

Peace Bonus Of \$300 Gets OK in House

Senate Version Different, So Two Measures Will Be Sent to Conference

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20—A mustering-out bill providing payment of \$100 to every honorably discharged serviceman and woman who has served for less than 60 days and \$300 to those in service longer than 60 days was passed yesterday by the House of Representatives.

As the Senate already has passed its version of a mustering-out pay bill, the two measures will go to conference for the working out of a compromise.

The Senate bill, introduced by Sen. Alben W. Barkley (D.-Ky.), provides payments ranging from \$200 to \$500. Men with 18 or more months' service overseas would receive \$500. Those with service overseas from 12 to 18 months would receive \$400 and those with less than a year of service overseas and more than a year in America would receive \$300. Members of the armed forces with less than a year's service in the United States would receive \$200.

Proposals to boost the maximum payment to an aggregate of \$1,120, to raise it to \$700 and to make merchant seamen eligible for benefits were defeated in a two-day House debate. An amendment to include men discharged because they were more than 38 also was defeated.

Only two amendments of any consequence were added to the bill recommended by the House Military Affairs Committee. One makes eligible for payments persons receiving the so-called "blue" discharges, which are neither honorable nor dishonorable, but generally given for "incompatibility."

Another amendment made WACs eligible for benefits if they were released for disability. WACs who resigned, however, when the corps became a part of the Army are not eligible for payments. All WACs, WAVES, SPARS and women marines meeting the other requirements will receive benefits upon their release.

Press - Leaflet War Unit Set Up

A Press and Psychological Warfare division, similar to the one in operation in the Mediterranean theater, has been activated for the western invasion under command of Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, it was announced yesterday.

Gen. McClure served in a similar capacity under Gen. Eisenhower in Africa. His chief deputy will be Brigadier W. A. S. Turner, former deputy director of publicity for the British War Office.

Public relations officer under McClure will be Col. R. Ernest du Puy, until recently on the staff of Maj. Gen. Alexander Surles, chief of the War Department Bureau of Public Relations. Lt. Col. Thor M. Smith, of San Francisco, will be liaison officer between the American press and the American forces.

Besides handling arrangements for the press, one function probably will be the distribution of propaganda leaflets on enemy forces by aircraft and artillery fire. This practice, in use in Italy, was tried out in Africa and Sicily and found to be an effective way of breaking down enemy morale.

FDR Fully Recovered

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (Reuter)—President Roosevelt has fully recovered from his recent illness and is attempting to catch up with accumulated work.

Pool Pay With Tommies, Yanks Urged by Briton

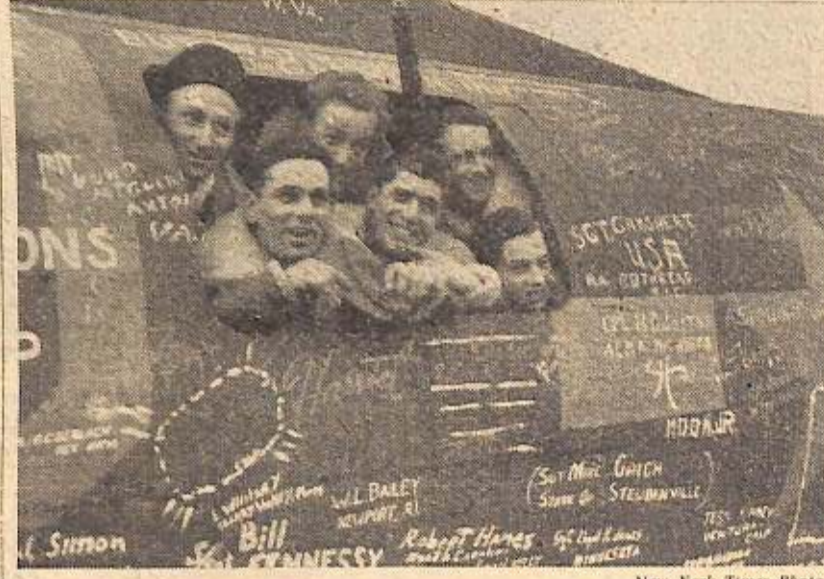
A proposal in the House of Commons yesterday that Great Britain suggest that American soldiers pool their pay with British servicemen was greeted by a cry: "Do you want to start another war?"

The idea was advocated after W. J. Brown, speaking for a group urging a government review of the wide difference in pay between British and American troops, said there was a "grave feeling in our armed forces" over the disparity.

Deputy Prime Minister Clement Attlee replied to the criticism by saying "it is quite impossible to arrive at an adjustment in view of different rates of pay and different costs of living."

Paradise Regained

Fort Hell's Angels Flies Home, Six Happy Mechanics Go, Too



Crewmen of Hell's Angels take a happy peek (their last one for a while, anyway) at England before taking-off for the U.S.A.

