

# Reds Seize Kerch in New 3-Way Drive Into Crimea



## THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations



Vol. 4 No. 137

New York, N.Y.—London, England

Wednesday, April 12, 1944

# Pre-Invasion Air Blows Pass 96 Hours

## Soviets Gain In Passes of Carpathians

### Thrust Ahead in Rumania; Sevastopol Is the Goal in Latest Stab in South

Russia's long-awaited offensive to sweep the Crimea clear of Nazis became a swift three-way thrust for Sevastopol yesterday as Gen. Andrei Yeremenko's coastal army overwhelmed the German defense base of Kerch on the east coast and drove 19 miles beyond, while two other columns striking from the north penetrated 35 miles into the peninsula and seized the important rail junction of Jankoy pointing to Sevastopol.

Two orders of the day from Marshal Stalin, issued little more than an hour apart, announced the two captures last night even as other Soviet armies struck new blows southward through Rumania toward the mouth of the Danube and westward through the lower Carpathians toward Hungary.

Stalin's first order announced that Gen. Feodor Tolbukhin's Fourth Ukrainian Army group had broken through enemy defenses on the Perekop Isthmus, captured the town of Armyansk, five miles south of Perekop, and advanced 13 miles to the Ishun hills, last natural defense line before the northern Crimea plain.

### Took Perekop Last November

It was almost the first mention of the Fourth Army group since it took Perekop at the Crimea's northern gateway Nov. 1 and went on to the Dnieper's mouth.

Tolbukhin's left wing, also opening its attack four days ago, forced the shallow Sivash channel separating the Crimea



Map by The Times

from the mainland east of the isthmus, pushed ahead 35 miles in four days' fighting and occupied Jankoy, from which an almost straight rail line runs to Sevastopol 80 miles away.

The second order announced that Yeremenko's independent army "broke the heavily fortified defenses on the Kerch peninsula," captured the town of Kerch and advanced about 19 miles west. The town, an enemy stronghold, had been virtually surrounded for months, since

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## Zhukov and Chief of Staff Get Highest Soviet Honor

MOSCOW, Apr. 11—The Order of Victory, highest Soviet military honor, has been awarded Marshal Gregory Zhukov, First Ukrainian front commander, whose armies broke through to the Czechoslovak border last weekend, and to Marshal Alexander Vassilievsky, chief of the general staff.

## The War Today

**Air War**—American fighters and bombers smash Nazi targets the width of Europe, from France to the Baltic Sea, in wake of 4,000-ton night attack by RAF.

**Russia**—Kerch seized on east coast as Russians develop three-way drive for Sevastopol; Russians 35 miles into Crimea in thrust from Perekop Isthmus in north.

**Pacific**—Japs withdraw from two important bases in New Britain, prepare last stand defenses for Rabaul.

**Italy**—British troops of the Fifth Army Allied bridgehead force at Anzio and Italian troops on the main front repulse small-scale attacks.

## The Champ Makes a Fan



Joe Louis shakes hands with a taxi driver outside a Red Cross club in London.

## Louis Poses, Deposes, Spars, Sees Sights in London Debut

The Brown Bomber hit London yesterday and made almost as much of an impression as a block buster.

S/Sgt. Joseph Louis Barrow, better known as Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, met the press and public in his busy ETO introduction and was such a hit that he shared top billing with the war. One London evening paper even had a two-column cut of him and his long-time sparring partner, 1/Sgt. George Nicholson, who has survived 1,000 rounds of boxing with the champ, at the top of page one.

## Home Furloughs Sought For GIs Across 2 Years

WASHINGTON, Apr. 11—Sen. Guy M. Gillette (D-Ia.) said today he would introduce a resolution to authorize home furloughs for members of the armed forces overseas more than two years. A similar measure has been proposed by Rep. Harold C. Hagan, Minnesota Farm-Laborite.

Army officials told a Senate group last week that mass furloughs would not be possible but that leaves could be granted monthly to a small proportion of each division's strength.

## Draft of Men Past 26 Halted

### Hershey Then Lays Down Revised List of Jobs Deferees Must Hold

Special to The Stars and Stripes  
NEW YORK, Apr. 11—Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, taking steps to push along the draft of men under 26, ordered his draft boards to delay induction of men over 26 and laid down today new lists of jobs which men under 26 must hold in order to get a deferment.

Some states were ordered to halt immediately induction of older men while others, struggling to meet their quotas, were not to be affected until later. Michigan, despite the order, went ahead processing older men, anticipating a quick exhaustion of the reservoir of men under 26.

Hershey announced that only the "most highly skilled workers under the age of 25 will be deferred in the future."

He listed the following groups as eligible to retain men under 26 in their jobs: manufacturers of rubber, maritime commission, civilian workers in Army, Navy, and Air forces, war oil board, defense transport, war shipping, war communications and essential food.

**Suicide Fails, He'll Get Chair**  
BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Apr. 11—An attempt by Joseph Hockenberry to cheat the electric chair by suicide failed. He was brought into circuit court bleeding from a razor slash of the wrist and condemned to death.

Sports scribes, American and British, buried the famous Detroit Negro under a deluge of questions at the press and photographic conference and the Londoners mobbed him at every turn of an afternoon sightseeing tour.

Following the interview, Joe engaged in his first ETO exhibition, stripping to his waist and boxing two rounds with Nicholson. As an added attraction, Tommy Ireland, veteran London heavyweight who fought Primo Carnera, Mike McTigue and Bombardier Wells in his heyday, climbed into the ring and sparred two minutes with Joe to the amusement of 300 or more GIs jammed into the EM's club.

Louis's sight-seeing "workout" included autographing post notes and scraps of paper, in addition to pushing his way through mobs at the various stops, the main point of interest being Westminster Abbey.

Joe, sporting an eyebrow mustache, was accompanied by the other members of the all-Negro troupe which will tour ETO camps.

Only the comedian Sgt. Ray (Sugar) Robinson, known among sports writers as uncrowned world welterweight champion, is missing from the group which entertained 1,000,000 servicemen at 118 camps in the U.S. from August, 1943, to January, 1944.

"Sugar began complaining of headaches a few months ago," explained Capt. Fred Maly, Special Service officer from San Antonio, Tex., who is in charge of the party, "so we left him at a hospital in New York."

The fighters will remain in London for a few days, resting and preparing to make the rounds of as many Allied camps as possible during their ETO stay. Their "spam circuit" schedule has not as yet been drawn up.

## Russians Charge Nazis Used Poison Gas to Quell Guerrillas

The Germans used poison gas to quell guerrillas in Odessa before the city fell, the Russian commentator Yermashov charged in an English language broadcast from Moscow yesterday.

It was the first time in a year that Germany had been charged with using poison gas or accused of contemplating its use. An official British announcement on Apr. 21, 1943, said that "reports have been received from several sources that Hitler is making preparations to use poison gas against the Russian front."

