which is certain to be required is the shedding of the worn out concepts of a vanished era.

The Goebbels Whine

The world has grown cautious of Doctor Goebbels' tricky propaganda methods. As a result, the general public and oftimes our own leaders hesitate to accept "the obvious" for fear of later disappointment.

With this theory we disagree. Recent news has been good. The future looks brighter still, and we prefer to enjoy each delicious bit of news before it becomes so stale the flavor is lost.

We do not believe good news will lull us into a false sense of security or make us forget the danger the submarine can still cause on the seven seas. We do believe that good news, accepted as such, will inspire us to greater effort.

In other words, we respect but no longer fear Doctor Goebbels' magic. One reason for this is the fact that a definite whine has crept into his efforts to distort. When a man of the Goebbels breed begins to whine, his days are numbered.

Gifts For Home

Two American soldiers asked the British Brains Trust the other evening, what was the most typically English thing they could take back with them to America, and, frankly, the answers were very disappointing, and certainly not very helpful.

Someone in the group suggested Winston Churchill, while Jan Struther, authoress of "Mrs. Miniver," speaking over the Transatlantic wire, suggested crumpets. A third suggestion was at least original, for the Braintruster suggested the purchase of a tea-cosy. A tea-cosy for the benefit of the uninitiated is a glorified helmet for a teapot. Decorative and insulating, it helps keep the tea warm until used.

For the American soldier who wishes to send a gift at this time, we suggest a good English book. At the top of the list we would place "Front Line." It is typically British, for it describes in words and pictures the Battle of Britain and vividly portrays the courage of a nation as it faces mass slaughter and destruction from the air. As our second suggestion, a British made pipe would please the male American no end, and these can still be purchased without the use of coupons.

Hash Marks

The war is really speeding up things—including marriages. In Kansas a marriage license clerk asked an applicant for the name of the bride-to-be. The applicant faltered and stammered, "Gosh, I don't know. I just call her Dolly."

An instructor of a photography class for women warworkers in Syracuse found occasion to criticize a batch of prints



submitted by a little Southern lass. He told her they were over-exposed. She replied, "Ah reckon that's because Ah'm a Southerner. You said to count to ten and it just natcherly takes me longer than you folks up heah."

Yoo hoo, pop! Because of the nurse shortage and the failure of the ban on pleasure driving to curtail visitors, the Englewood (N.J.) hospital ruled that only fathers will be allowed to visit maternity wards.

A tough guy is Virgil Scraggs, one time wood chopping champ of the state of West Virginia and now a champion rifle shot of his company in the army. But you wouldn't think so judging from his hobby—knitting. At first his buddies laughed, but they later admired his products so that they began pleading with him to start a knitting class. At first Scraggs objected, but when he saw scarves and tablecloths and other products of the knitting needles sent to wives and sweethearts, he became reconciled to the idea. "After all," he observed, "the boys should do all they can to keep up the morale of the folks back home."

Sgt. Walter K. Bartlett overheard this conversation. Two GIs were reading mail from home. "Boy, have I got bad news,"



said one. "My girl friend has gotten married." Said the second GI, "Have you got bad news? Look, chum, I go and join the Army. Now I get a letter saying that I have been rejected by my draft board."

J. C. W.

The Flight Surgeon's Word Is Law

He Decides Whether U.S. Airmen Fly Or Stay Home

By Andrew A. Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Col. Wray was dressed and ready for the day's work over the locomotive factories at Lille. The only technicality before the takeoff was the flight surgeon's OK.

The squadron flight surgeon, Capt. Weldon T. Ross, talked briefly with Col. Wray and noticed that the colonel's head cold (he'd been watching it for a few days) was no better.

"Sorry, sir, it's no go," Capt. Ross said quietly; and there was no sense arguing. Col. Stanley Wray, who came from Muncie, Ind., to fly against the Nazis, was grounded for the day.

There are no "leave-me-in-coach" heroics in the Air Force. What the flight surgeon says goes—or doesn't go, as in this case. To ground a man who has faced death a hundred times, who has received the Air Medal for distinguished flying, sounds absurd, and for a captain to tell a colonel what he can and cannot do doesn't sound like the Army, but that's what happened when Capt. Ross laid down the law to Col. Wray.

A simple head cold, uncomfortable on the ground, can result in a serious infection at high altitudes due to the sudden change in atmospheric pressure, which attacks the nasal passages, while the pressure inside the body exerts a more or less constant force outward. The atmospheric pressure at 20,000 feet is about eight pounds per square inch, little more than half atmospheric pressure at sea level. The difference makes the trouble.

The flight surgeon's job is a tough one and he earns the gold wings he wears and the flying pay he draws. There are no cure-alls for the medical problems he is faced with, and despite the fact that every accredited flight surgeon is a graduate of the three-month course at Randolph Field, there are still research technicians, as well as highly qualified doctors. Every airdrome is a laboratory where the flight surgeon continues to learn what can happen to a man in an airplane.

He is not only a doctor. The flight surgeon is psychologist, surgeon, sometimes chaplain, and friend to the flier, all rolled into one uniform.

Watch Airmen's Nerves

It is a delicate business, spotting the men who are not temperamentally suited to the split-second warfare being waged in the air. These men are few and far between by the time an outfit reaches a combat zone, but there is still the business of catching a man before he "goes stale."