Second American Bomber Leaves ETO for U.S. After Completing 48 Missions; She and Crew Will Star at Rallies to Sell War Bonds

By Andrew A. Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A FORTRESS BASE, Jan. 20—Twelve men and Hell's Angels, one of the Eighth Air Force's most famous Fortresses, took off for home today under an archway of flares fired by the boys they left behind.

The second B17 to return to the States from this theater to take part in War Bond drives and workers' rallies, Hell's Angels is the first to take back her ground crew. Of the dozen men who left here today, six were mechanics who established an almost incredible record for this theater by servicing the bomber through 40 consecutive missions without a turnback due to mechanical difficulty—in air force lingo an "abortion."

Full KO to Nazi Plant—Stimson

He Cites Terrific Damage At Oschersleben, 2 Other Towns in Heavy Raid

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (UP)—The Focke Wulf factory at Oschersleben was almost totally destroyed in the heavy day raid by U.S. bombers over Germany Jan. 11.

This was revealed by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, who said that London reports indicated the raids were more successful than first reported.

The Junkers factory at Halberstadt was from 40 to 70 per cent destroyed, and the Messerschmitt works at Brunswick almost completely demolished, he said.

The Secretary asserted his belief that it was far more important to destroy a German factory which can manufacture 200 planes than to destroy 200 planes in the air.

He said it was not generally recognized that raids upon Germany involved more than 100,000 American soldiers, including air crews and ground forces.

On the German side, he pointed out, more than 1,000,000 defenders were involved or on the alert in each attack. The latter figure, he said, included anti-aircraft personnel, air-raid wardens and others involved in Nazi defenses.

'Too Much Stress on Raid Losses'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (AP)—A statement by Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, released by the War Department, said today that too much emphasis was being placed on losses in bombing raids over Germany and that the American public must consider such great air operations in the same light as it regards major ground operations.

Gen. Spaatz's observations were contained in a reply to inquiries about a delayed report on the mission of Jan. 11, when the German plane factories at Oschersleben, Halberstadt and Brunswick were destroyed or damaged.

N.Y. State Gets Lepke; May Die in Chair Feb. 10

ALBANY, N.Y., Jan. 20—Louis (Lepke) Buchalter has been turned over to the jurisdiction of New York state by federal authorities and the so-called "brains" of Murder, Inc., may die in Sing Sing's electric chair Feb. 10.

Buchalter was in the Federal Detention House in New York serving a 14-year federal sentence on a narcotics charge, but he was also under a death sentence in New York for the 1941 murder of Joseph Rosen, a Brooklyn candy store owner. The announcement that he had been turned over to New York authorities ended a controversy of several months on Buchalter's status.

Anchor of Nazi Line Below Leningrad Is Seized by Russians

Wouldn't Want Office If No Troop Vote—Willkie

NEW YORK, Jan. 20 (AP)—Wendell Willkie said yesterday that he would not want to be elected President unless every member of the armed forces had a chance to vote.

Declaring that he was in favor of a federal law governing the servicemen's absentee ballot, Willkie said he did not believe it was practicable for the individual states to give every man a chance to vote.

Novgorod Capture Bared in a Stalin Order of Day

Novgorod, southern anchor of the Germans' 110-mile front below Leningrad and junction of five important railways, was taken by storm yesterday by Gen. Meretskov's northern armies.

Its capture, announced last night in an order of the day from Marshal Stalin, came less than a week after opening of the Russians' northern offensive.

Its fall meant that German fortifications along the Volkhov River below Leningrad now had been broken at both ends. Gen. Meretskov's break-through in the south and Gen. Govorov's in the north already have lopped some 30 miles off the original 110-mile line.

More than 25,000 Germans have been killed on the Leningrad front since the offensive began and about 15,000 more died at the southern end of the line near Novgorod, last night's Russian communique claimed.

Drive for Gatchina

Southwest of Leningrad strong Russian forces fought their way forward from Krasnoye Selo toward the important rail junction of Gatchina.

Meanwhile, Berlin reports from the Pripet front said Gen. Rokossovsky's troops, pushing northwest to the Beresina River from Klinkovichi, were attacking Bobruisk, which guards the southern flank of Von Kluge's White Russia line.

"The Russian wave surging against Bobruisk is only being held with the greatest effort," said the German-controlled Scandinavian Telegraph Bureau.

Gen. Vatutin's double drive on Rovno, the railway junction and provincial capital 30 miles west of the 1921 Polish frontier, made good progress. One column was advancing from Gocha, on the east and another, coming from Antonovka, was less than 17 miles away to the northeast.

South of the Kiev bulge, bitter German resistance continued. Moscow said powerful counter-attacks were still being made against the Russians north of Uman, and German losses were reported heavy.

The Red Army advances between Leningrad and Novgorod threatened an estimated 300,000 German troops with encirclement and brought the Russians within 25 miles of the railway running south from Leningrad to Vitbsk.

United Press, in a dispatch from Moscow, said the break through in the north was so great and decisive that messages from the front now spoke openly of the imminent capture of Pskov, the important South Baltic communications center less than ten miles from the Estonian frontier.