In November, 1939, the Germans

## Streams of U.S. Ships Paste France, Reich; 4,000-Ton RAF Raid

### Forts, Libs, B26s Hit Widespread Targets; You'll Soon Fly Dawn-to-Dusk in the Invasion, Eisenhower Tells Pilots

American bombers and fighters struck their heaviest pre-invasion blows yesterday as they smashed Nazi targets the width of Europe—from France to the Baltic Sea—in the wake of a 4,000-ton night assault by the RAF.

An air fleet of nearly 2,000 U.S. warplanes thundered out from Britain just after dawn and despatched task forces through bitter opposition to half a dozen points spread across Germany. Hundreds more medium bombers and their escorts lashed at objectives in France and Belgium.

In their fourth straight day of attack and their seventh this month, USSTAF Fortresses and Liberators hit early at Oschersleben and Bernberg, in central Germany, according to an official announcement, and Nazi radio broadcasts said other formations were attacking objectives along the Baltic.

With aircraft over the Channel and North Sea almost continuously from dawn to dusk, the newest Allied air offensive passed 96 hours of sustained attack obviously designed to smash the enemy forces in the air and immobilize them on the ground.

As the air fleet went out, Gen. Eisenhower told a group of American pilots they soon would be flying from dawn to dusk in a great land-sea-air invasion of Western Europe which would crush the Germans and crush them properly.

During that period, he said, he would demand of pilots everything they had. He would drive them so hard, he added, that they would forego proper sleep and food for weeks—but they would knock out the Nazis, he declared emphatically.

While for four consecutive days the American bombers and fighters have been blasting away at the Luftwaffe's power in the air and on the ground, the RAF has been striking at the transport centers which funnel traffic to the German invasion-defense ports, and on Monday night the Lancasters and Halifaxes struck the heaviest blow of the war with approximately 4,000 tons of bombs on five railway junctions in France and Belgium.

Nine hundred bombers formed the RAF force, including Mosquitoes which went to Hannover and the Ruhr. Twenty-two aircraft were reported missing over targets which included Ghent, Tergnier, Tours, Aulnoye and Laon. Mines also were laid in enemy waters.

The RAF forces were scarcely home from their widespread raids, which heaped fire and ruin on rail centers already under attack for a month by U.S. Raiders, when the Forts and Libs started out with their escorts of P51s, P47s and P38s. Formation after formation went up from British bases and joined the great stream of warplanes heading for the Reich. As they slanted off to the east, Marauder bombers and Ninth Air Force Thunderbolts raced across the North Sea to follow up the RAF assault with blows at the railway center of Charleroi. Other B26 forces hit the Nazi airfield at Chievres, in Belgium, and military installations in northern France.

One Marauder was reported missing, but there was no official announcement up to late last night on the day's losses for the heavies and their escorts.

German radio last night claimed that more than 100 American aircraft were destroyed during the day. Unofficial indications last night were that U.S. losses, while high, would be approximately half the Nazi claims.

Of the bombers which failed to return, at least seven were reported to have made forced landings in Sweden, and four crew members parachuted from another plane, Stockholm dispatches said.

Some heavy-bomber groups came home with reports of bitter air battles as they pushed into the Reich for another sledge-

(Continued on page 4)

## GOP Victory May Imperil Peace, Truman Warns

LUBBOCK, Tex., Apr. 11—Sen. Harry S. Truman (D., Mo.) said here that a Democratic defeat this year would "hamper, delay and confuse the conduct of the war and perhaps imperil the peace."

He asked a continuation of the Democratic Administration and Congress which had been "entrusted by destiny with the nation's leadership in a time of crisis."

## BBC to Herald Invasion, Belgian People Are Told

London's Radio Belgique told the Belgian people yesterday that they would be notified of Allied landings on the continent by BBC. The broadcast warned the nation against heeding German-inspired announcements of the opening of the Second Front.

"Be more prudent than ever—not only for your own sake, but for the sake of others," the radio cautioned. "Appear in public as little as possible. A new wave of deportations is in preparation. Beware of roundups."



THE STARS AND STRIPES

Printed at The Times Publishing Company, Ltd., for U.S. Armed forces, under auspices of the Special Service Division ETOUSA.

A Lesson in German

Centuries will probably go by before Germany forgets the terrible meaning of the defeats of 1943 and 1944; but there was a time in 1941 when the Nazis and most of the German people, drunk with victories and blinded by recent successes, decided to attack the Soviet Union and declare war on the United States of America in a gamble for enormous stakes.

Geopolitics, the new science of the century, had been teaching the leaders of the German oligarchy for some years to think in terms of continents. It was not surprising, therefore, if Hitler and his gang, with western Europe and the Balkans already won, saw the Red Army beaten, Britain starved into submission, America cut off, and vast new territories falling one by one into Germany's lap.

Never would such an opportunity present itself to Germany again, thought Hitler and his people. So it was worth making a superhuman effort, putting the mightiest army in the field, and engaging in the far-flung campaign, when the stake was world domination.

There was a time when it was said the Germans were buying time with space, in Russia and in Africa. Now, to buy time they need so much, they are giving up whole armies and entire cities; even their own capital, Berlin, is being slowly hammered to bits.

Persia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, Turkey, Spain, France and many other nations have at one time or another aspired to world domination. Each nation in turn, bled white by terrible wars of aggression, changed its foreign policy and Germany is learning why.

Ploesti and Nish, recently bombed by Italian based planes, are major communications centers serving the Balkans.

Ploesti and Nish

Ploesti and Nish, recently bombed by Italian based planes, are major communications centers serving the Balkans. From Ploesti, 32 miles in a direct line north of Bucharest, the main trunk rail line from southern Germany descends to the plains of Rumania through Turm Pass.

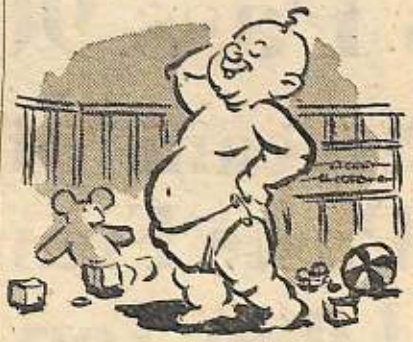
Nish, the other target, is a town of over 35,000, and lies 125 miles southeast of Belgrade. It is an important junction on the trunk line through Jugoslavia that runs from southern Germany through Budapest to Greece and the Aegean.

It takes no tactical expert to evaluate the importance of disrupting Axis rail traffic along these lines. With Allied bombers able to block these railroads at will, control of the line passes to the hands of Allied military leaders.

Hash Marks

Say, who's teaching whom the King's English, anyway? A Pfc trying to impress his newly acquired British girl friend with his mastery of the local language said, "Actually, old dear, I'd rather like to go to the flicks tonight. Does that suit you?"