Mental attitude is perhaps the toughest problem the flight surgeon has. Flying over enemy territory is risky business and no one denies it. A bad-news letter from home, the loss of a close friend, and even such general things as unfavorable reports of the progress of the war on other fronts can affect the delicate balance of a man's natural instincts of self-preservation on one side and his instinct to live up to accepted standards of combat on the other.

Many of the doctors at the fields in England are graduates of the flight surgeons' course that has been established in the ETO, but as yet graduates of this school are not considered as accredited flight surgeons. These men, although they do not wear the gold wings or receive flying pay, are of invaluable aid to the recognized flight surgeons.

The surgeons live close to the men,



Stars and Stripes Photo

An Eighth Air Force ambulance crew goes through a "dry run" removing an "injured" flier from a Flying Fortress. Maj. Thurman Shuller (right) looks on as Sgt. Matthew Argento, New York, Cpl. Louis Brookins, Milledgeville, Ga., Sgt. Edward Berardi, New York, and Capt. Harold Munal, San Juan, Tex., unload the patient, Sgt. Andrew Stedina, Throop, Ga., in a wrap-around litter, designed by the RAF.

flying at least four hours a month with them. In many cases they have gone on actual operational flights. One flight surgeon tells a stark story which illustrates the problems of his lot.

On an operational flight his ship was forced down in the sea, miles from land. One of the crew was badly wounded in the right leg, but in the crash all the surgeon's equipment had been lost. The men had all they could do to scramble into the rubber dinghies and get free of the ship before she went down.

By the time they reached shore blood poisoning had set in, and if more time were lost the flier would die. The surgeon sterilized a pocket-knife over an open flame, and without the aid of an anesthetic or any antiseptic, amputated the wounded flier's leg. That man is alive today.

Not all the flight surgeon's work is Hollywood material. In the station hospital he has the routine problems of any hospital doctor.

Only after a mission on which members of the crews over which he watches have been wounded does the flight surgeon have to work at the top speed of which his skilled fingers are capable.

Organize First Aid

It is up to him to organize the most efficient system of getting aid to the wounded men in the planes—and to get that aid to them as soon as the plane lands.

The usual method is to have an ambulance waiting at the end of each runway and several auxiliaries at the control tower. When the planes circle the field preparatory to the landing any with wounded aboard drop flares, any color handy.

When the plane which had dropped a flare touches the runway, an ambulance with three enlisted men and a doctor aboard races after it. As soon as the plane stops at the far end of the runway the ambulance pulls alongside and the men rush to the aid of the wounded.

Fifteen minutes are saved by not waiting for the ship to taxi to her permanent spot on the field.

Taking a wounded man from a Flying Fortress is a tough job, and the flight surgeons in England praise a simple wrap-around litter designed by the RAF. The task of lifting a wounded man from the deep-bellied Liberator is much simpler.

Every airman who goes on an operational flight is thoroughly familiar with the best way to handle emergencies in the sharp cold of high altitudes. Through constant lecturing they know more about physics and medicine at high altitudes than the average surgeon in a general hospital in a large city.

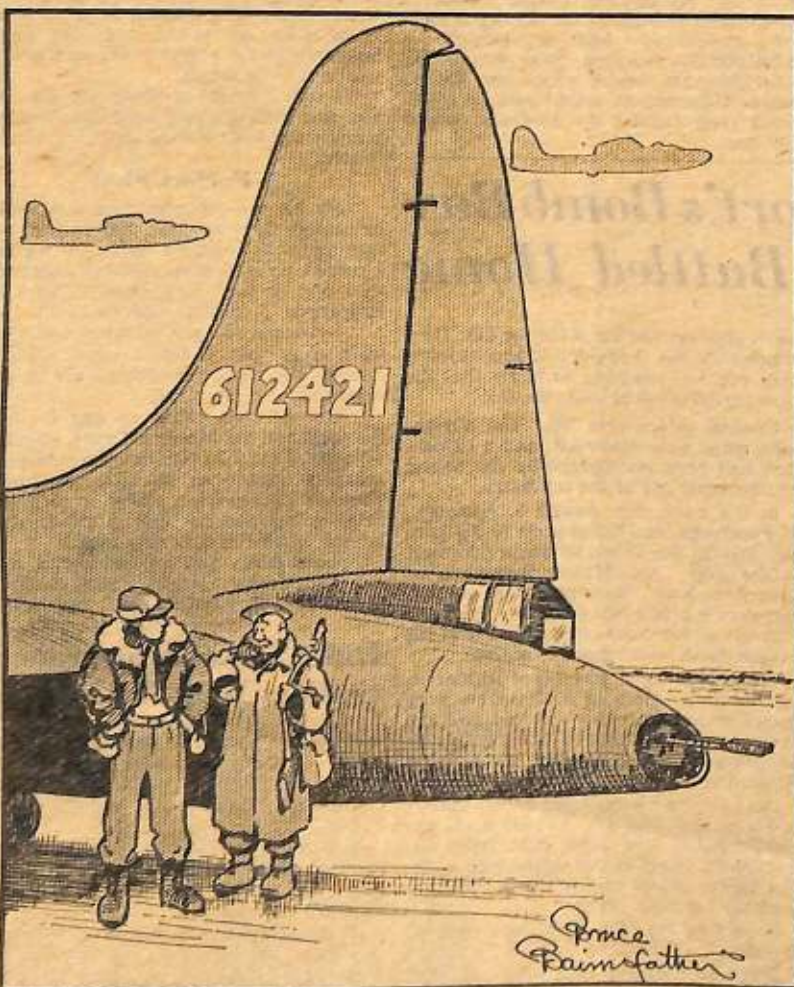
Help Flight Surgeon

They make the flight surgeon's job easier. They can help to alleviate the shock that is dangerous when a man is wounded. They keep the wounded warm, apply tourniquets, splints, or give stimulants if necessary. And yet with all their knowledge of medicine they are primarily gunners or radio men or engineers.

