



THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations



Vol. 4 No. 69

New York, N.Y.—London, England

Saturday, Jan. 22, 1944

France Is Hit After Greatest Berlin Raid

Your Chance of Voting . . .

12 States So Far Have Laws to Give Soldier Vote

What is your chance of voting in this year's Presidential election? President Roosevelt last week warned Congress that if it failed to establish a centralized federal set-up to handle the vote and left it to the individual states, many soldiers would be deprived of their ballot. Discussions still are going on in Washington, but indications in Congress are that the task will be left to the states. The Stars and Stripes asked The Associated Press for a survey of what the states have done and are doing to provide the soldier with an absentee ballot. Here is the round-up.

Special Cable to The Stars and Stripes
WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Rep. Eugene Worley (D., Tex.), chairman of the House Elections Committee, said he was making "every effort to have Congress enact a simple election law that would insure American soldiers abroad a vote in the coming presidential election."

At the moment the voting situation by states shapes up as follows: Sixteen state legislatures are meeting now or are about to meet in regular or special session with an opportunity to enact liberalized election laws. Others are waiting on Congress to see whether their final draft of the vote facilitation measure requires any supple-

mental action on their parts. Still others, like Pennsylvania, may be able to solve the puzzle through the application of state war emergency powers.

The Georgia legislature was the first to pass a liberalized election law, completing on Jan. 7 a bill permitting absentee voters to register and vote by mail instead of in person as at present and setting up a state commission with final authority over the ballot. The bill has been signed by the governor. Illinois and West Virginia were quick to follow, enacting bills to allow soldiers to vote.

Other state legislatures now meeting or to meet this month are those of Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Iowa, Colorado and Michigan. The meeting of the Louisiana legislature is scheduled for May. California and Maryland are other possibilities for early meetings.

Governor Edward Martin (R.) of Pennsylvania said that his state's law needed changing to speed the delivery of ballots to absentees; an effort will be made to effect

(Continued on page 4)

U.S., Allied Swarms Of Heavies, Mediums Blast Channel Coast

Group OK's Bill for U.S. To Issue Soldier Ballot

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—A compromise soldier-vote bill, providing for a uniform federal ballot but empowering state and local officials to decide on voters' qualifications and validity of servicemen's ballots, was approved by the Senate Elections Committee late yesterday.

Designed to meet objections of Congressmen who want the states to retain control of the election machinery, the revised bill won a 12-2 committee majority and was expected to reach the Senate floor next week.

Reich Capital Left Afire by 2,460 Bomb Tons

The Allied air forces struck Germany's home front and war machine another stinging one-two punch in the 24 hours ending at dusk yesterday.

Lancasters and Halifaxes of the RAF, in their 11th heavy attack on Berlin since Nov. 18, dropped more than 2,300 tons of bombs—2,460 tons in American measure—on the German capital, leaving fires whose glow on the low-hung clouds was visible a great distance away on the homeward flight. It was the heaviest raid yet in the ever-mounting offensive on the nerve center of Germany's war effort.

American heavy bombers—plus mediums and fighters of both the USAAF and RAF—took up in daylight where the RAF left off, and shuffled across the English Channel in huge numbers in a day-long attack on targets in the Pas de Calais area of France, possibly the site of Germany's much-discussed "rocket guns."

The RAF's pounding of Berlin cost 35 heavy bombers, the Air Ministry said. The toll in the daylight sweeps had not been announced at a late hour last night.

There were few details of the daylight offensive available late last night. A joint "flash" communique by the USAAF and Air Ministry said only:

"USAAF Fortresses and Liberators, USAAF Marauders and RAF medium, light and fighter-bombers (Bostons, Mitchells, Mosquitoes, Typhoons and Hurricanes) bombed targets in the Pas de Calais area in daylight today. The heavy bombers were escorted by Thunderbolts and Lightnings, while the medium, light and fighter-bombers were escorted, supported and covered by RAF, Dominion and Allied fighters."

Crews of returning American planes reported that the flak over the Pas de Calais was by far the heaviest they had encountered. On the other hand, RAF crews were surprised by the light anti-aircraft defense of Berlin.

"What really shook me was the lack of flak," said one flight officer. "When we went there before we had plenty. Sometimes we've spotted the barrage going up when we were 80 miles away. At one point last night I looked around and identified one single burst over Berlin."