"Who was the original pin-up girl?" asked an eager young GI during a Nissen-hut bull session. "That little girl of mine



in the three-cornered pants," murmured one of the old family men in the outfit as he gazed fondly at a picture on his shelf.

Captain J. M. Maynard, MC, passes on a little verse that may well be dedicated to "the Spring to come."

The Spring has sprung The sap has riz Gosh, I wonder where The flowers is.

Daffy Conversation (by a city slicker from Brooklyn): A former broker, now a Pfc by trade, slouched into the finance office to collect his dough.

How to be Happy in the ETO. Walking along a village street, a GI was stopped by two English civilians seeking



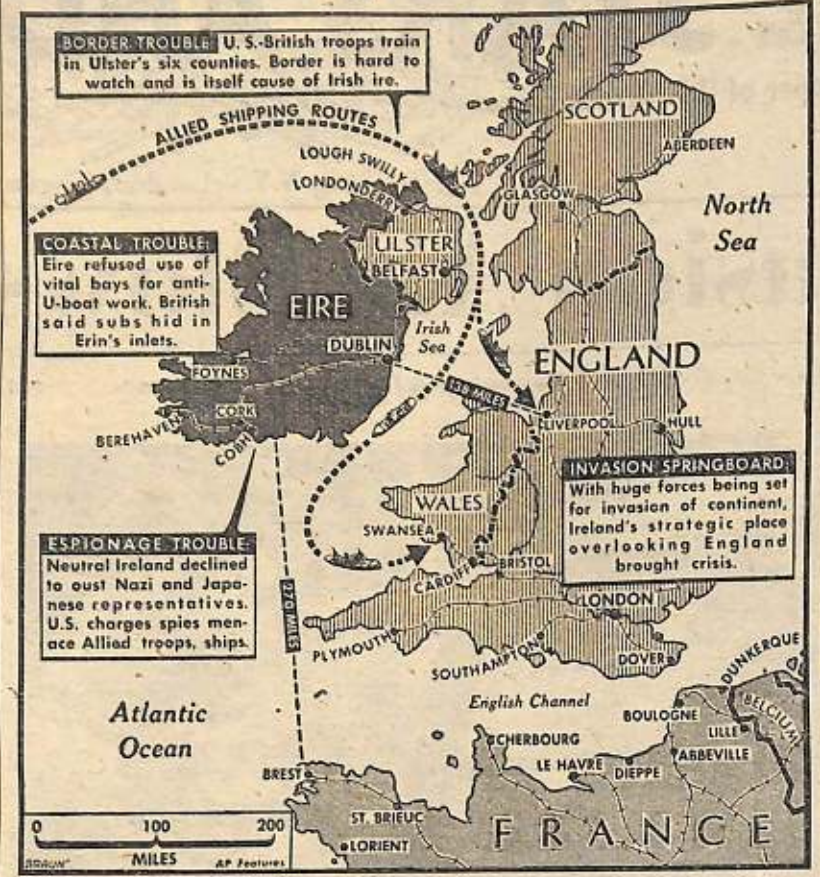
the railroad station. Quietly, painstakingly he gave them the directions. Then suddenly, as he ended his remarks, his voice rose to a frightening falsetto.

And here's a toast to those stalwarts on the ground who keep America's might on the wing: Mighty Flying Fortress, Riddled thru with flak, Mighty 'ficient ground crew Quickly got her back.



Now just a little message for the folks at home! Somethin' like, "you're quite well, and hope they are too."

Hull Warning to Neutrals Revives Question of Eire



Secretary of State Cordell Hull's warning to neutrals this week that the time has come for them "to cease aiding our enemy" has revived discussion of Eire's stubborn neutrality and the steps the Allies might take to prevent Dublin's use as an Axis listening post.

Almost a month has passed since Britain clamped down restrictions on travel across the Eire-Ulster border following Prime Minister Eamonn De Valera's rejection of the U.S. request for closing of the German and Japanese legations in the Free State.

With Undersecretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr. conferring in Britain with Prime Minister Churchill and Ambassador John G. Winant, diplomatic observers are hinting at the likely creation of a joint Anglo-American "get tough" policy for dealing with neutral countries—around the formula that nothing must be tolerated which may cost the lives of Allied fighting men.

Not the Only One

Eire is not the only neutral the Allied foreign experts have in mind; Portugal and Spain ship vital steel-hardening wolfram to the Axis, Turkey sells chrome and Sweden ball bearings and ore.

Nature separated the Emerald Isle from Great Britain by a body of water little wider than Lake Michigan. History, through eight bitter centuries, built a tradition of suspicion and ill will between the two islands.

In earlier conflicts the "Irish problem"

was made less acute for the British by Ireland's dependent status. Thus, even after 1922 when the Irish Free State was established to include all but the six northern counties of Ulster, provision was made for Great Britain to use certain Free State ports in the event of war.

But in 1938—the year of Munich—the government of Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain granted concessions to South Ireland that made Eire a sovereign state with no strings attached.

The stage was set for Irish political neutrality; but geography had not changed. De Valera's projected Shangri-La found itself in the center of a maelstrom. Periodically since the war started it has come into conflict with the Allies, because of its location on the doorstep of the British Isles.

A New Crisis

Now the approaching invasion of western Europe by Anglo-American forces based in England has precipitated a new crisis. It started when Eire rejected a U.S. request that German and Japanese "diplomats" be sent home, to help plug what the Allies are convinced is a serious espionage leak.

In answer to De Valera's refusal, the British government cut off ordinary traffic across the Irish Sea, instituted a more rigid control of the Eire-Ulster border. Economic sanctions have been proposed.

The Allies charge that lush, romantic South Ireland, with its scattered population of about 4,000,000 in an area about the size of Maine, harbors Axis spies galore. Past Dublin, on the Irish Sea, steam the convoys bringing American troops and goods to English ports, and in Dublin are headquartered the well-staffed diplomatic offices of not only Hitler's Reich but Hirohito's Japan.

Early in the war, when Great Britain was fighting for its life, there were assertions that U-boats were based in Irish coves. But then as now Eire's answer—emphatically given by Brooklyn-born Prime Minister De Valera—was that Eire had acted to prevent Axis espionage and would fight any invader.

This did not reassure the British, who in those days envisioned a German parachute army descending on Erin from the skies—their own troops pinned in Ulster. Some believed that America's entrance into the war would soften Dublin's attitude. They were wrong. De Valera protested U.S. troop landings in Ulster.

The border which separates Catholic Eire from the Protestant six counties of the north, where American and British troops have long been training, is tortuous and difficult to watch. In some places it runs down the main streets of towns. This border is a double-action goad to already-strained relations.

It cannot be completely closed or guarded to prevent possible Axis espionage directed against the safety of Allied troops. On the other hand, it irritates Eire because it cuts off an area which De Valera says belongs to his country.