New X-Ray Instantly Spots Metal Fragments in Body

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 20—Col. Alfred A. De Lorimer, commander of the Army X-ray school here, yesterday displayed an X-ray machine designed to show the location of bullets or shrapnel in a man's body instantly.

The machine localizes the positions of metal in the body both horizontally and vertically, making it possible to keep a wounded man in the same position for an operation. It takes the machine only 60 seconds to locate metals.

AFL Cites British Strikes In Opposing Total Service

MIAMI, Jan. 20—A resolution, opposing President Roosevelt's national-service proposal, adopted yesterday at the AFL Executive Council meeting here, cited wartime strikes in Britain as proof that labor conscription does not prevent work stoppages.

"There have been more strikes in Great Britain than in the United States during the last two years, in proportion to their respective populations," the resolution said.

Shore Guns Sink Ship

British heavy artillery at Dover shelled and sank a German ship a mile off the French coast near Calais yesterday morning, the Air Ministry announced yesterday. After the sinking had been confirmed by a RAF Typhoon squadron, which sighted the ship with only its superstructure showing early yesterday morning, Prime Minister Churchill sent his personal congratulations to the district artillery commander at Dover.

8 Ships Blasted, Three Blown Up, In Rabaul Raid

U.S. Naval Planes Bag 18 of 100 Fighters, 15 'Probables'

ALLIED HQ, New Guinea, Jan. 20—Breaking through a Jap fighter screen of more than 100 planes, U.S. Naval air fleets from bases in the Solomons struck Rabaul's harbor at midday yesterday to score direct hits on eight big cargo vessels, three of which exploded and sank.

Gen. MacArthur's communique said two others were left burning fiercely and probably sinking, and three more were seriously damaged.

In the raid U.S. Hellcat, Corsair and Lightning fighters shot down 18 Jap fighters—probably 15 others—and prevented the enemy interceptors from breaking up the bomber formations.

At the same time, other Naval planes attacked Kusaie Island, a Jap air base midway between Tarawa, in the Gilberts, and Truk, in the Carolines.

All planes returned safely to their bases after scoring hits on enemy shore installations.

Bitter land battles still were raging in the northwest and southwest coasts of New Britain. Yesterday the Japs made another fanatical counter-attack at Cape Gloucester, which cost them 126 dead. Arawe units of the Sixth Army were regrouping for new blows against the enemy holding out in the jungles near the U.S. beachhead. Tuesday, the 158th Infantry pushed back the Japs 1,000 yards while inflicting heavy casualties.

In New Guinea Australian troops in the Sio area were advancing toward Saidor, with strong air support blasting open Jap positions with heavy bombings. Elsewhere in the Southwest Pacific a Fifth Air Force Liberator sighted a small enemy convoy of coastal vessels near the north coast of New Britain and registered a close hit on one vessel.

Noiseless Grenade Primer Developed by U.S. Firm

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 20—The Winchester Repeating Arms Co. revealed that it had developed a practically noiseless primer for hand grenades which would aid American troops to keep their position a secret from the enemy.

Thomas I. Boak, works manager for the company, said that by revising the priming formula of the shot-shell primer the "bang" of the primer had been reduced to an almost noiseless "plop."

Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder

Louisiana Keeps ETO Officer In His State Legislature Seat

NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 20—1/Lt. William J. Dodd, chemical warfare officer at an ETO fighter station, was re-nominated to the Allen Parish seat in the Louisiana House of Representatives in the Democratic primary Tuesday.

Although in Britain and unable to campaign, Lt. Dodd polled a clear majority over his two opponents in the primary, which is tantamount to election.

Dodd received 2,259 votes to 1,635 for his opponents. A former high school teacher and professional baseball player in Oakdale, Dodd received permission from the Army to stand for re-election only after a letter with 19 endorsements was sent through

channels to the Secretary of War.

In the same primary a 24-year-old war veteran who voted for the first time in his life Tuesday won the Democratic nomination to the State House of Representatives from New Orleans' First Ward.

He was John Hannan Jr., who lost his leg in the South Pacific while on duty with a tank-destroyer battalion. Meanwhile, the latest returns in the state gubernatorial primary showed that song writer Jimmie H. Davis was leading Lewis L. Morgan, candidate of the late Huey Long's political faction. Huey's brother Earl gained a decisive lead over his five opponents in the race for the nomination for lieutenant governor.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Printed at The Times Publishing Company, Ltd., Printing House Square, London, E.C.4 (Tel. Cen. 2000), for U.S. Armed Forces, under auspices of Chief of Special Services ETO, SCS. Col. Oscar N. Solbert. Publications Officer, Col. Theodore Arter. Business and Editorial Staff: Editor and Officer in Charge—Lt. Col. E. M. Llewellyn; Associate Editors: Maj. H. A. Harchar and Capt. Max K. Gitzman; Feature Editor: Capt. J. C. Wilkinson; News Editor: 2/Lt. Robert Moore; Air Force Editor: M/Sgt. Bud Hutton; News Desk: M/Sgt. Ben. F. Price, T/Sgt. L. P. Giblin, Sgt. J. B. Fleming, Sgt. R. B. Wood; Sports Editor: S/Sgt. Mark Senigo; Navy Editor: Yeoman Tom Bernard, USNR; Circulation: W/O W. E. McDonald. Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors; subscription 20 shillings per year plus postage. ETO edition. Entered as second class matter Mar. 15, 1943, at the post office, New York, N.Y., under the Act of Mar. 3, 1879. All material appearing in this publication has been written and edited by uniformed members of the Army and Navy except where stated that a civilian or other outside source is being quoted. Vol. 4, No. 68; January 21, 1944