A Lancaster pilot said it was the easiest of eight trips he had made. The RAF attack on Berlin lasted just 30 minutes, the Air Ministry announced, but it was carried out by the largest force of Lancasters and Halifaxes thus far dispatched to that city by Britain's Bomber Command.

Berlin lay hidden under a layer of cloud which extended all the way to the coast. A continuous cluster of sky markers guided the attacking planes, however, and as the assault drew to a close black smoke spiraled up through the clouds to several thousand feet above the bombers. One crew, the Air Ministry said, reported that when the clouds suddenly broke in a single place they saw the streets clearly defined in the light of fires.

Many explosions were observed, including one of great violence. News stories from Berlin carried (Continued on page 4)

The Douglas A20 Now Night Fighter With Four Cannon

DAYTON, Ohio, Jan. 21—Conversion of the Douglas A20 attack bomber into a night fighter redesignated the P70, by the addition of four forward-firing 20mm. cannon on fixed mounts in the nose, was announced today at Wright Field here.

The new version has been christened unofficially the "Midnight Mauler." The RAF has been using the A20 as a night fighter since 1941. When using it for this purpose the RAF knows it as the Havoc and when using it as an attack bomber, sometimes in support of infantry attacking ground objectives, the British call it the Boston. Speed, long range and a tricycle undercarriage for safer landings are its principal night-fighter advantages.

Reds Smash Nazis Back in North

Pivot of Rail Lines To Baltic States Is Threatened

Great forces of Russian tanks and infantry, throwing back the Nazis south of Leningrad with giant blows from land, sea and air, smashed their way yesterday within shelling distance of the key rail junction of Krasnovardensk, 22 miles southwest of Leningrad and pivot of the German retreat railways leading to the Baltic states.

Battering their way forward in battles that a German spokesman conceded were now so gigantic that all other events in the east paled into insignificance, the Russians drove relentlessly across the snow-covered steppes in a sweeping bid to cut off large pockets of Nazis.

While Gen. Govorov's divisions from Leningrad thrust toward Krasnovardensk, troops of Gen. Mareitskov's army pushed ten miles beyond captured Novgorod and struck southwest along the shores of Lake Ilmen and the railway to Dno, an advance that would outflank the great German fortress of Staraya Russa, 140 miles southeast of Leningrad.

Nazis Still Attack in South
The Baltic front overshadowed all other sectors, but furious fighting was reported around Vitebsk and in the Priepet marshes east of Bobruisk. In front of Vinnitsa, gateway to the Odessa-Lwow railroad and Rumania, the Russians said they were smashing one German counter-attack after another, at terrific cost to the enemy. Moscow said that 1,500 Nazis perished in two attacks in that sector Thursday.

Germany's Baltic armies faced a grim prospect as the Soviet thrusts tore vital gaps into their ten-mile-deep ring around Leningrad. A critical battle was in progress in the north and west suburbs of (Continued on page 4)

Lowell Bennett, Of INS, Safe—a Captive of Nazis

Lowell Bennett, International News Service correspondent who was reported missing in the Nov. 2 RAF raid on Berlin, is a prisoner of war in Germany.

The INS bureau chief in London, Leo Dolan, received a letter from Bennett yesterday written "Somewhere in Germany, Dec. 11—". In his letter the correspondent noted, "That's a helluva dateline, but it could be worse."

"I'll try and give the INS some invasion scoops," he said and finished with the warning, "watch out for the secret weapon."

Bennett, 24, of South Orange, N.J., has been in German hands before. He served as a soldier in the French, British and Finnish armies in this war and was in a German concentration camp for a short time after the Germans entered Paris.

In 1942 he went with invading U.S. forces to North Africa as a correspondent and covered the first clash between U.S. and German troops. He has a book on sale in the States covering the North African campaign and said in his letter from the prison camp that he had started another, "in longhand this time."

Red Cross Ready and Waiting To Move Onto Continent, Too

By Arthur W. White

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Detailed "invasion plans," begun seven months ago, have been completed by the American Red Cross in the ETO and the organization is ready and waiting to follow the Army onto the Continent, it was revealed yesterday by Harvey D. Gibson, ARC Commissioner to Britain.

Giving the first concrete news of the vast welfare preparations being made here for the opening of the Second Front, Gibson said that a committee has ironed out all difficulties in cooperation with the Army. The name of the chairman, who will direct mobile ARC operations, will be announced soon, he said.