This Is The Army

It is 9 AM in the mess hall of an ETO service unit. KPs are cleaning up after breakfast, cooks are busy. Two privates approach the mess sergeant, privates approach a cuppa coffee, Sarge? "How about a cuppa coffee, Sarge?" "Sure, just a minute." Finch, 23, born in Oklahoma of a Cherokee mother, educated at an Indian school and the author of the remarkable—for the Army—of the remarkable—for the Army—answer above, was manager of the Manans Restaurant in Los Angeles before induction.

First member of the U.S. armed forces to receive his American citizenship in North Ireland was Chaplain George William F. McKinney, of Marfa, Tex., who took the oath from Quincey F. Roberts, U.S. consul-general, at brief ceremonies attended by Brig. Gen. Leroy P. Collins, North Ireland Base Section commander. Attached to an infantry unit in Ulster, McKinney was born in Hamiota, Canada, in 1911. His father was a minister in North Ireland before moving to Canada in 1900. McKinney was ordained in Canada, transferred to an Episcopal church in Texas four years ago.

A GI stationed at an air replacement depot borrowed a pound from an American Red Cross girl, giving his cigarette lighter as security. Time passed—and the ARC girl loaned the lighter to another GI. Then came a letter enclosing a pound and asking that the lighter be returned. Meanwhile the second GI had been transferred to London. The ARC girl forwarded to him the letter and address of the original owner. Before the second GI could return the lighter he lost all his possessions. If the original owner of the lighter will send his address to The Stars and Stripes Help Wanted Department, the ARC girl will return his pound and try to get him a new lighter.

Add claimants as shortest GI in the ETO—T/5 Robert Moed, 22, of Brooklyn, armorer in an ordnance maintenance outfit. Moed is "exactly" four feet 11 inches, 107 pounds, wears a 5D shoe, shrinks his clothing four times before it fits properly and "has to tread water while taking a bath in these English bathtubs."

The Texans in England Club, numbering 80 officers and 110 enlisted men, will convene Apr. 21 at the Bull Hotel, Cambridge. Texans interested in forming a "Texans in England" chapter or enrolling in an existing chapter can get information from Cpl. Jay C. Stillely through Help Wanted, The Stars and Stripes.

Notes from the Air Force

A War Bond worth \$100 was the reward for 2/Lt. John E. Pugh, Eighth Air Force Mustang pilot from Brogan, Ore., for shooting down an enemy plane in Saturday's daylight raids on Germany. The bond was donated by Lt. Col. T. H. Plummer, attached to an armored unit at Camp Bowie, Tex., and father of a pilot killed in training. In a recent letter to the squadron, of which his son was a member, Col. Plummer offered the bond to the pilot who got the first German plane after receipt of the letter.

When Fortresses flew over a German town on a mission to Kiel, a 20-year-old ball turret gunner, T/Sgt. Ronald Benson, looked down and saw his "home town." He was born there, of Swedish parents, but they took him to Sweden when he was three months old and now live in Miami, Fla. Benson has missed out on two scheduled raids because of complications arising out of his citizenship, but will soon be a full-fledged U.S. citizen.

The 1,000th Eighth Air Force photo reconnaissance sortie was flown from England yesterday by 1/Lt. Robert J. Dixon, of New York. It was Dixon's 13th mission. The photo recon unit started operation from England on Mar. 28, 1943, when Col. James B. Hall flew the first U.S. camera-equipped, unarmed ship into France.

1/Lt. E. R. Bradley sends in his claim for the long-delayed-letter championship. Last week he finally received a letter mailed last Sept. 15, when he was still at Barksdale Field, La. What makes his claim different, aside from the long time involved, is that it was one he wrote himself—to a friend in the Navy who couldn't be found by the postal people.

The Liberator squadron commanded by Maj. Solomon Cutcher, of Hamburg, N.Y., has been cited by Brig. Gen. James P. Hodges, bomb division chief, for completing 25 missions in little more than two months without losing a plane or crew. The missions were to 12 targets in Germany, 11 in France and two in Holland.

S/Sgt. Stephen Z. Jones, Lib gunner from Hale, Mo., was quite a distance from the nearest racetrack Saturday, but he got a "daily double" over Germany by firing his tail guns in the general direction of a formation of 25 enemy interceptors and watched one nose down and crash into another.





BAINBRIDGE, Md., Apr. 11—Stan Spencer's four hits led the Washington Senators to a 7-4 triumph over Bainbridge Naval Training Station yesterday.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Apr. 11—Unable to get train reservations because of holiday crowds, the Pittsburgh Pirates rode from Terre Haute, Ind., to Indianapolis in a baggage car, then blanketed the Cleveland Indians, 6-0, in a seven-inning affair halted by rain.

WILMINGTON, Del., Apr. 11—The fanciest pitching performance of the day was turned in by Ken Raffensberger who held the Boston Braves to two hits in nine innings while the Philadelphia Phillies won, 3-1, here yesterday.

PLAINFIELD, N.J., Apr. 11—Yank Terry, Boston Red Sox right-hander, stopped the Newark Bears with four hits, pitching the full game as his mates thumped Newark pitchers for seven hits to win, 4-0, here yesterday.

ST. LOUIS, Apr. 11—Danny Litwhiler, hard-hitting Cardinal outfielder, has been ordered to report to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., for his physical next Tuesday, the day the major leagues open their season.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Apr. 11—The New York Yankees stopped the Giants, 5-4, here yesterday, the Yanks scoring all their runs in the first two innings off Lefty Cliff Melton.

FRENCH LICK, Ind., Apr. 11—Manager Jimmy Wilson today announced part of his Chicago Cub lineup already is definite for the opening game next Tuesday.

FREDERICK, Md., Apr. 11—Louis Norman Newsom, better known as Bobo, arrived at the Philadelphia Athletics training camp yesterday, the exact date he promised Connie Mack he would show up.

### Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, 37, Upper Brook St., London, W.1. Telephone, ET0USA, Ext. 2131. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, direct all correspondence c/o Help Wanted.

### Chicago Hockey Fans Yield Potent Arsenal

CHICAGO, Apr. 11—Warned by league officials that the Stanley Cup playoff game between the Black Hawks and Montreal Canadiens would be forfeited to the Canucks if fans threw articles on the ice apparently didn't frighten customers here Sunday night.

### Blues Capture 6 Ring Titles

### Infantry Division Boxers Also Place Nine on 12-Man Team

By Ray Lee  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer  
A FIELD FORCE HQ, Apr. 11—The unbeaten Infantry Division ring team practically dominated the 12-man squad chosen here after a three-day tourney, placing nine men on the team and capturing six of the nine Field Force boxing titles.

The divisionmen placed co-champs in three of the brackets, with Pvt. Mike Finnerty, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Pvt. Woodrow Womack, of Dalton, Ga., sharing the featherweight crown; Pvt. Mike Denski, of Philadelphia, and Pvt. Ed Ferris, of Benton Harbor, Mich., dominating the middleweight bracket, and Pvt. Irwin Moidel, of Pittsburgh, and Sgt. Bill Dirks, of Cumberland, R.I., splitting the heavyweight honors.