Hash Marks

ETO Oddities. Capt. Bert Douglas, of an Ordnance outfit, claims distinction on this basis: He's been over here more than 14 months and hasn't been to the cinema yet. Um—he must have been frightened by a Sunday afternoon queue.

Our spy on the home front spotted this sign in a war factory employing women workers: "If your sweater is too



big for you—look out for the machinery; if you are too big for your sweater—look out for the men!"

Just to show you the good old American system which allows every man to set his goal and believe he can make it, we pass on this little item. T/Sgt. Byron P. Dove of a fighter station in the ETO had achieved the first step toward his ambition—he was leaving for the States to begin aviation cadet training. A group of his pals were helping him pack and seeing what they could pilfer from him. In the pocket of his field jacket they found a set of colonel's eagles. Nice going, Dove, we hope you make it!

Most surprised woman of the week was Mrs. Remigio Chavez, of Albuquerque, N.M. She received a postcard from her son who is a war prisoner in a Jap camp. In the same mail came a card from his draft board ordering him to report for induction. It's a pity the draft board can't get a guy out of things as easy as they get him in.

How's That Again? Department. Lt. Maurice Jackson got a letter from his wife asking him how he liked the copies of the hometown paper she had been sending him and if he would like her to renew his four months subscription that was about to expire. The next day Jackson received his first copy of the paper—dated October 1, 1943. Nothing like getting your news while it's hot.

In a land where sunburn is as rare a disease as strawberry rash, this little story took us completely by surprise. But we have it on the authority of Capt. Miles J. O. Gullingsrud of the medical corps that an Alabama infantryman serving in the ETO was hospitalized for three days when the battalion surgeon diagnosed his case as "sunburn, acute, due to sunshine." Actually!

The Nazis are pretty good at digging up "new" calamities to howl about when



the shoe pinches the other foot. We understand that Hitler is now complaining about the brutal way his U-boats get sunk without warning.

And speaking of the Nazis, via underground comes word from the Russian front that the German General Von Manstein has been replaced—by General Confusion.

J. C. W.

GI 'Information Please' Off to a Start



S/Sgt. Wayne Roberg Sgt. Lester Weinberg S/Sgt. Robert Gregory T/Sgt. Charles Lutz

The Joes Find Out All About Mail at Quiz Session

By Richard Wilbur

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

EIGHTH BOMBER COMMAND HQ, Jan. 20—They stole a page from "Information, Please," at this station and are turning what easily could be a dry Army educational program into a gusy laugh-producing quiz session. It's called "GI Brains Trust."

Using this method of handling "Army Talks," the officers and enlisted personnel of headquarters squadron held their first session the other night on "The Soldier and His Mail."

The wide range of topics discussed ranged from the plaintive moan of a censor (he doesn't like to read letters written on onion skin with hard pencils) to the pointed query of a GI (he wanted to know how he could write two letters a week telling what he does in his free time when he has only ONE free day out of seven).

These Are the 'Brains'

The "brains" of the "Brains Trust" included S/Sgt. Robert J. Gregory, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; S/Sgt. Wayne A. Roberg, of Ellingford, Wash.; Sgt. Lester Weinberg, of Brooklyn; T/Sgt. Charles Lutz, of Syracuse, N.Y.; T/Sgt. Harold Schaffer, of Flint, Mich.; Sgt. Millard Kemper, of Baltimore, and 2/Lt. Kenneth Herbster, of Elko, Nev.

"Guest stars" were two mail orderlies: Cpl. Forrest Scruggs, of Monticello, Fla., and WAC Cpl. Jeanette LeClair, of Wolsey, S.D.

The mail orderlies opened the session with a few words about their own particular job, and pointed out that they must know the names of everybody in their units, whether any individual got a letter on any particular day, and, if so, who from, and what color ink was on the envelope, &c., &c.

Maj. Robert A. Ladner, of Philadelphia, squadron CO, who thought up the

"Brains Trust" way of dealing with Army Talks, alternated between "Brains Trust" and audience, and began the question-and-answer session. Here's the way part of it went:

CO: "Why isn't there some transportation for delivering WACs' mail, as there is for enlisted men's? I see WACs stumbling along, carrying sacks twice as big as themselves."

LeClair: "Most of our route is uphill by sidewalks, and a jeep can't drive up sidewalks."