The area where the Army will launch the attack—promised this year by Gen. Eisenhower—has been named "Zone Five" by the ARC, the Commissioner said. Britain already is divided for administrative purposes into four zones.

Two 'Waves' Planned
"Men field directors will go in as the first 'Red Cross wave,'" Gibson said. "They are assigned to all sizable units of American troops, have lived and worked with them for months, and, as far as the Army allows, will accompany them."

It was announced in September that during the Sicily invasion about 100 field directors went in with the troops, and, apart from other work, gave valuable assistance to the U.S. medical authorities. The second wave will be picked Red Cross girls—many of them from clubmobiles—now being considered for "ruggedness and health, driving ability, skill in languages, and the type of service they have given in this British training-ground," Gibson revealed.

They will staff clubmobiles and establish "Donut Dugouts" for coffee and snacks in buildings or tents in the rear. Field directors will be able to return from (Continued on page 4)

The Crops Are Shooting Up Bomb-Plowed Invasion Coast Begins to Grow Flak in Gobs

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A FORTRESS BASE, Jan. 21—The Nazis today began to put up serious resistance over their targets along the invasion coast of France.

As a whole fleet of American bombers—heavies and mediums—came back from a day-long pounding of the unidentified military installations which may be emplacements for Hitler's rocket guns, combat crews reported encountering intense curtains of flak. Apparently desperate at the day-after-day attacks on what may be their reprisal weapons, the Nazis had ringed their installations with heavy anti-aircraft fire.

In the B17 piloted by 1/Lt. Robert W. Biesecker, of Lexington, N.C., I watched the nastiest flak I've seen in five missions to those targets. Some crewmen who have seen flak over Bremen and Munster and Kiel corroborated the impression that those ack-ack gunners the Nazis have moved in to their present

emplacements are as good as there are in the business.

"Dirtiest flak ever," was a typical reaction as the combat fliers returned to the base commanded by Col. Edgar M. Wittan, of Newport News, Va.

While the German gunners in this area of France hitherto have thrown up occasionally impressive umbrellas of fire, there has been no such exhibition as was put up over several localities behind the invasion coast this afternoon. Some groups reported only the usual weak flak, but for most of them it was a rough day, despite low losses.

There were occasional fighters this afternoon, but the Marauder bombers' incessant pounding of Luftwaffe fields in northern France apparently has succeeded in keeping the Nazi fighter pilots far enough inland to afford the bombers a small measure of freedom of interception.

Nobody has been bothering those flak people much, though. Our bomber came home, with others, as a 'no test' impersonation of a sieve to prove it.

New-Type Furlough Pass Soon Will Be Required

Soldiers on pass and furlough soon will be required to carry a new-type pass instead of the old pink one, ETOUSA headquarters announced yesterday. On the new form, designated as TPM-3, will be written the name of the town the soldier intends to visit. If he is going to London, the Red Cross club at which he is to be billeted will be specified. He must register at the club by 10 PM.

The new ruling became effective Jan. 10, but until sufficient new forms are printed MPs are accepting the old-type passes.

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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, SOS
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Publications Officer, Col Theodore Arter
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Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors; subscription 25 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. 69, January 22, 1944

Double Victory

We can all rejoice in the magnitude of Russian victories at Leningrad and Novgorod. These two victories indicate a giant pincer movement is developing that will match the Dnieper Bend operation. Already it has laid the basis for an encirclement which will force either a sweeping German retreat into Estonia or drive some 250,000 Nazis into a Stalingrad annihilation.
Spearheads of the Leningrad Oranienbaum thrusts have linked up and clearance of 20 miles of Baltic coastline between the two points is rapidly progressing. Thus Oranienbaum, the Russian Tobruk and a bridgehead on the Gulf of Finland which covered Kronstadt for more than two years, has been relieved. And into Red Army hands have fallen the German super-heavy batteries which bombarded Leningrad for over a year.
But more important than freeing Leningrad from the blasting by siege guns is the break-through at Novgorod, which in conjunction with the Leningrad thrust constitutes an operation similar in scope to that conducted by the American Army at St. Mihiel during World War I. And after St. Mihiel, in 1918, the Germans continued to fall back until the Armistice. It may well be that Russia's latest victories will prove equally as important. Certainly Hitler's hordes in North Russia are in for a rough time during the next two months.