Regardless of enemy attacks, high altitudes alone present a problem to the flight surgeon. Long flights above 25,000 feet are apt to provoke the same reaction in the flier that extreme depth does in a diver. Fliers also get the "bends," despite the use of oxygen masks. Whereas the diver gets them on the way up, the flier gets them coming down.

They're a hard-working lot, the flight surgeons. They come from every part of the U.S.A. There's Maj. Wilmer H. Paine, of Charlottesville, Va., and his assistant, also a Southerner, Capt. David W. Kennedy, of Shreveport, La. There's Maj. Abraham Black, of Wood Haven, L.I., and Capt. B. P. Lelich, of Highland Park, Mich. Working together at a heavy bomber station "somewhere in England" are Capt. J. C. Walker, of Savannah, Tenn., and Capt. I. M. Campbell, of Mogadore, Ohio. And these are only a few.

Like the fliers themselves, they are only the vanguard of the aerial armadas that must be assembled before the fortress of Europe can be successfully assaulted. They are the pioneers in a new and fascinating branch of medicine.



Prince Rainfather

"What! A Fortress does Lille and back in four hours! Blimey! It took me four years to do it one way, last time we 'ad this row."



ARMY POETS Colonel Raff When this bloody war is over an' the boys are all back home They will tell you of a soldier an' a man, An' although he's good at fightin' an' I'm not so good recitin', This is how he took an African airdrome. He's a Colonel in the army an' he earns his bloody pay. He commands a bloomin' paratroop brigade; So if you'll gather nearer, you can hear my story clearer As I tell you what he did that certain day. He had flown a thousand miles with his boys to strike the foe When the pilot gave a signal pointing down. An' I thought I heard him prayin' just 'fore I heard him sayin' "Get ready men . . . I'll meet you down below." Then he tumbled out in space in a graceful sort o' way. An' I saw his "chute" come open with a jerk. The sight gave me a feelin' as I followed, senses reelin' That he was made of more than common clay. Then I floated down quite quickly on to very hostile ground To begin the operation near Oran. I could see there was no shirkin'; that all the lads were workin' Under orders from our Colonel near a mound. Every man moved with precision through a flyin' hail of lead For we knew we couldn't let the Colonel down. An' altho' we heard some dammin' of guns too hot an' jammin', We kept movin' an' we always roved ahead. But no matter where we scrambled on our battlefield of sand There was always Colonel Raff to lead the way; When goin' was the toughest, he was where they played it roughest For the courage of him, pal, was simply grand. So now you know the story . . . of a soldier an' a man, A leader who I'm proud to say I've known. For he really stood the gaff, paratrooper, Colonel Raff, When he led us all through Hell near old Oran. E. M. L.

Pro Boxers Mix It for First Time on Tonight's Card

St. Johns May Stop Senesky In Garden Tilt

Game Will Pit Two Great Centers as Redmen Rely on Boycoff

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 8—George "Doc" Senesky, sensational St. Josephs College center, meets somebody his size tonight when St. Josephs and red-hot St. Johns meet in Madison Square Garden. Senesky, six feet one and one-half inches 167 pounds of uncanny basketball accuracy, is the most discussed Eastern hoopster. Against Newark University last week he tallied 44 points. He has netted 22 points per game against the toughest opposition St. Josephs has faced, including Kansas, Oklahoma Aggies and West Texas State. Gum Miller, West Texas coach, rates him "one of the greatest players I've seen since Hank Luisetti of Stanford."

Senesky better be good. Once-beaten St. Johns, one of the nation's best, has a famous center itself in Harry Boycoff, and is noted for not respecting big reputations among the opposition.

Cavaliers Stop Yellowjackets

SOS HEADQUARTERS, Feb. 8—In a tense game interrupted by a near-fracas between the players, the Cavalry Cavaliers eliminated the Headquarters Yellowjackets in the Special Service basketball tournament here, 46—28. Teams remaining in the tournament besides the Cavaliers are the Aces, Coffee Coolers and the AGs.

The score is not an accurate yardstick of the game, which was closely fought. Just before half-time, with the score 22—13, the taut spirit of the quintets overflowed into a difference between the players, who were straining hard to win. But they soon calmed down to continue the game.

The forte of the Cavaliers, especially of right scorer Cpl. Neil O'Connell, of Jersey City, N.J., who rang up 17 points, was the long shot from the center of the court. A flurry of them in the third quarter put the Cavaliers far ahead. Star performers for the Yellowjackets were 1st Lts. Sveto Krmar, of Milwaukee, and Morris Bryan, of Jefferson, Ga.

The box score:

Cavaliers		Yellowjackets	
G	Pt	G	Pt
Jones, lf	3	Pearson, rf	3
O'Connell, rf	17	Zartarian, lf	1
Wilbert, c	4	Hill, c	1
Meyer, lg	1	Bryan, rg	4
Johnson, rg	6	Krcmar, lg	2
Luppold, c	0	Harris, rg	0
Totals	21	Totals	11

Niagara Five Topples Undefeated NYU

BUFFALO, Feb. 8—The slick hoopsters of Niagara toppled unbeaten New York University, 56—48, here last night with a brilliant first half spurt.