Soldier in audience: "Why does our serial number have to be on letters addressed to us?"

Scruggs: "Well, for one thing, there are a lot of Smiths in the ETO, and a lot of them are sergeants, and a lot of them corporals. They'd be hard to sort out without their serial numbers."

Schaffer: "And if the address on any letter to a soldier is partly obliterated somehow, the soldier can be located by his serial number."

Back-Dated Letters

CO: "Why is it that soldiers won't write for a long period, then a stream of letters comes to be censored, and a lot of the letters are back-dated?"

Roberg: "All GIs have to cover up something once in a while. Well, we won't go into that. Then sometimes we think, well, we can't say what we want to, so why the hell write anything? But a soldier could have something to write twice a week. Say he takes a pass and goes to Stratford-on-Avon. He goes into Shakespeare's house, and a woman with a Fuller Brush personality greets him and says it'll be two-and-six for a booklet. He walks around and goes up to Shakespeare's bedroom, and he sees something out of Ripley—signatures all over the room, and the old woman shows him where an army colonel signed his name in 1837. They were already coming over here then. Well, those may be a lot of trivial experiences to you as a soldier, but when you write it, it's real to the folks back home."

Soldier in audience: "Wait a minute—you've got a contradiction there. How can we write something twice a week, when we only get one day off a week?"

Another Soldier in Audience: "That's right. You can only tell the Shakespeare story once. How about the weather here? About all I do in my spare time is write letters, maybe 14 or 15 letters at once. I drove to London in that big fog, and I thought I could write about the trip. In 16 months here I never saw anything like it. I wrote a seven-page letter about the trip through that fog, the letter was returned to me, I re-wrote it, and I got it back again."

Read It in the Papers

CO: "In a case like that you could have written about what a thick fog it was, according to the papers. All the London papers had something about that fog later. You should have called that to the censor's attention."

Soldier in Audience: "Is it all right to say we've been somewhere on pass, and name the place?"

CO: "It's all right, as long as you don't indicate how long it took to get there. That would give away our position here. On those V-mail Christmas cards with the map of the British Isles, some soldiers tried to point out where they were on the map. You can write a lot of things without having them censored. One soldier described his Nissen hut as a garbage can turned on one side, with two blocks of wood in each end. He described the inside of his barracks and other GIs in it. That sort of thing is all right. You can describe your officers if you want to. Maybe you don't like one of them. You can say anything you want to about him, about his personality, as long as you aren't derogatory to his character. Maybe there's some officer you don't respect. You can't indicate that, because it reflects not only on him and on you, but on the service."

Another "GI Brains Trust" session will be held here next week to discuss "Victory Through Air Power."



Drill Sergeant's Lament

You think you've a tough job in Iceland or Rome; I'll swap you the one that they've slipped me at home. I'm training the women the best that I can But can't yell the things that I'd yell to a man. "Eyes right, ya gorilla!" I once used to shout, But that and "Hey Fathead!" are both strictly out. Of jobs in the service, the hardest is mine—I've got to discard all my old army line. Did privates toe in! I could yell, "Listen, stupe, You do that again you'll get socked for a loop!" "Chins up, ya baboons!" was my cry through the day. But drilling the dames, well, it ain't the same way! "Eyes right! Are ye cockeyed?" I'd yell in loud tones, But now it's "Please try once again, Mrs. Jones!" "Hey, throw out your chest. Stow that barroom effect!" Are in the discard; they ain't quite correct! "Hey, mug! Wipe that grin off!" I loved that so much, But can't use it now for it lacks the right touch; "Ya bowlegged scarecrow!" is off your routine; It's now, "Watch your form, if you don't mind, Miss Green!" "C'mon, ya big droop, get some snap in them knees!" Went well with my old squad, but NEVER with THESE! "Your shirt's out, ya dumbbell!" I can't yell no more—Forgive me my groans, it's one heck of a war! "That hat is no ale can to hang on one ear!" Is now out of order with "Pull in your-rear!" But this is what slays me, and makes my head dance! No more can I bellow, "Hey, pull up them pants!"

H. A. C.

PRIVATE BREGER



"Wish somebody would talk about me. My ears are freezing!"

Swiss Air Force

One of the long-standing gags among humor men has always been the crack about the Swiss Navy. Well, little Switzerland is still a neutral nation, and even if she should get into the war her Navy would be no great help to anyone. But you can't say that about her Air Force, which she is constantly building up by one of the strangest means of procurement known.

Swiss authorities have revealed that they now have at least a dozen American Flying Fortresses, a Liberator or two and an untold number of British heavy load carriers. To that they have added numerous German bombers and more than enough Focke-Wulf and Messerschmitt fighters to provide ample cover for this renegade force.

The war-conscious and militant Swiss have taken over these planes after difficulty forced the crews to set them down on Swiss soil, or in a few cases, after Swiss anti-aircraft gunners had knocked them out of the sky in more or less repairable condition.