Pvt. Sal Scurto, Baltimore 110-pounder, suffered a cut on his forehead early in the opening frame, but outpunched Pfc Rosario Macaluso, of Brooklyn, 110, to capture the flyweight pennant for the Blues.

**Webber TKOs Grigatias**  
In keeping with the pace he set earlier in the tourney, Pvt. Don Webber, Roanoke, Va., 120-pounder, remained undefeated after two years' competition, notching a first-round TKO over Pvt. Ed Grigatias, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., one minute and 45 seconds after the opening bell. The Pennsylvania was no match for the smooth-working Virginian, who had him on the floor with a left to the body and right to the head before Referee John Renda stopped the scrap.

Pvt. Charlie Schnappauf, 140-pounder from Pringle Hill, Pa., captured the honors in the welterweight class when, after suffering a bad opening stanza, outpointed Sgt. Francis Clark, 139-pounder from Salem, N.Y.

In other title bouts:  
Pvt. Moon Mullins, Birmingham, Ala., 135, TKOed Cpl. Mickey Bishop, Charlestown, Mass., 1:45 of the second.  
Cpl. Sgt. D'Erfe, New York, 148, outpointed Pvt. Chester Marcinkiewicz, Kulpmont, Pa., 154.  
In non-title bouts:  
Finnerty outpointed Pvt. Rich Dalton, Chicago, 131.  
Ferris outpointed Pfc Charles Endlich, Canton, Ohio, 171.  
Pvt. John Higgins, Cleveland, 135, outpointed Pvt. Clarence Carlisle, Felton, Del., 139.  
S/Sgt. Gus Kolowitz, Elizabeth, N.J., 176, outpointed Pfc Tony Eades, Richmond, Va., 204.

### Baseball's Best by Decades: 1920-30

## Johnson, Grove on McKechnie Nine

### Grover Alexander Rounds Out Hill Staff

By Chip Royal  
Associated Press Sports Editor  
CINCINNATI, Apr. 11—Bill McKechnie, manager of National League champions in three cities, has a reputation with baseball men as being one of the finest judges of pitching the National game has ever known.



Bill McKechnie

Anytime the present Reds' mentor selects an All-Star team, you can bet your last cent that his pitchers are the tops. With that thought in mind, cast your glimmers on the All-Star team of the 1920-1930 era selected by McKechnie.

Bill names Walter Johnson of Washington, Grover Cleveland Alexander of the Phils, Cubs and Cards; and Lefty Grove of the Athletics as the best pitchers in the 1920 decade.

### Brown Bomber Wants Conn As First Opponent After War

By Gene Graff  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer  
The "new" Joe Louis, who smiles at the least provocation and can joke and speak in any league now with perfect ease, parried all direct questions yesterday about his post-war ring plans, but there were enough innuendos during the conversation to indicate aspirants to his world's heavyweight title will dethrone him only one way—inside the ring.

### 'Draft-Proof' Nats Told to Register—Or Head for Home

WASHINGTON, Apr. 11—Clark Griffith, who thought he could beat the manpower shortage by finding baseball talent south of the border, may lose the Latin American imports on his Washington Senators, it was learned today.

Selective Service headquarters blasted Griffith's hopes of filling key positions with draft-proof Cubans and South Americans by announcing that the foreigners must either return home or register for the draft by June 12.

Eleven of Griffith's immigrants are of draft age. Only Alejandro Carrasquel, veteran right-handed pitcher, is likely to escape the "purge," being in his 30's.

### Union to Resume Baseball, Football After Year Lapse

SCHENECTADY, N.Y., Apr. 11—Union College will resume baseball and football this year after a lapse of one year, it has been disclosed.

Al Ciampa, former Columbia athlete, has been named baseball coach, while Mel Hein, star center of the New York Giants of the National Football League for the past decade, will pilot the gridirers. Hein said practice will begin in August.

### Injured Ankle Forces Dodds Out of Competition Until May

ERIE, Pa., Apr. 11—Gil Dodds, the fleet parson who holds the world's indoor mile record of 4:06.4, has arrived here for a YMCA speaking engagement and said his injured ankle would keep him away from track until late in May.

The Boston divinity student injured his ankle in Cleveland, Mar. 24, while failing in an attempt to lower the two-mile record. His decision to rest cancels an anticipated duel with Bill Hulse, of NYU, in a special mile event during the Penn Relays Apr. 29.

Because his foot has proved unresponsive to treatment, Dodds said he will delay practice until the outdoor season is well along.

The parson took time from studying his lecture to discuss the four-minute mile, thus far having eluded the clutches of all runners. Dodds thinks the feat is possible, "but not by man alone."

"Man alone doesn't have what it takes to run a four-minute mile," Dodds said. "It will take a power greater than man to accomplish the feat. Nothing is impossible to God, of course, so perhaps we will see the four-minute mile."

Nobody volunteered to ask Dodds whether he was working for that "divine race."

### Li'l Abner



By Courtesy of United Features



### Outfield Berths Go To Ruth, Roush, Simmons

Alexander, Johnson and Grove! What a staff! But when you think of them as All-Time pitchers, you run into trouble, for old-timers like Christy Mathewson, Cy Young, Big Ed Walsh, Chief Bender, Rube Waddell, Tim Keefe and John Clarkson, to mention a few, left plenty of records to remember them by.

The same is true all through the team. Name a player over all the years for any position and, outside of the great Bambino, you can think of another one who is just as deserving.

Ruth will always have a place on any All-baseball team. He made the most of his home runs during the decade in which McKechnie selected him. Here's his record:

1920—54 (his first big year); 1921—59; 1922—35; 1923—41; 1924—46; 1925—25 (in 98 games); 1926—47; 1927—60; 1928—54; 1929—46; 1930—49; 1931—46; 1932—41. From then on the Babe's homer total dropped down. All in all, the big fellow smacked 714 round trippers and he had a lifetime batting average of .342, which is some clouting over 23 years. It's truly an all-time feat.

### Tabor Extends Winning Streak

### Notches 11th Ring Victory As Service Command Edges Composite

AN EIGHTH AF SERVICE COMMAND STATION, Apr. 11—Pvt. Gerry Pecoraro, New York featherweight representing the Service Command, broke even in two bouts here last night as his team traded blows with the Composite Command in eliminations of the Eighth Air Force boxing tourney. Service Command won, 4-3.

Pecoraro outpointed Pvt. Charles Wohlwend, of Superior, Wis., in the opener, but tired badly in his second tilt and was no match for Pvt. Jessie Puente, of Azusa, Cal. Pecoraro spurred mildly in the second round, then absorbed plenty of punishment as Puente battered him in the third.