Russian Names Are Easy

The names of Russian towns are really as simple as Centerville, Springfield and Kansas City—if you just think of them that way.
Authority for this statement is J. C. Tolpin, Russian language professor at Northwestern University, who claims we should have no trouble with names like Zhitomir or Stalingrad once we grasp the meaning of such words; for the Russians, explains the professor, share America's fondness for naming places after common things.
Zhitomir, for example, is the Russian word for rye—a major crop in the Ukraine where it is situated. "Ukraine," on the other hand, is just a geographical term meaning borderland—in this case the western frontier.
Rovno may not mean much to the uninitiated, but, like Illinois, they both mean the same thing—prairie, or flatlands.
Most war readers by this time are familiar with the various Russian forms to indicate "city." Grodno, grad and gorod closely resemble our own forms of burg and ville. Hence Leningrad (Lenin's city) and Novgorod-Volynski (new town in Volyn province).
Velikie Luki, however, is Professor Tolpin's favorite, and freely translated Velikie means "great" and Luki means the name Luke, or sometimes an onion—you can take your choice.
For the meat eaters there is Minsk, or pigs; Cherkassy, meaning long-horned cattle, which gets close to our own Grey Bull, Wyoming. So while pronunciations may be a little difficult for some of us, readers who consult their dictionaries or listen to their radio commentators will soon be able to pronounce such words as Dnepropetrovsk without a sneeze.

For Officers Too

With the establishment of fees for officers, the United States Armed Forces Institute is accepting enrolments for correspondence courses and self-teaching materials.
Army officers will pay two dollars for each course taken, the same for each set of self-teaching materials and the full cost for each course taken from a college or university, rather than the half fee charged enlisted men.
USAFI correspondence courses, including the 64 subjects now available and any others that may be added in the future, together with the lesson services provided in this theater, are open immediately to officers who file the regular application form each time they wish to take a course and who include with it the fee required.
The new ruling followed wide demand on the part of officer personnel for the privilege of continuing their education through facilities available to enlisted men as provided by the United States Armed Forces Institute. In the past applications were refused, due to the fact that courses were financed in part from funds earmarked for the welfare of GIs only.
Payment by officers of the full fees eliminates the obstacle in the path of those who wish to prepare now through education to assume positions of leadership in peace-time America.

Hash Marks

Surprise of the Week. Into the Help Wanted Department of The Stars and Stripes comes a query from Lt. John E. St. Lawrence, of Ordnance, who wonders whether he can go home if he concludes a separate peace with Hitler.

And then there's the one about the sergeant who was walking down the street with two beautiful dames. It



didn't help matters any when he passed two Pfs standing on the corner who greeted him with shouts of "Hoarder, Hoarder, Hoarder!"

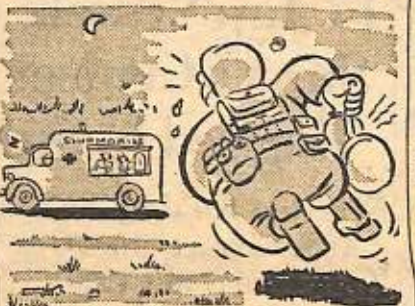
Incidentally, there's at least one guy in the ETO who really gets around. Six nurses have written in requesting his APO number! (Name next week.)

This quip comes straight from the medics. "The doctor will see you inside," said the nurse as she helped the patient onto the operating table.

Pardon us for going in for a little heavy philosophy, but Cpl. Lewis Segal has sent us a quote worth passing on. "Hitler thinks heavy losses will make America quit; but the more an American loses, the more he hates to quit until he's a winner."

Today's Daffynition. Kibitzer: A guy with an inferiority complex.

This is the tale of Cpl. Nasuti of a headquarters company. Cpl. Nasuti loves his eggs—the ones with shells. It was a



dark and dreary night in one of those dismal spots in England that only an S-3 of an infantry unit can locate for training. After a strenuous day the GIs were resting and dreaming about the good things they left behind. Suddenly a whispered rumor reached Nasuti's ears—"Fresh eggs are being served at the Red Cross clubmobile." Calling on a hidden reservoir of strength, Nasuti was off for the truck like a flash, his mess gear banging and clanging. He banged and changed his way up to the counter, where a surprised Red Cross girl greeted him with a cheery "My, that's peculiar equipment for dunking donuts and coffee!" (Take a tip from us—don't mention eggs to Nasuti.)
J. C. W.