Neutrality laws provide that the neutral country is within its rights in firing at all belligerent aircraft over its territory; and the Swiss, isolated in the midst of Nazi-controlled property, have taken full advantage of the law. They fire with unbiased fervor at any and all targets, whether they be German, Italian, French, British, American or what have you.

All belligerent planes seized in flying condition, or salvaged, are kept in first-class flying condition by the Swiss, who go to great lengths to do a proper job when necessary. One Fort, for example, was recovered from 100 feet of water after making a crash landing in Lake Constance.

And the Swiss don't fool around training crews of their own to fly the planes that fall into their hands. Gasoline is too precious. There is a philosophy of waiting. Should they enter the war, on one side or the other, they plan to use the crews that land with the ships and who are now interned.

The native Swiss Air Force is made up entirely of fighter planes, for the Swiss believe that a bomber is strictly an offensive weapon, while fighters are mainly for defense, and defense is what the Swiss are interested in. Anyway—they've got plenty bombers—and more arrive at regular intervals.

Smart people—the Swiss.

Weapon for Victory

"On the airfields of Britain," writes Edward R. Stettinius, Under Secretary of State, in his new book, "Lend-Lease—Weapon for Victory," "I had caught the true nature of the United Nations at war. Each nation was putting into a common war chest all the equipment, the munitions, the war supplies and the technical skill it had at its command. Under a common strategy these were being used so as to bring to us all as quickly as possible a common victory."

Thus Mr. Stettinius keynotes the spirit which characterizes his vivid and informative account of the economic machinery of Reciprocal Aid which helps keep the Allies' war machine working on every front. His exciting story promises to stand as an authoritative history of the inception, workings and philosophy of Allied cooperation in World War II.

Mr. Stettinius, Lend-Lease Administrator from May, 1940, until he took over his present post last September, begins his story with a survey of the war's early days. He makes the significant assertion that the debate resulting in the repeal of the Neutrality Act, and the start of America's "cash and carry" policy foreshadowed the lines of the Lend-Lease debate 15 months later. In vivid phrases he describes how, after the fall of France, arrangements were made for the transfer of U.S. equipment to Britain, and how Britain assumed responsibility for French orders—some fulfilled and some not—which persuaded hesitant American businessmen to proceed with war production for abroad.

Praising British cooperation, he says: "The frankness with which I felt I could criticize them was an important example of the mutual frankness which I found was the order of the day between Americans and Britishers in London." He emphasizes that the roads over which Lend-Lease supplies travel are not one-way streets by listing numbers of things America has obtained from Britain and other Allies, including fuel, food, airfields, ship stores, medical care and needed repairs. "The way was not easy to the accomplishment of the cooperation now in effect," he says.

Summarizing the over-all achievement, the Under-Secretary echoes the feeling of many well-fed, well-clothed and well-equipped soldiers in this theater in quoting the words of an American official who says, "The historians of the future will recognize that the date of the signing of the Lend-Lease Bill was the day on which the Axis powers were defeated."

Disaster at Bari Is Described by An Eyewitness

Lucky Hits Struck Ammo Ships and Resulted in Loss of 17 Vessels

Seventeen Allied ships were sunk and more than a thousand persons were killed or wounded Dec. 2 when German bombers attacked the crowded supply port of Bari in Italy, 150 miles from the front, scoring hits on two ammunition ships. Here, finally released by censorship, is a graphic eyewitness account of the disaster.

By Allan Nickleson

Canadian Press War Correspondent

One of the greatest marine disasters since Pearl Harbor—the sinking of 17 Allied ships in the Adriatic port of Bari one night last December—came about through a couple of lucky hits by the Germans, who, until the Allied announcement, had no idea of the damage they had caused. The enemy claimed only three ships sunk.

This is an eyewitness account of that 60-minute raid when two ammunition ships, struck by German bombs, exploded in gigantic sheets of flame, resulting in the sinking of 17 ships in the harbor. About 30 enemy planes participated.

There were more than 1,000 casualties, many of them fatal. Windows and doors were blown out for miles around and many small buildings in the immediate vicinity were wrecked.

Most of the shipping, carrying cargo destined for the Eighth Army, was destroyed by two separate blasts that followed the hitting of the ammunition vessels.

Nine Empire war correspondents from London on an air tour of the Mediterranean theater arrived in Bari only a couple of hours before the early night sneak raid. All escaped unscathed.

We were returning to town by bus from a conference with Air Chief Marshal Coningham when the raid started. There was no alarm. White flares from the enemy planes floated over the target area. A small bomb exploded 250 yards from us as we neared the harbor area. It only shook us. Then a pyrotechnic display of light and heavy flak shot into the sky.

We stood in the doorway of our waterfront hotel watching the display. Small explosions rumbled across the water as the fires took hold. A great range-colored glow lit up the harbor little more than a mile distant. Vari-colored ack-ack fire criss-crossed in the sky. The noise was terrific.

Most of the correspondents had just entered the hotel when a gigantic explosion blew out the doors and windows. Broken glass and pieces of plaster zinged through the air.