Within seven minutes Niagara netted 19 consecutive points to gain a startling 34—14 advantage at the intermission. The highly touted Violets rallied gamely in the second half, but the damage was past repair.

Spontak Scores Semi-final Kayo

Welterweight Gains Finals; Boose Scores Kayo In First Round

DIVISION BASE, England, Feb. 8—Cpl. George Spontak continued on his winning ways for the senior welterweight title of the Artillery boxing tournament, gaining his way into the finals with a technical knockout over Pfc Raymond Sparks, of Norfolk, Va.

Spontak, a Pittsburgh boy, opened a furious attack with blows to Sparks' face and midsection, sending Sparks through the ropes in the first stanza for the count of three. Sparks came back and put up a good offensive, continuing it in the second round when he sent Spontak through the ropes for a one count.

Spontak had the better stamina in the last round and after smashing Sparks with hard hooks to the face, the referee stopped the bout. The fastest fight of the evening came in the first round of the event between Cpl. Hugh Babb, of Norfolk, Va., and Pfc Francis Boose, of Westminster, Md., in which Boose let loose a pile-driving left to Babb's stomach. Babb curled up and crumbled to the floor.

One other technical kayo features the 14 events. The results of the semi-finals are as follows:

- 127-pound class—Cpl. George Whitlock, Atlanta, Ga., outpointed Pfc Samuel Castle, Paintsville, Ky.; Pfc Ernest Jackson, Norfolk, Va., outpointed Cpl. Al Mister, Baltimore, Md.
- 135-pound class—Pvt. William Stron, Norfolk, Va., named a draw with Pfc George Borelli, Bristol, Pa.; Sgt. Al Ruszowski, Pittsburgh, Pa., outpointed Pvt. Thomas Ciaverelli, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 145-pound class—Cpl. Henry Mayer, Richmond, Va., outpointed Pfc Frank Brodham, Fredericksburg, Va.; Pfc Louis Gendel, Miami, Va., outpointed Cpl. John Hillman, Norfolk, Va.
- 155-pound class—Pfc Lester Bayne, Baltimore, Md., outpointed Pvt. William Myers, Sumner, Pa.; Cpl. George Spontak, Pittsburgh, Va., scored a TKO over Pfc Raymond Sparks, Norfolk, Va., in 1 min. 30 seconds of the third round.
- 165-pound class—Pfc Francis Boose, Westminster, Md., scored a knockout over Cpl. Hugh Babb, Norfolk, Va., in 36 seconds of the first round; Pfc Peter Wilt, Pittsburgh, Pa., outpointed Sgt. Fred Buyna, Richmond, Va.
- 175-pound class—Sgt. William Hoeding, Baltimore, Md., scored a TKO over Pfc John Chapsack, Wilkes Barre, Pa., in 1 min. 46 seconds of the third round; Pfc Robert Kelly, Norfolk, Va., scored a TKO over Sgt. Lefty Schmidt, Baltimore, in 1 min. 56 seconds of the first round.
- Heavyweight class—Cpl. Robert McDonald, St. Louis, Mo., outpointed T/5 John Imes, Frossberg, Md.; Pfc John Barnette, Richmond, Va., outpointed Sgt. Mike Kaminskas, Philadelphia, Pa.

Noted Sportsmen Get Navy Jobs



Keystone Photo
Lt. George Earnshaw (left), who helped the Philadelphia Athletics win three straight pennants (1929-30-31), and Lt. Cmdr. Eddie Mahan, Harvard's greatest football player of all time, are pictured as officers of the day at the main station of the U.S. Naval Air Station at Jacksonville, Fla.

Jack-Zivic Debate Goes On As Scribes Join the Party

NEW YORK, Feb. 8—Neither the fans nor the sports writers will cease arguing about Friday night's tumultuous Beau Jack-Fritzis Zivic fight, in which a low blow by Zivic in the eighth round swung the disputed decision to Jack. Here is what some of the noted sports writers are saying:

Joe Williams of the New York World-Telegram—"Zivic, who has never been the most meticulous sportsman in the ring, had been boxing Jack low all night. But in the eighth round he landed the best punch of the fight—a belly-whopping, back-bending, breath-taking wallop to the midriff that was as fair as fair could be. We were sitting right under the action at the time, looking right at it. But it was this very blow that Referee Young Otto called foul. Beau Jack won principally because of his right hand. It was his best punch—the only really authentic punch he has is a right uppercut, but he also belabored the veteran brutally with rights to the kidneys, raising angry red welts. This is a sloppy punch, but Zivic was unable to devise a defense against it."

Jerry Mitchell of the New York Post—"Hold those pretty paragraphs appraising Beau Jack as a carbon copy Henry Armstrong. Beau wasn't even a good imitation of the original last night. No opponent can make a fellow look as bad winning as Zivic. He tied up Jack, who did all the forcing, like a Christmas package. Had there been more speed in Fritzie's legs, he might have upset Jack. Or he might have if he had started hitting earlier in each round instead of saving the spurt in each round until the clock showed 30 seconds left."

Wilbur Wood, New York Sun sports editor—"It was a case of quantity overcoming quality. Zivic scored more clean, hard shots, but usually was too busy staving off blows himself. Judging from the terrific demonstration when the referee took the eighth from Zivic on an alleged low blow, nobody but the referee saw the foul."