Sings a Debtor in the Infantry:

Praise the Lord and Pass Those Planes the Credit

By Charles F. Kiley
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

S/Sgt. John Ready, veteran of the North African and Sicilian campaigns, is one foot-slogger in the infantry who loves the air force and firmly believes in air support.

Ready was taken prisoner in Africa in the battle for Sedjenane Valley, spent weeks inside German prison camps. He was freed to fight another day by Flying Fortresses which bombed an enemy ship trying to run the

Allied air-sea blockade to Italy with a cargo of American, British and French prisoners.

Ready's experience as a prisoner of war may be typical of what any soldier may expect in the hands of the enemy. He knew what to do, how to act and what to say. As a result, the Chicagoan imparted no military information, and while life in a prison camp is no bed of roses, he survived to tell about it.

"I was taken prisoner with two men in my squad in the early stages of the Sedjenane Valley battle and while on patrol duty in enemy territory," he related. "While investigating an abandoned house in an area infested with anti-personnel mines and booby traps, we were ambushed and captured by German paratroopers.

"Taken to an enemy headquarters post, we were given a meal of soup, potatoes, stewed prunes and coffee. Curious German soldiers gathered around us asking for souvenirs. One wanted to trade his German-made watch for my GI. Some of them offered us cigarettes and cigars. Frankly, I was more than a little surprised at their friendliness."

Ready later was taken about four miles to an Afrika Korps division headquarters, where a clerk and two officers offered him wine and asked for identification cards and pay books. One of the officers, Ready said, was a short, comical-looking man whom he was to encounter later in a U.S. prison camp in Mateur.

Cross Examined

"They also took our wallets and seemed mighty interested in a girl's picture I had," Ready said. "From that place they drove us by truck to a G-2 office on the Tunis-Bizerte road. There we were questioned again, one at a time.

"After reading a report on us, an officer asked me if I knew Maj. Brown, told me I was from Co. C of the — regiment and tried to impress us with his knowledge of positions held by American forces."

Other questions asked in the interrogation were:

"What unit is on your right? On your left?"

"How many men do you think you have in reserve?"

"When did you arrive in that area?"

"When is the war going to end?"

To all queries, Ready and the others gave no answers, except the last one. To that, Ready said: "Your guess is as good as mine."

The next stop for the prisoners was Ferryville, where they were put in an underground room of concrete that housed 30 men, including French officers, a French chaplain, British soldiers, a U.S. major in Special Service, a quartermaster major and a lieutenant colonel in the infantry. Their beds were piles of straw on the concrete floor.

"Our daily ration," added Ready, "consisted of one loaf of bread for every four men, one can of meat for 18 and coffee served at breakfast and supper. We also got prunes every morning at 10 and every afternoon. Our guards didn't eat much better, but they had white bread and occasionally gave us their leftovers."

They also were allowed to dig graves and conduct burial services for American soldiers who died in the prison hospital. The ceremonies were simple, yet impressive, Ready said. Each coffin was draped with an American flag and a major lead the prayers.

Camp Evacuated

When the Anglo-Franco-American advance gathered impetus in Tunisia the camp was evacuated and the prisoners removed to the port of Tunis, from where they were to be taken to Italy. En route to Tunis, Ready and other prisoners found about 200 bars of British-made Cadbury's chocolate, three pounds of lump sugar and cigars in the rear of their truck.

"I guess truck drivers are the same in any army," Ready laughed. "Always making sure they don't run short of supplies."

Thrown in with 700 other Britons and Americans, Ready and his group were imprisoned in an old school in Tunis for one day. There the guards allowed women of the French Red Cross to bring them food.

The following day, while they were being loaded on the Italy-bound ship, seven planes bombed the harbor. The ship was later attacked three times in the day and prevented from making much headway.

The Fortresses showed up the next day, and while they didn't score a direct hit, one bomb came close enough to spring the shell plates. Water rushed through the openings and the vessel headed for shore. It ran aground about a mile off shore, and the ship's crew deserted. An American colonel took charge of the U.S. personnel, and two days later Ready was back with his company.

"I don't know whether those Forts wanted to hit the ship," Ready said. "There would have been casualties if they did. Maybe they wanted to do what they did—force the ship ashore and give us a chance to get away without anybody being hurt."

Super Planes To Hit Britain, Swedes Hear

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 21 (AP)—Latest Nazi secret-weapon story to reach here pictures a fleet of German long-range super-bombers held in readiness for a great offensive to destroy the Allied invasion armies in England before they are able to go into action against the continent.