Pvt. "King Tut" Tabor, Oakland, Cal., middleweight fighting for the Service Command, extended his ETO winning streak to 11 when he decided on Pvt. Robert Jurvis, of Kenosha, Wis.

In other bouts:  
Pvt. George Roberts, Formosa, Cal., Composite Command, 144, outpointed Pvt. Clement Marone, Cleveland, 141.  
Pvt. Harry Miller, Philadelphia, Service Command, 172, outpointed Pvt. Mitchell Ryback, Chicago, 168.  
Pfc Don Craton, Seattle, Service Command, 195, outpointed Sgt. Richard Skeen, Pottsville, Pa., 225.  
Pfc John Morealin, Los Angeles, Composite Command, 154, outpointed Pvt. Damon Cook, Amsterdam, N.Y., 155.

### Grooms' Strike Wins Pay Raise

NEW YORK, Apr. 11—Striking grooms at Jamaica race track won their fight for more money when the State Racing Commission approved a plan to boost every purse \$100, the extra C-note going to grooms who escort the horses from their barns to the paddock.

The grooms held up Saturday's card 30 minutes and changed yesterday's first race into a one-horse affair when Star of Padula, the only horse on the track, romped alone and took the \$1,800 purse as provided by racing rules.

Bobby Permame, sensational apprentice who rode 50 winners in 30 days at Tropical Park, and scored with 18 the first four days here, won one race in three rides yesterday.

### Nash Meets Bergmann Tonight

A challenge table tennis match between Pvt. Garrett Nash, of St. Louis, who recently won the South of England championship, and world champion Sgt. Richard Bergmann, of the Polish Air Force, is scheduled for 6.30 tonight at the Queensberry All-Services Club, Old Compton St., London, W.1.

By Al Capp

**APOs Wanted**  
SGT. Vincent VAN SLYKE, Chicago, Ill.; T/S James and John ROMANO, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. BACHAND, Taylor, West Warwick, R.I.; Pvt. PRATT and Sgt. Pawtucket, R.I.; Cpl. Robert PRATT and Sgt. Kenneth GIBSON, Sacramento, Cal.; Howard SCHNEIDER and Harry DIETERLE, Cedar Grove, N.J.; Sgt. Jack FRENCH, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; S/Sgt. Eugene DAW, Carlsbad, N.M.; Lt. Irving R. COOPER, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pvt. Justin T. MOSEAU, Cpl. Solomon GOLDSMITH; Pvt. HAI RHEINGOLD; Maj. William W. DAVIS, Richmond, Va.; George SAXON and Paul MACIK, Donora, Pa.; Lt. Donald STREPEY, Gales, Cal.; Pvt. Joseph ZEBBE, Cudahy, Wis.; Sgt. Robert HOLM, South Mila, Wis.; John GARDNER, Cambridge, Mass.; Frank GARDNER, Lynn, Mass.; Pfc Allen MILTON and Pvt. Ralph OLCOTT, Rochester, N.Y.

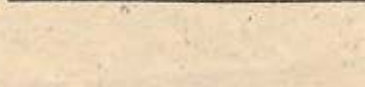
Last  
FOUNTAIN pen and pencil. Sheaffer Lifetime, with initials JEMC, in Reading, Reward. Sgt. JOHN E. McManis, 13059375.  
IDENTIFICATION bracelet, Air Forces insignia, at Oxford Circus Underground, London. Pfc Edward T. Dignan, ASN 33453068.

**Medical Evangelists**  
REUNION dinner for students of College of Medical Evangelists, announced for Thursday, Apr. 13, is postponed indefinitely. As soon as new date is fixed, a notice will appear in this column.

**College Reunion**  
A REUNION dinner for men of the University of Georgia and Georgia School of Technology will be held at the No. 3 Grosvenor Square Club, Saturday, Apr. 15, at 6.30 PM. Reservations should be sent to The Stars and Stripes College Registration Service, 37 Upper Brook St., London, W.1. No reservations accepted after today.

**Alumni Reunion**  
A REUNION dinner for doctors, nurses and dietitians of the Johns Hopkins Hospital on duty in the ETO will be held at Grosvenor House, Wednesday, May 10, at 8 PM. Send reservations to Lt. Regina B. Larrabee, c/o The Stars and Stripes College Registration Service, 37 Upper Brook St., London, W.1. No reservations accepted after Apr. 25.

**Texas Aggies**  
MUSTER of Texas Aggies will be held at No. 8 Hill St., London, Apr. 21, 5.45 to 10 PM. Refreshments and drinks included. Send reservations to "Texas Aggies Muster," c/o The Stars and Stripes College Registration Service, 37 Upper Brook St., London, W.1. No reservations accepted after Apr. 17.





# Japs Relinquish Two Positions On New Britain

## Give Up Gasmata, Cape Hoskins; Allies Now Hold Most of Isle

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Apr. 11—The Allies have gained the major portion of New Britain by virtue of the Japanese abandonment of Gasmata and Cape Hoskins, enemy air and sea bases in the isle's central area, Gen. Douglas MacArthur disclosed in his communique today.

Withdrawing to the Gazelle peninsula, on the northeastern tip of New Britain, the Japanese garrison estimated at 40,000 was reported preparing elaborate defenses to hold air-battered Rabaul against any Allied ground offensive, MacArthur's statement said.

More than 10,000 casualties, including 4,679 dead, have been inflicted on the Japs since the Allied landings on New Britain last December at Arawe, 70 miles southwest of Gasmata.

Gasmata, for months the main target of air assaults by the Fifth Air Force, was considered the Japs' most important New Britain base with the exception of Rabaul. Gasmata is located on the south-central coast of the 300-mile-long, arch-shaped island.

Fifty miles from Gasmata, on the north-central coast, lies Cape Hoskins, once the center of barge traffic from Rabaul to Jap bases in New Guinea.

Meanwhile, bombers and fighters yesterday were continuing low-level strafing attacks on Rabaul, starting fires in warehouse areas. Other planes attacked Wewak and an island near Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea.

In the Central Pacific, Adm. Chester Nimitz announced that Seventh Air Force Libs had attacked Ponape and Oroku, in the eastern Caroline Islands.

# Allies Still Holding Jap Thrust at Kohima

Allied defenders of Imphal, capital of the Indian state of Manipur, have inflicted casualties on Jap forces in the foothills northeast of the city as well as to the south in the Tiddim road sector, where enemy troops were ambushed, Lord Louis Mountbatten's headquarters announced yesterday.

Chinese troops of Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's command meanwhile captured the town of Wakawang, in the Mogaung Valley.

# Crash Kills Peter Lehman, Ex-N.Y. Governor's Son

A MUSTANG BASE, Apr. 11—1/Lt. Peter Lehman, 27-year-old Mustang pilot and son of former Gov. Herbert Lehman, was accidentally killed while on a practice flight here recently. His plane crashed into a field after going into a spin, and he didn't have a chance to bail out.

Although he had completed 57 missions, two to Berlin, Lehman ironically never achieved his ambition to shoot down a German plane.