Walking across the foyer, I was blown into a corner. My first reaction was that the hotel had been struck by a bomb. A British sergeant lay under a mass of broken glass in the center of the lobby. Yards of white satin, which formed part of the ceiling decorations, were draped about his head and shoulders. He was attended by army doctors and nurses after we had dragged him from the corner.

From the hotel we could see an ever-increasing glow from the dock area. Then a great glare lit up the room. It was followed in a second or two by another blast that blew out any remaining windows and frames. More persons were cut by flying glass and small bits of debris. The dining room, bar and rooms facing the sea were a shambles with overturned tables, hanging curtains and woodwork. Glass littered the floors. It was that way throughout Bari.

Little knots of Italian families streamed from the town as the firing ceased. They carried a few belongings on their back. Some children were bare-foot, although the night was cold.

We circled the area by plane the next morning. A thick black smoke pall rose hundreds of feet. At least seven ships were still burning. Others were on their sides or mostly under water. Some of the ships burned a week.

The disaster prompted an immediate investigation of the defensive power of the port and what advance precautions had been taken to insure the safety of shipping.

The German planes were believed to have been based in northern Italy. They apparently came down the Adriatic and then swung into the attack.

Tedder Arrives



Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, 53-year-old deputy supreme commander of the Allied invasion forces, as he arrived from Africa by plane yesterday to take up his new duty.

Bombs Sever Lines to Rome Capital Is Sealed Off From Rail Access to North; Fifth Army Gains

ALLIED HQ, North Africa, Jan. 20 (Reuter)—Rome now has been completely sealed off from access by rail from the north, it was learned here tonight, following concentrated bomber attacks on rail communications in the Rome area.

Reconnaissance photographs showed that of the three major railroad lines down the Italian peninsula, only one remained—the east-coast line from Ancona to Pescara, which is the German supply route to their Adriatic troops. Subsidiary rail routes have been cut also.

Strong bomber forces again attacked German fighter bases near Rome yesterday. Liberators attacked the Perugia airfield in central Italy and Ises field, 15 miles northwest of Ancona.

(United Press quoted a Berlin radio report that strong Allied formations again attacked Rome's suburbs Thursday.)

Fifth Captures Minturno

Berlin radio admitted yesterday that Minturno, on the coastal road to Rome, had been captured by the Fifth Army after a heavy attack, while all along the Tyrrhenian sector of the Nazi Gustav line fierce battles raged as Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's forces wrested Suio, Tufo and Argento from German hands.

Reports from the front said that British troops, with their positions across the

Italy Casualty List

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20—The War Department said today American losses in Italy since the Salerno landings Sept. 3 totaled 2,985 killed, 12,504 wounded and 3,721 missing.

Garigliano River consolidated, were pushing the Germans back toward Gaeta, coastal port ten miles from Minturno.

Two miles beyond the Garigliano and six miles inland at Castelforte, the British encountered stiff resistance after they pushed on to the city from captured Suio, only 1 1/2 miles away.

American landings along the Gulf of Gaeta behind the present front line were reported by the Berlin correspondent of the Stockholm Aftonbladet.

At the northern end of the Gustav line American and French troops apparently were massing for a drive on Cassino, preventing the Germans from reinforcing their Garigliano garrisons.

Band Plays for Seamen

A U.S. Army band paid tribute to the British Merchant Navy yesterday with a two-hour concert at the Merchant Seamen's comforts fund rally in Leicester Sq., London. The band was under the direction of W/O Frank J. Rosato, of New Orleans, La., and shared the spotlight with Max Bacon, from the cast of "My Sister Eileen." Among the speakers was Lt. William Farnsworth, of the Fleet Air Arm, whose home is in Fort Washington, L.I., N.Y.

Vast Setup for Job Counseling Of Ex-Soldiers Takes Shape

Government's Full Technical, Professional Resources Will Help Put Men Back Into Civilian Jobs, McNutt Tells American Legion

CHICAGO, Jan. 20—The American soldier, sailor or airman, when he is demobilized from the services, will find the entire technical and professional resources of the federal government at his disposal in helping to fit him back into civilian life.

This was envisaged by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, when he outlined demobilization plans before the American Legion.

A survey of the relation between military and peace-time jobs has been completed by the government to ease the transition of demobilized servicemen to civilian life, McNutt said.

Outlining a demobilization program already in effect, McNutt revealed that his commission was setting up local demonstration offices to perfect the administration of veterans' placement.

"We have completed a conversion program on Army jobs and another on Navy jobs," he said. "We know what military jobs best fit what civilian jobs. The splendid technical information developed in these studies is being applied today in fitting veterans back into civilian life."

Although McNutt said that job-counseling agencies had been set up at demobilization points in hospitals and convalescent centers, he declared that the final counseling must be done in the localities where the man "is going to live, where the jobs are and where the problem can be discussed directly with the employer for whom he will work."

McNutt said that the WMC had placed before Congress a measure to recognize and protect the rights of the serviceman and his family to old-age and survivors' insurance.