Bill Corum of the New York Journal-American—"Zivic hit Jack a palpable low blow in the eighth. I plainly saw it. But don't let anybody tell you that Jack was not guilty of violating, too. Jack likes it rough. What the crowd resented was Zivic being finally penalized while Jack wasn't."

Daughter to Mrs. Joe Louis
CHICAGO, Feb. 8—A baby girl has been born to the wife of Sgt. Joe Louis. Louis is stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Officers Seek Cage Games
An officers' basketball team is seeking games in and around the London area. The quintet is composed of officers who have played on various college teams. Any teams wishing to play should write the Sports Editor, Stars and Stripes, Printing House Sq., London, E.C.4.

Middleweights In Feature Bout; Start at 7.30

Knockout Specialists Meet; Two Eighth Air Force Men in Show

By Mark E. Senigo
Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

Professional face pushers are scheduled to fight for the first time on the Stars and Stripes boxing card at the American Red Cross Rainbow Corner tonight. They are two middleweights, Pvt. Johnny Gardea, of Los Angeles, 165, and Sgt. Charles Sanza, of Philadelphia, 160.

Gardea fought as an amateur for two years, then turned professional, winning nine out of ten fights. Slated to appear on the program three weeks ago, he was unable to show up because of military duties. Sanza did most of his fighting around Philadelphia and has a record comparable to Gardea's.

Two amateur kayo specialists will be out for the kill in another middleweight contest. Last week, Cpl. Glen McCormick, of Richmond, Mo., 160, scored a technical knockout in the second round over Pvt. Joe Gnoiti. McCormick will go in against Pfc Fred Plude of Scranton, Pa., 167. Plude was a member of the American team which last week defeated a British Army team at Liverpool. Plude scored a knockout in the third round of his bout.

Two Golden Gloves

Pfc Edward LaBorde, of Gretna, La., 114, last week took a well-worn decision from Pvt. Toni Deri. This week he will meet Cpl. Robert Barbieri, of Philadelphia, 112. Barbieri, an Engineer, has had eight fights as an amateur. He was also a member of the boxing team at Langley Field.

The only man to lose at the Liverpool show, Pvt. Charles Abbodanzer, of Millford, Mass., 135, will have his hands full with a Texan, T/Sgt. Frank Mendoza, of Larodo, Texas. Both boys are experienced amateurs, Abbodanzer with 12 fights and Mendoza with 20.

One of the two Eighth Air Force fighters on the program will go up against a tough Golden Glover. Pvt. Kenneth Taylor, of Lexington, South Carolina, 143, attached to a repair squadron, although he has had a number of fights, may have trouble with Pvt. Rand Daviss, of Grand Rapids, Mich., 140. Daviss, an Engineer, reached the semi-finals of the Grand Rapids Golden Gloves.

'Murder by Hand'

Another Glover, a semi-finalist in the New York City contests in 1938-39, is on the card. He is Pvt. Willie Mariner, of New York, 150, attached to a Special Service outfit. Mariner meets S/Sgt. John H. Wooten, of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Wooten, from a Coast Artillery A.A. unit, has had 16 scraps as an amateur.

"Murder by Hand" is the title of the last act on the bill—a demonstration of the finer art of mayhem as practised by the British Commandos. Star performer in this gentle exhibition will be Lt. Mickey Wood, Commando trainer in the British Army.

The starting time for the first fight has been moved ahead a half-hour from previous weeks because of the increase in the number of bouts. The first bout will start at 7.30 PM.

Officials for the bouts will be: Maj. Richards Vidmer, referee; Col. Theodore Arter, timekeeper; Lt. Herbert "Baby" Stribling and Capt. Edward Corcoran, judges; Capt. Cox, attending physician.

Deal Sending Dahlgren To Minors is Cancelled

NEW YORK, Feb. 8—The Brooklyn Dodgers certainly are having their own sweet troubles. First they couldn't get Steve Mesner from the Reds—and now Commissioner Kenesaw M. Landis has cancelled the deal sending Babe Dahlgren to Indianapolis for Pitcher Earl Reid and Joe Bestudt, third baseman.

Dahlgren petitioned Landis that he did not think it fair he should be shipped to the minors, especially in view of the player shortage. Dodger President Branch Rickey is going to mail Dahlgren a contract and ask him to report to Bear Mountain for Spring training.

NEWS FROM HOME

New Training in Map Reading, Camouflage for Engineers

FORT BELVOIR, Va., Feb. 8—Training in new methods of mine detecting, visual map reading, camouflage and bridge building have been added to the usual construction-destruction work of the Army engineers at this training center.

In the camouflage section, the artists work with detailed scale models of terrain in the Solomons and North Africa and devise new methods which are taught to specialist accompanying combat troops to these areas.

Synthetic rubber pontoons are being used to displace aluminum boats formerly needed for pontoon bridges. The aluminum supports still are needed for very heavy loads but the rubber boats can support 12 tons.

Loose Talk

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 8 (AP)—Loose talk caused the torpedoing of a United Nations' cargo vessel in the Atlantic, Chief Steward James Ritchie, of Philadelphia, said in recounting his ordeal of 31 days at sea in an open lifeboat with 19 other survivors and a dog.