Travelers recently in Austria said all talk there was about these new planes, called "New York bombers," presumably because they are capable of reaching New York.

These sources said Austrian airports, greatly enlarged since the start of the war, were clogged with "New Yorks," and factories at Schwechat, near Vienna, were said to be manufacturing the new planes around the clock. They added that the Vienna airport had been expanded to four times its former size.

Stream of Rumors

Germany is alive with stories of secret weapons designed to repel attempts to land on Hitler's fortress. In the last month a stream of stories has come from Germany and Switzerland about rocket bombs loaded with the most destructive explosive yet used, about rocket planes, rocket guns and gliding bombs.

In Vienna, one big mystery is what is being manufactured in great secrecy in the city's northwest railway station, long unused but now converted into a factory. Reports reaching Stockholm said a heavy SS guard patrolled the area night and day keeping away the inquisitive.

German propaganda, aimed at deterring and frightening the Allies, recently has emphasized what a blood bath will result if they attempt landings.

Along this line was a recent report received in Sweden that many Germans, including officers, believed that the day Nazi leaders realized they had lost the war they would attempt a final revenge by using either bacteria or gas, or both.

The authors of this tale professed to know that the Nazis already had bombs charged with bacteria of all kinds which had undergone thorough tests in special German high command laboratories. The bombs were said to be still limited in number because production had proved dangerous.

Pilots Might Balk

The report suggested that if pilots realized the nature of their bomb loads they would be likely to refuse to fly them, even though the fliers were thorough Nazis.

Rockets continue to hold first place in the Nazis' talk of secret weapons. One dispatch to the Swedish press from Zurich said the swish of rocket weapons could be heard along the Swiss border, where the Germans were testing them.

A German in Stockholm said he believed Hitler's secret weapon was a rocket bomb, controlled by radio from airplanes. Experiments made over the Baltic near Warnemunde were only 50 per cent successful, he said.

Another declared the Allied bombing offensive had knocked out vital plants building the long-promised weapon and would, therefore, delay its introduction.

Though it is difficult to get to the bottom of all the vague and conflicting rumors about the "revenge" the Nazis are planning for the Allies, it is certain Goebbels and company are encouraging all possible speculation abroad about the secret weapon they have advertised so long—mainly for the uneasiness and worry it may cause.

From that standpoint, the propaganda may be as effective as the weapon itself, it was said.

Bataan Japs Scourge N. Britain

Key Ridge Is Bathed in Blood Before Fall to Heroic Marines

By Murlin Spencer

Associated Press Correspondent

WITH THE MARINES AT CAPE GLOUCESTER, Jan. 14 (delayed)—For fully five minutes the Japs chanted and shouted:

"Prepare to die, Marines!" and at 4.15 AM they charged.

Five times they charged, and five times U.S. Marines hurled them back in the bloodiest battle of the Cape Gloucester campaign—the battle for Walt's Ridge.

The battle has ended now and the picture is complete.

It is a picture of brave men in hand-to-hand combat—a gun crew exhorted to superhuman effort, and bearded, weary men, hearts pounding as they hauled ammunition to comrades in the line.

For half an hour the issue was in doubt. It was so serious at the end of the fourth attack that troops on the left side of the Marine line exhausted their ammunition, and carriers replenished the supply barely four minutes before the Japs launched their fifth and final attack.

Lt. Col. Lewis Walt had his command post approximately 175 yards from the tip of a ridge which has been given his name.

This former Colorado football player took over command of troops who had been in the line for a week. They were discouraged men who had lost their two

senior officers in the heavy fighting which preceded the final battle.