At the time of his death, Lehman was "sweating out" his DFC, which he had wanted to get in time for his father's birthday, Mar. 28. The award will be given posthumously. He already had the Air Medal and three clusters.

# Italians Beat Off Nazis Trying to Storm Peak

Defeat of a German force attempting to storm Italian-held Mount Marrone along the main Fifth Army front in Italy and the failure of German patrols to penetrate the Allied lines on the Anzio bridgehead were announced yesterday by the Allies.

Two Cassino hotels converted into bastions by the Nazis were hammered by artillery.

Activity dwindled on the Garigliano front as the level of the river rose above normal.

# AFN Radio Program

- On Your Dial
- 1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.
- 218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.
- Wednesday, Apr. 12
- 1100—Spotlight on Mark Kinney.
- 1115—Personal Album with Shirley Ross.
- 1130—Music in Three-Quarter Time.
- 1150—French Lesson.
- 1200—Noon Edition.
- 1205—Barracks Bag.
- 1300—World News (BBC).
- 1310—Melody Roundup.
- 1330—Andre Kostelanetz.
- 1400—Headlines—Gerald's Orchestra.
- 1430—Visiting Hour.
- 1500—Music White You Work.
- 1530—Off the Record.
- 1630—Lone Ranger.
- 1700—Tommy Dorsey Program and Program Resume.
- 1730—BBC Midland Light Orchestra.
- 1755—Quiet Moment.
- 1800—World News (BBC).
- 1810—GI Supper Club.
- 1850—Army Talks.
- 1900—Seven O'Clock Sports.
- 1905—Rhapsody in Khaki—Southern Base Section.
- 1935—Maize and Moby.
- 2000—News From Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A.
- 2010—Fred Waring Program.
- 2025—Human Interest in Books.
- 2030—Boxing Boots from Northwest England—Blow-by-blow description by Sgt. Marty Smith and Cpl. Keith Jameson.
- 2100—World News (BBC).
- 2115—Bob Hope Show—with Frances Langford, Vera Vague, and Jerry Colonna.
- 2145—Showtime with Dinah Shore.
- 2200—Metropolitan Auditions.
- 2225—One Night Stand with Teddy Powell.
- 2255—Final Edition.
- 2300—Sign off until 1100 hours Thursday, Apr. 13.

# Enough Is Enough



Associated Press Photo  
Paulette Goddard, worn out by 50 appearances in the China-Burma-India theater in a seven-week, 20,000-mile tour, has canceled seven engagements and returned to New Delhi. She will return to the U.S. in a few days.

# Johnston Will Visit Soviet for Study of Post-War Trade

SPOKANE, Wash., Apr. 11—Eric A. Johnston, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, said today he planned to visit Russia "to learn how Russia's post-war position and trade are going to affect the average U.S. citizen."

He proposed to analyze the possible economic repercussions of the divergent social, political and economic systems of the U.S. and the Soviet Union because "if we are going to have peace we must learn how to get along with each other."

He deplored what he called the average American's lack of interest in foreign policy and said that U.S. foreign policy after the war would affect the jobs of many.

# Russia - - -

(Continued from page 1)

the Russians established a bridgehead on the peninsula last November.

Kerch lies at the northeastern tip of the Crimea, at the end of a 50-mile-long peninsula averaging 30 miles in width. A railway runs west from here to Jankoy.

Moscow radio said 11 German divisions were in the Crimea, according to unofficial estimates.

Tolbukhin's advance coincided with new gains in the west where Marshal Gregory Zhukov's First Army group and Marshal Ivan Koniiev's Second group were attacking the Carpathian passes on a 150-mile front from near Stanislawov, southwest of Tarnopol, to Pansani, 40 miles west of Jassy.

Koniiev's forces were reported well on the road to Campulung, 100 miles northwest of Jassy, a town near the crest of the Carpathians, from which a railway runs down a 150-mile valley into the Hungarian plains.

Inside captured Odessa, the great Black Sea port captured by the Russians Monday, Soviet front-line reporters gathered a tale of panic, death and drowning as the city's German-Rumanian garrison fled. They said the disorder that occurred when the Russians swept down upon the city had never been equaled in modern warfare.

# Terry and the Pirates



# NEWS FROM HOME

# U.S. Criticisms Are Answered For Australia

## Military Spokesmen Cite Reasons Behind Plan To Reduce Army

WASHINGTON, Apr. 11—U.S. and Australian military spokesmen, answering senators "shocked" and "startled" by Australia's decision to reduce the size of her army by 90,000 in the next year, assured the nation today that the Commonwealth was more than bearing its share of the fight against the Axis.

Col. Lewis Sanders, military consultant of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, issued a statement asserting Australia had found it necessary to cut the authorized strength of its army because it no longer could find enough fit men to replace casualties.

He said some reports suggesting that 90,000 men were to be released from the army were inaccurate; only 20,000 to 30,000 would be released, all of them men incapable of active duty. The rest of the reduction would be achieved by easing off inductions, he said.

Australia answered the senatorial criticism by issuing a statement which asserted that total enlistments in the Australian services up to Dec. 1, 1943, were 913,000, more than 11 per cent of Australia's population—on a population basis the equivalent of a U.S. army, navy and air force of nearly 15,000,000.

Air Minister A. S. Drakeford revealed that the RAAF, bigger now than the RAF was in 1939, was 30 times its pre-war strength and would continue to expand.

# Freakish Baby Born Dead

VAN NUYS, Cal., Apr. 11—A baby girl with two perfectly formed heads and necks was born dead to the wife of a seaman, Dr. Gerald T. Sprague revealed. Such a rarity occurs about once every 500,000 births, Dr. Sprague said. The parents have authorized the body to be turned over to the Southern California School of Medicine. The child weighed 7½ pounds, and X-rays showed two spinal columns joined in the pelvic region and four shoulder blades. It was the couple's first child. The mother is recovering.

# Gale Hits California

LOS ANGELES, Apr. 11—Boats were smashed and roofs ripped off several homes at Redondo Beach when Easter-eve gales battered the southern coast of California. The highway from Red Box to Mount Wilson was blocked by snowdrifts and snowplows had to be called out.

# Weaker Sex, Eh?

ITHACA, N.Y., Apr. 11—The Cornell University Rural Sociology Department reported studies made at 15 farm-worker camps last year showed that New York farmers found girls more cheerful workers than boys, less inclined to play while working, more persevering and less susceptible to fatigue.

# Alabama Train Wrecked

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Apr. 11 (Reuter)—Six coaches of a special east-bound passenger train were derailed near here yesterday. First reports indicated that about 30 persons were injured.