World League to Insure Peace Asked by Sen. Taft

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20—Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio), in a speech before the United Nations Forum, advocated a world league which would use "economic sanctions and force if necessary" to prevent aggression.

Asserting that it would be impractical to set up a world state, Taft said that he was convinced that "a military alliance with England, or with England and Russia, would inevitably produce a counter-alliance which in the end would make war more likely."

Sen. Taft said that America did not enter the war to fight for the Atlantic Charter or the four freedoms, but because "our people were convinced, whether rightly or wrongly, that a German victory would threaten the peace and security of the United States."

\$200,000,000 War Fund Is Sought by Red Cross

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20—A war fund of \$200,000,000 will be asked of the American public next March to finance war-time operations of the American Red Cross, its chairman, Norman H. Davis, has announced.

Of this sum, \$140,000,000 will be required to finance national and international activities, of which approximately 85 per cent will be spent directly for services to the fighting forces. The remainder represents funds required by the 3,756 Red Cross chapters for work in local communities, mostly for assistance to servicemen and their families.

Back to Congress From Army ANNISTON, Ala., Jan. 20 (AP)—Rep. Harry M. Jackson (D.-Wash.) announced that he would accept an Army discharge to return to Congress. Jackson now is near the end of his training at Fort McClellan, where he was sent after his induction as a volunteer last August. Jackson's action followed President Roosevelt's ruling that the Constitution prohibited simultaneous service in the armed forces by members of Congress.

Oslo Students in Germany STOCKHOLM, Jan. 20 (UP)—Oslo students who were packed into a train on Friday for an unknown destination have been sent to a special camp for "political training" at Thueringen, in central Germany, according to reports reaching Stockholm.

Coal in New Guinea Japanese scientists have discovered very large coal deposits under the jungles in New Guinea, Tokyo radio says. These extend far under the jungle area and will soon be exploited for the benefit of Japanese war effort.

NEWS FROM HOME

WPB's Wilson Flatly Opposes Disarmament

Says Peace May Be Kept Only by Being Ready To Wage War Fully

NEW YORK, Jan. 20—Charles Wilson, vice-chairman of the War Production Board, last night advocated vigilant American preparedness in the post-war world.

Asserting that war was inevitable, Wilson urged the nation to adopt a program of "full preparedness according to a continuous plan," instead of laying emphasis on disarmament as a peace safeguard.

"Any latent ability we may have to procure for our children a durable peace will not be impaired by our ability to wage war victoriously at a moment's notice," he said.

Wilson disclosed that this year American plants would produce more than 100,000 planes. He said the 1944 aircraft production program called for increased output of heavy aircraft, such as Super Fortresses, and reduction of the number of trainers and non-combat craft.

June Lang Secretly Wed

CORONADO, Cal., Jan. 20—Movie actress June Lang and her new husband, Lt. William Morgan, of Chicago, are honeymooning here after their secret marriage 15 days ago. It is Miss Lang's third marriage. She parted from her first husband, Vic Orsatti, a few weeks after their honeymoon. She divorced her second, John Roselli, after three years. Roselli was sentenced recently to a ten-year prison term in connection with a motion-picture industry extortion case.

9 Nabbed in Whisky Raid

FLINT, Mich., Jan. 20—A 54-year-old dentist, Robert W. Parish, and eight other persons were arrested in a raid by federal, state and local authorities who said that the men were running a whisky black market. Parish was charged with selling whisky wholesale without a permit and the others were charged with illegal possession of whisky.

Hunt Wild Dogs

ABILENE, Kan., Jan. 20—Farmers in this district armed themselves with shotguns and searched for a band of wild dogs which has been preying on livestock. More than 50 sheep have been destroyed by the dogs.

Fireman Is Killed

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Jan. 20—A general-alarm fire that swept the five-story Harrison apartment building on the edge of Syracuse's downtown section caused the death of fireman George D. Neat and injured three others.

CCNY Reunion Feb. 2

A reunion dinner for men of the City College of New York will be held at 6:30 P.M., Wednesday, Feb. 2, at the No. 3 Grosvenor Sq. Club, London. Reservations should be sent to 1/Lt. Morton Hoffman, care of The Stars and Stripes College Registration Service, Printing House Sq., London, EC4.

Angels . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Knockout Dropper and S for Sugar, to be the first in this theater to complete 50 missions. Knockout Dropper won on Nov. 16, when it returned from Norway. The second B17 to go back and tour America, Hell's Angels was preceded by Memphis Belle, which Capt. Robert K. Morgan, of Asheville, N.C., and his combat crew flew home last June after completing its tour of duty. The returning crewmen all had different ideas as to what they wanted to do first when they get home. "I've got a wife, a four-year-old child and a grocery business back home," said Sgt. Zeller, "I'll have plenty to do when they give us furlough." "The first thing I'm gonna do," remarked Wegryn, "is order a banana split for myself."

Terry and the Pirates



By Milton Caniff