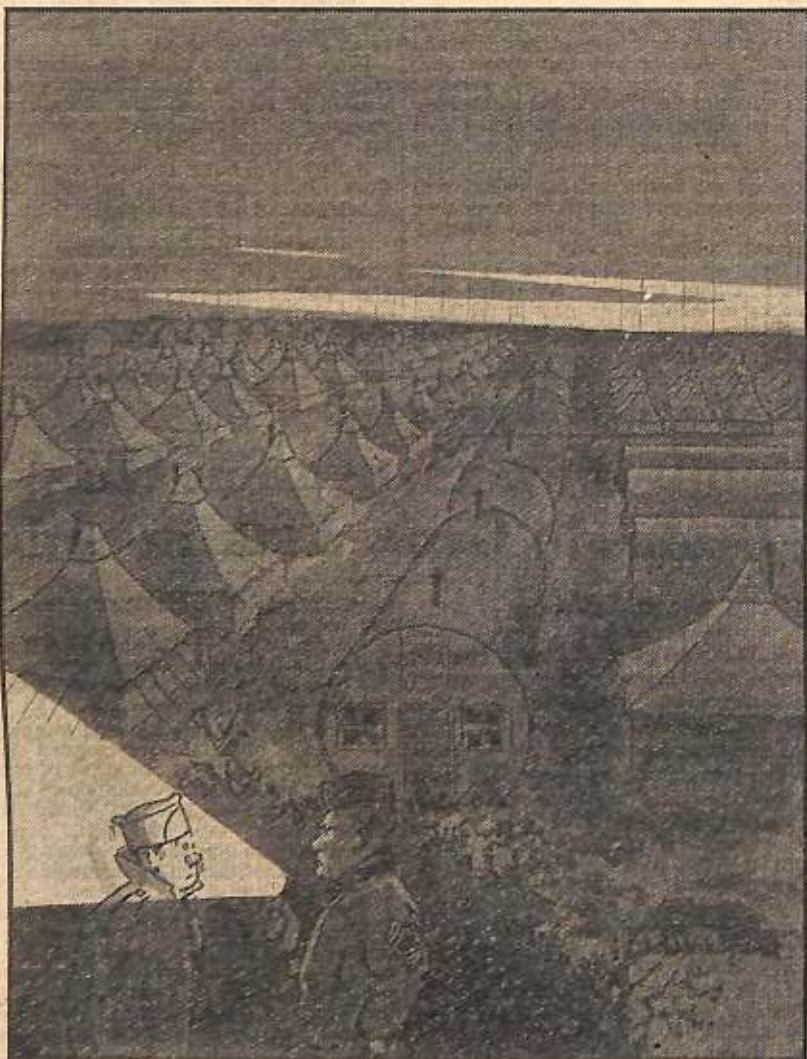
Col. Walt knew before he had been there long that this would be one of the decisive battles of the campaign. It was apparent that the ridge was the strong-point of the enemy's position and that the Japanese had been ordered to defend it to the last man. While Hill 660 is the key to Borgen Bay defense, the ridge is the key to Hill 660.

Preparations for the battle lasted two days.

Col. Walt, assisted by Maj. Robert Dillard, pushed the men through jungle so dense that visibility was reduced to less than ten yards.

There were brief but vicious clashes and the usual tortuous job of knocking out snipers, and there was rain. Day after day it rained, in sudden, drenching downpours. It soaked the men to the skin—made them cold and miserable and turned the trails up the slopes and across the gulleys into "devil's slides," over which the men climbed only by pulling on trees and bushes along the way.

Thus the stage was set when Walt set up a command post at the base of the ridge and began the assault. Up to this point he had the aid of tanks, but now they were useless because of the steep slopes. Walt ordered the attack to move forward and Marines struggled toward the top ridge. They battled every inch of the way against picked troops of the Japanese Army and veterans of Bataan, it was learned later.