Ritchie said that No. 2 lifeboat, which was picked up after 22 days at sea, was hailed by a submarine on the 22nd day. The Nazi captain asked the emaciated survivors how long they had been at sea. "Mein gott, twenty-two tag," exclaimed the captain, and when told the name of the vessel by the officer, he promptly told him what port it sailed from, where it was going and what its cargo was. "That is proof that somebody blabbed and the Nazis were placed on our trail," said Ritchie.

Golden Year for Fishermen

GLOUCESTER, Mass., Feb. 8 (UP)—Nine fishermen have earned the largest salaries ever earned by fishermen in Gloucester's 300 years' existence. Each fisherman earned \$7,728 during the last year—an average of \$144 a week—and, in addition, had a 15-week holiday. A meat shortage was the cause. The

men could have earned more money if their ship had not been in a collision, laying them off for 15 weeks.

Fewer Planes Carry More

NEW YORK, Feb. 8—The magazine "Business Week" reports that domestic airlines in the first full year of the war had doubled their air express volume and increased passenger traffic 14 per cent, despite the fact only half the former number of planes were flying. The air lines have reduced non-essential routes, have standardized equipment and have introduced efficient methods of maintenance and servicing to keep planes working longer, the magazine said.

Can't Quit War Job

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8—Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Commission chairman, issued a directive creating priorities on labor in 32 designated areas, virtually freezing essential war workers. The order, effective "as soon as practicable," prevents workers in designated areas leaving essential for non-essential work.

LIZABETH

PRISON GATES OPEN FOR T.T. WOLFNAGEL.

T.T. WOLFNAGEL, WORLD'S GREATEST PUBLICITY MAN, WHOSE LAST AND MOST SENSATIONAL STUNT EARNED HIM THE PLAUDITS OF MILLIONS, AND A TEN-YEAR STRETCH AT THE STATE PENITENTIARY, WILL BE RELEASED TODAY, AFTER HAVING SERVED HIS FULL SENTENCE.

O'DROOLIHAN!! IT WAS FINE OF YOU TO REMEMBER ME!! LAST TIME I SAW YOU, TEN YEARS AGO YOU WERE MANAGING THAT BROKEN-DOWN GLAMOUR GIRL, LORNA GOOM. SHE'S DIED OF OLD AGE, I SUPPOSE!!

NO SUCH LUCK!! I'M MANAGING HER—AND SHE STILL THINKS SHE'S A GLAMOUR GIRL!!

OLD PAL, CAN YOU FIGURE OUT A PUBLICITY STUNT THAT'LL MAKE THAT HUNK OF EARLY AMERICANA A SENSATION AGAIN?

HM—HM— FOR 10 YEARS IN THERE, I SPENT MY EVENINGS WORKING OUT A MASTERPIECE—THE GREATEST, MOST DANGEROUS PUBLICITY STUNT OF ALL TIME!!

IT'LL MAKE A SENSATION OUT OF ANYONE— BUT IT'LL UNDOUBTEDLY SEND ME TO THE CHAIR! STILL—I COULDN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF, IF I DIDN'T TRY IT!!

LET'S GO!!

12 Fighters Blast 30 Nazis, Get 6, Drive Off Rest

Yank Forces in Tunisia Saved by Airmen's Surprise Attack

ADVANCED U.S. AIR BASE, Tunisia, Feb. 6 (delayed) (AP)—The leader of an American squadron of 12 fighter planes on a reconnaissance flight described today how they surprised 30 German planes about to bomb American tanks and shot down six, forcing the rest to abandon the mission and flee for home.

Encountered Feb. 1 in skies above Sened, the squadron saved American ground forces from being bombed by one of the heaviest concentrations of enemy planes in the Tunisian campaign.

"We caught them completely by surprise," said Maj. Mark E. Hubbard, St. Paul, Minn., who bagged one Stuka himself.

"Although we came in below them they didn't see us until they were about to attack our tanks and other ground forces."

"There were 24 Stukas and six Messerschmitts and Focke-Wulfes in the escort. Five of the Stukas dropped bombs as we hit them. We were within 500 feet. Others jettisoned their bombs and ran.

Nazis Scattered

"Their bombers scattered like lucks do when you throw rocks at them in a pond. Our boys had targets to burn and fired at everything they saw.

"Final outcome was when we shot down six planes of which one was a Focke-Wulf. Others were Stukas. We also damaged several others, how extensively we can't say, of course.

"Stukas really had been giving our boys on ground hell and they sure were pleased when we broke up the German formation over their heads. None of the bombs dropped did any damage.

"Our losses only were four airplanes and one pilot, but we have reason to believe he is safe."

The pilot who shot down two Stukas was Capt. John L. Bradley, Shreveport, La., who parachuted to safety after his plane was damaged by anti-aircraft fire.

All Took Crack At One

Lt. George W. Nightingale, East Orange, N.J., accounted for a Focke-Wulf. The sixth plane knocked down was hit by so many fliers that credit for it went to the entire squadron.

Safe belly landings in damaged planes were made by Lt. James H. Raddin, Hattiesburg, Miss., and Lt. Frederick W. Mayo Jr., Meridian, Miss.

Among other fliers who participated in the action were Lt. Harry R. Haines, Sacramento, Cal.; Lt. Carl L. Beggs, Christopher, Ill.; Lt. Charles G. L. Cottrell, Red Bank, N.J.; Lt. Edward J. Tobin, Syracuse, N.Y., and Lt. Francis J. Noonan, Altoona, Pa.