# Eisenhower Visits B26 Base, Watches Marauders Take Off

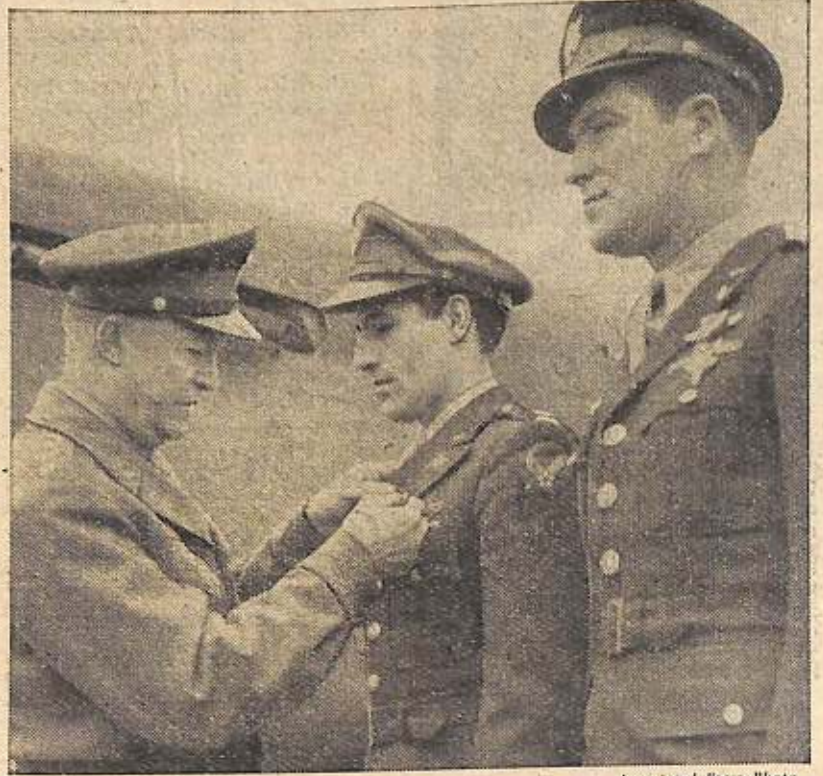
A MARAUDER BASE, Apr. 11—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander, paid his first visit to a medium-bomber base today and watched the Marauders take off and form in the air for their third attack in 30 hours on enemy-occupied Europe.

On his visit, the general sat at the controls of Sons of Satan, spoke to crew members, inspected equipment, studied strike photos—and signed a \$100 Short Snorter bill for an ambitious corporal.

The supreme commander was accompanied by Lt. Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, commanding the U.S. Strategic Air Forces, and Maj. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton, commanding the Ninth Air Force.

Gen. Eisenhower sat for ten minutes at the controls of Sons of Satan, which already has started on its second 50 missions, discussing operations, fire-power and striking power of the medium bombers with Lt. Col. Sherman Beatty, group executive officer. He also met with

# DSCs for Gentile and Blakeslee



Associated Press Photo  
Gen. Eisenhower presents DSCs to Capt. Don S. Gentile, of Piqua, Ohio, and his group commander, Col. Donald J. M. Blakeslee, of Fairport Harbor, Ohio. Gentile, a Mustang pilot, is tied with Capt. Bob Johnson, a P47 pilot, as top ace with 23 German planes shot down. Blakeslee has destroyed 13

# FDR-Churchill 'Softening-Up' Talk Seen 'Out' Air Drive Gains

WASHINGTON, Apr. 11 (AP)—President Roosevelt's departure for a fortnight's rest apparently has dispelled reports that he was planning meetings with Prime Minister Churchill in the immediate future.

The burst of official publicity on the President's trip—unusual in war time, when every move is shrouded in official secrecy—occasioned more comment than the trip itself.

# Winchell Names Hoffman In a \$250,000 Libel Suit

NEW YORK, Apr. 11 (AP)—Columnist Walter Winchell yesterday filed a \$250,000 libel suit in Federal Court against Rep. Clare E. Hoffman (R-Mich.), charging that an article written by Hoffman had held him up to "public scorn, hatred, ridicule, contempt, shame and disgrace."

Winchell based his suit on an article allegedly published in a Marcellus (Mich.) newspaper.

# Henry Ford II Promoted To 'Empire's' No. 2 Spot

DETROIT, Apr. 11 (AP)—The Ford Motor Co. announced yesterday that 26-year-old Henry Ford II had been made executive vice-president of the company, second only to his grandfather, founder of the Ford "empire."

The younger Ford has been vice-president since January, specializing in sales.

# Mustang Bags 4 Planes

AN EIGHTH MUSTANG BASE, Apr. 11—Soldiers' Vote, the Mustang piloted by Lt. Frank A. Cutler, of Cleveland, scored a four-to-nothing victory over the Luftwaffe near Berlin today—destroying two FW190s and a Ju52 in the air and a Ju88 on the ground. It was Cutler's second triple upstairs, bringing his total bag to seven, and he rounded off the trip by blowing up a locomotive and strafing a Ju52 on the ground.

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(Continued from page 1)

hammer blow at the battered Nazi aircraft industry. Others reported only feeble opposition at other targets.

German radio stations, whose raid-warning system was busy most of the day—except when the stations were closed down as raiders appeared overhead—reported fierce engagements all across Germany, particularly in the Hanover-Brunswick area. Other air battles were taking place in northern Germany, the radio said, and a German News Agency report described a running action between U.S. planes and Nazi interceptors along the Baltic coast.

Some objectives were hit in clear weather, but other heavy bomber formations reported clouds over Germany.

Returning crewmen reported heavy enemy fighter opposition but praised their own fighter escort.

"The fighters made vicious attacks on some of the groups but we got through OK," said 2/Lt. William Etheredge, of Chicago, a Liberator navigator.

Saturday, Fortresses splattered bombs across Nazi airdromes at Handorf, Achmer, Oldenburg and Quackenbruck, all in northwestern Germany, while Liberators hit the Messerschmitt 110 plants at Brunswick and railway junctions in the area. That day the USSTAF lost 34 bombers and 24 fighters, while the bomber gunners destroyed 60 enemy craft and the fighters 88.

Sunday, unescorted Fortress formations flew across the Baltic to Marienberg, Gdynia and Posen, fought through intense opposition and flak. Liberators hit Tutow and Warnemunde plants manufacturing Focke-Wulf fighters and pursuit formations strafed Nazi planes on the ground. The day's score was 31 bombers and eight fighters lost, 43 enemy planes shot down by the bombers and 20 by the fighters.

Monday, airdromes and plane-repair depots in Belgium and France took a pounding as the Fortresses went in modest strength to the Junkers engine-repair station at Vilvorde, the Heinkel and Messerschmitt repair works at Evere and the airdrome at Melsbroek. Liberators hit the factory turning out Luftwaffe transport planes at Bourges and Orleans and targets in the Pas de Calais. Fighters swept against ground installations. The day's losses were three bombers and four fighters, with seven enemy planes destroyed by the bombers and eight in air combat by the fighters.

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By Milton Caniff