Gunner Gable



Associated Press Photo

With a belt of 50-caliber machine-gun bullets on his shoulder, 1st Lt. Clark Gable, air gunner, Army Air Force, pauses on his way to gunnery practice at a Florida air station. (That mustache is only six months old. He lost his first one when he joined the Army in August, 1942.)

Allied Bombers Blast Jap Bases

Patrols Bag 60 Japanese In Northern Guinea, Attack Lae Airport

ALLIED HQ, Australia, Feb. 8 (UP)—Another 39 Japanese dead have been counted after skirmishes with Allied patrols in the Wau-Mubo area of New Guinea, and a further 21 stragglers have been killed near Pampus, northwest of Gona.

The Allied air offensive against enemy bases north of Australia continues. Today's communique reports attack from New Britain on the east to Celebes on the west.

At Lae, American bombers blasted the airport and Allied long-range fighters thoroughly strafed the area, starting fires and damaging buildings.

Heavy air units machine-gunned two enemy barges filled with troops near New Britain's Riebeck Bay, causing substantial casualties. Both barges were forced to beach and one was set on fire.

At Cape Gloucester, heavy bombers attacked the airport, and off Dutch New Guinea, heavy units bombed and strafed the enemy-occupied towns of Kaukenau and Timika. Medium bombers strafed and damaged two enemy luggers near Boeton and Wangiwangi islands, in the Celebes.

Liberators Attack Rangoon

For the second time in three days Liberator bombers have carried out a heavy attack on Rangoon, and 30 tons of bombs were dropped on the target. This follows the heavy raid on Saturday, when many 1,000-pound bombs were dropped on the town.

Meanwhile, B-24s, with a fighter escort, carried out a sweep and attacked the Jap-occupied village east of the Kaldan River. Another force of B-24s destroyed some Jap motor transport near Tangup Pass.

Mostyn Club Lecture

Francis Bauer Czarnomski will speak on the position of Poland Friday at the American Red Cross Mostyn club.

Former Boy Scout Leaders In Forces to Meet Tomorrow

Former Boy Scout leaders now in Britain will meet at the Mostyn Club, London, at 7 PM tomorrow for a dinner celebrating National Boy Scout Week, now being observed in the States.

S/Sgt. Richard S. Griffith, of Norfolk, Va., a scoutmaster for 16 years, who has visited more than 50 English scout troops since coming overseas, is organizer of Wednesday's get-together. He hopes, as a result of the meeting, to start an informal "acquaintance club" among

8th Army Takes Border Village; Mareth Line Hit

Italians Reported Holding While Rommel Flees To Gabes

Rommel's Mareth Line suffered from surprise blows from the RAF on Sunday, Allied Force Headquarters in North Africa reported yesterday.

At the same time the Eighth Army occupied Plisida, last village in Tripolitania before the Tunisian border, about 12 miles away. Advancing west of the village, advance forces met opposition from enemy rearwards, but no major engagements were reported.

Morocco radio said advance elements of the Eighth Army had penetrated deep into Tunisia, but there was no confirmation of this in the Cairo communique.

Rommel was reported in dispatches reaching London to have left Italian troops in the Mareth Line while he pushed north to the vicinity of Gabes. There were indications, observers said, that the Afrika Korps still was a formidable force, despite its defeat by the Eighth Army, having received tanks from von Arnim's supply stores in North Africa.

Germans Have Advantage

On the Tunisian western flank, the British consolidated their positions near Djebel Mansour, the hill which the Germans recaptured late last week.

Rains which turned Tunisian plateau battlegrounds to mud forced another lull in the African war, and some military observers believe that crucial engagements might be delayed.

Germans at virtually every point on the west front control mountain heights dominating passes which the British and Americans must regain before they can strike seaward.

Lorient Struck In Heaviest Raid

Lorient, Nazi U-boat base on the western coast of France, has received its worst battering of the war.

The Bay of Biscay port was blasted Sunday night by RAF bombers in what the Air Ministry described as "the heaviest attack yet made on this important submarine base."

Already bombed six previous times this year, Lorient, which received a shattering blow last month in a daylight raid by American bombers of the Eighth Air Force, suffered "great destruction," according to preliminary reports from the Sunday mission.

At the same time, objectives in the Ruhr were bombed by the RAF, which reported seven planes lost in the two operations. Yesterday afternoon Allied fighters were out on sweeps against Nazi targets across the Channel.

Last night enemy bombers were over the south coast of England, and one was shot down.

Rainbow Club Program Features Juke Box Dance

The American Red Cross Rainbow Corner will stage a "juke box jamboree" with informal dancing from 3 to 5.30 PM today.

Wednesday at 7.45 PM there is a Sports Quiz with soldiers trying to stump the experts, followed by a cabaret show, "Stars in Battledress," at 8.30 PM.

Are You from McKeesport?

Anybody from McKeesport, Pa.? If so, you're needed to broadcast on a special radio program this week. Write or telephone The Stars and Stripes, Printing House Square, London, E.C.4. Phone, Central 2000.

'Derry Naval Base Commemoration



Topical Press Photo

Capt. Van Leer Kirkman, commandant of the U.S. Naval Base at Londonderry, shakes hands with Commodore Ross Stewart, R.N., after the commodore had unveiled a bronze plaque in joint U.S.-British celebration of the commissioning of the base a year ago. The inscription on the plaque says: "U.S. Naval Operating Base, Londonderry, Northern Ireland, Commissioned February 5, 1942. Captain William J. Larsen, Commandant."

News Men With 8th Air Force Finish Bombing Raids Course

Eight American newspapermen, anticipating the increased importance that England-based bombers will play in the process of softening Germany for invasion, have completed an orientation course that makes them qualified to accompany USAAF bombing planes on operational missions over enemy territory.

Referred to as "The Writing 69th" by Air Force officials, the group will make its headquarters near Eighth Air Force Command and will be sent from there to bomber stations to accompany operations.

The correspondents, who represent the major news-gathering agencies in the United States, The Stars and Stripes and Yank, took an intensive five-day course at an Eighth Air Force field which is used as a training and "sharpening" field for combat crews who arrive a little rusty from the States.

Although correspondents have been following the army into all fronts, the special classes arranged by Maj. John Redding, Eighth Air Force Public Relations Officer, represent the first time that newspaper men have been specially trained, under army supervision, to accompany the fighting forces into combat.

The course, designed specially for the news men, included instruction in the use of oxygen and in first aid, and several classes to familiarize them with the types of planes, Allied and Axis, that they are apt to see on raids. The procedure for "ditching" was explained in the event the plane they fly in is forced down in the Channel.

The men attended classes from 8.30 AM until 10.0 PM, and passed written tests on the courses of instruction.

As civilian non-combatants the correspondents will be unarmed, although they will wear the uniform of an officer in the United States Army.

The correspondents at the school were Gladwin Hill, Associated Press; Walter Cronkite, United Press; William W. Wade, International News Service; Robert P. Post, New York Times; Homer W. Bigart, New York Herald Tribune; Paul Manning, Columbia Broadcasting System; Denton Scott, Yank, and Andrew A. Rooney, Stars and Stripes.

Medal of Honor for Vandergrift

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AP)—President Roosevelt has presented the Congressional Medal of Honor to Maj. Gen. Alexander Vandergrift of the Marines for "an outstanding and heroic accomplishment" under adverse conditions against the Japs in the Solomons.

Milestone Club Classes

Free Spanish classes will be held tomorrow night at the American Red Cross Milestone Club. Thursday night there will be free movies, "Holiday Inn," starring Bing Crosby, and selected shorts, "Quiz Kids Number 2" and "Polo Champs."

Help Wanted Department

This department has been asked by V. Chaney, Canadian Army, England, to help find his overcoat. It was accidentally exchanged with an American coat at the York Minster Tavern, Piccadilly, recently. Chaney's coat bears the number R-9337.

by Chic Young

Blondie

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



Veteran Medic Unit Celebrates

BELFAST, Feb. 8—Enlisted personnel of a veteran hospital unit celebrated their first anniversary overseas at a party at the Red Cross club here. The hospital unit was the first medical group to sail for foreign service in World War II.

Entertainment featured a floor show starring select Belfast talent and a song trio, "Three Yanks in Ireland," 1st Lt. Tony J. Walk, Des Moines, Iowa; M/Sgt. Ralph Portnov, Indianapolis, Ind., and Cpl. Haskell Wolf, New York.

Sgt. John R. Kagel, of South Bend, Ind., was master of ceremonies.

The committee in charge: 1st Sgt. Ray C. Benton, Chidester, Ark.; T/Sgt. John N. Ruth, Pittsburgh; Sgt. Kagel, Sgt. Clarence A. Clawson, Wilton Junction, Iowa; Sgt. Marvin E. Farrell, Fort Dodge, Iowa, and Sgt. Harry L. Pierce, Davenport, Iowa.

S/Sgt. Jimmy Schwabl, of Buffalo, N.Y., was in charge of makeup. An air force band played for the dance.

Japs Use Dummy Guns

CHUNGKING, Feb. 8 (AP)—A Chinese Army spokesman said that many Japanese ships in the Yangtze River bore dummy instead of real guns. The Japanese had launched a fresh drive for scrap metal in China, the spokesman said, adding that in Shanghai barbed-wire entanglements had been replaced by bamboo obstructions.

Adm. Stark

(Continued from page 1)

has commanded the heavy cruiser Quincy, was for 18 months Naval Aide to President Roosevelt. He has served on the staff of the Navy War College.

Rear Adm. Kirk is the only United States naval officer to serve two terms as naval attache at London. He was here once in 1939 and 1940 as naval attache and naval attache for air, and after a tour of duty came back from Washington as naval attache and Adm. Stark's Chief of Staff.

During Adm. Stark's absence, Rear Adm. Kirk carried out the functions of the command.

Russia - - -

(Continued from page 1)

in this area that he is able to hit from many directions with equal force.

Slightly to the northwest of Kramatorskaya the Red Army put up a solid wall of defense round the four villages of Grushevaka, Propopovka, Chervony and Petrovskaya.

In the Ukraine, north of the Donbas, the Russians strengthened the whole western front by retaking Savintsy, a good-sized railway town 31 miles southwest of Kupiansk.

Further north, it may be assumed that the Germans surrounded southwest of Voronezh have been liquidated or at least crushed virtually to the point of extinction. Latest reports said that the ring around the Germans was small, and that those who were not being mopped up were surrendering in droves.

In that area, the Russians began to interrupt communications between Khar'kov and Kursk with the capture of Gotschevo, one of the two railways connecting the cities. The big junction of Belgorod is threatened.

The Russians thus have a front 250 miles long running north and south to the east of Khar'kov and Kursk. Communications between the German-held areas from the Donbas to the Black Sea earth lands north of Kursk are now virtually useless to the invaders in the dangers and confusion which the Soviet thrusts have created.