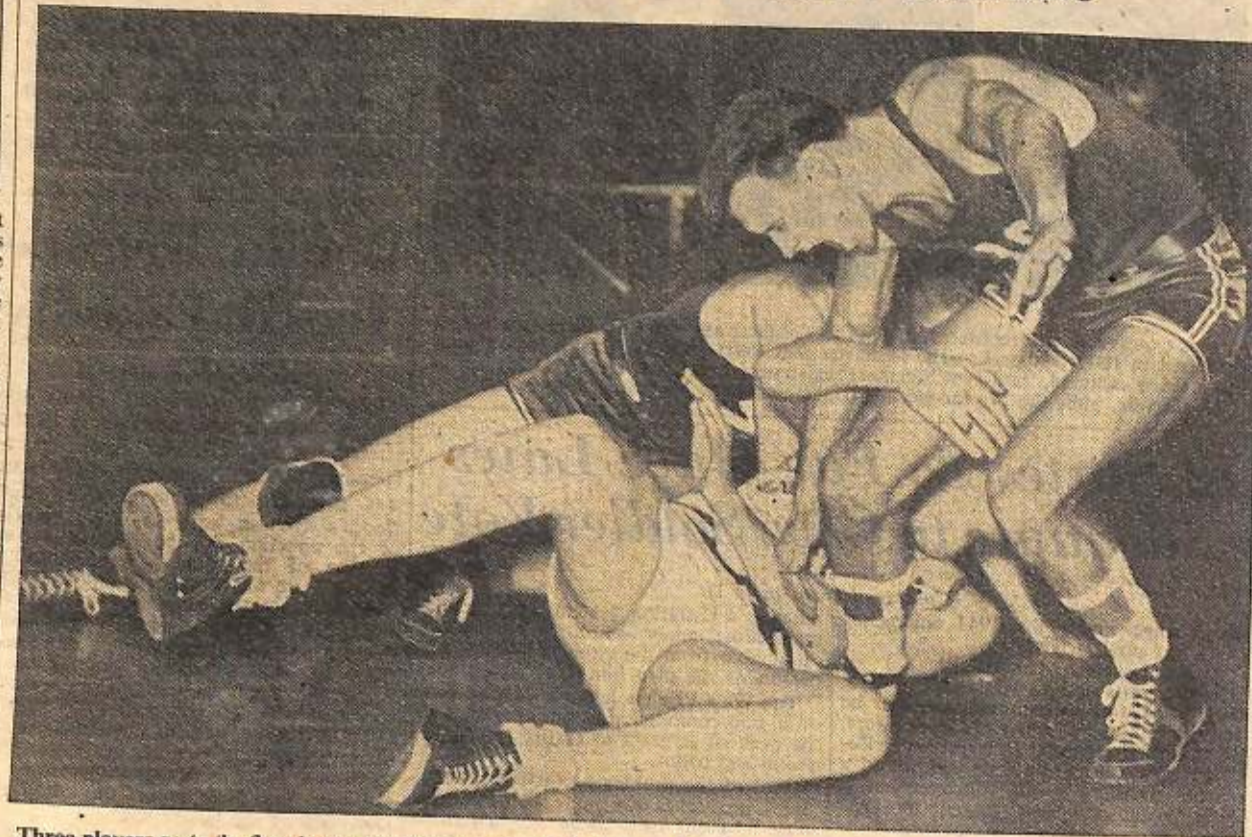


"Want some place to sleep, eh? Well there's no place around here. Lemme think. . ."

Army's Sports Policy May Be Changed This Year



Arkansas Razorbacks in Court Scramble



Three players go to the floor in a tangle of arms and legs in the second half of the University of Arkansas-City College of New York game at Madison Square Garden. In left foreground is Hal Korovin, CCNY center. At right is Louis Nichols, Arkansas forward. The Razorbacks took the close game, 39-37.

Scribe Predicts Louis Will Meet Conn or Mills

Action by War Department May Follow Incidents in North Africa

By Chip Royal

Associated Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK, Jan. 21 (AP)—Don't be surprised if the Army does an about face on its handling of athletes this year. All signs and "off-the-record" talk point to a more helpful attitude.

Come in a little closer. Hold your breath.

We may even see that long-awaited second meeting between heavyweight champion Joe Louis and chief challenger Billy Conn—along about July 4.

If the Conn fight doesn't jell with Washington, because of the after-effects of that Louis-Conn Army Emergency Relief bout War Secretary Stimson cancelled, then you can look for a Louis-Freddie Mills battle. Mills is England's heavy-weight champ.

There are all kinds of proof of the pudding around if you're interested.

First, there's that incident involving the World Series. The Army powers who control such things didn't think it was necessary to broadcast a direct play-by-play account. They decided on a 45-minute transcription, to be aired the next day, or whenever the soldiers wanted to listen.

That's where they made a big mistake.

When the boys in the Mediterranean area didn't hear the actual accounts of the first two games via shortwave, Gen. Eisenhower dropped everything and wanted to know "how come?" ending with words like "don't let it happen again."

It didn't. When Ike asks for anything, he gets it. Starting with the third game, the World Series went overseas by direct relay.

That was the greatest break sports have had from the War Department since the big battle started. The ice was broken.

The second cue also came from Africa. The boys over there, like those at every other post, had been indulging in baseball, football, basketball and other contact sports, but wanted to see some real slambang entertainment.

So a group of fighters asked Lt. Gen. Mark Clark to allow them to conduct a series of elimination tournaments behind the lines while they were resting between battles, to determine the champion boxers among the Allied troops in the North African theater of operations.

General Clark agreed. He even approved a plan to let the fighters go into training. Each division sent in its best at all the fighting weights and the champions from each Army unit went to Algiers to fight in the finals.

No sooner had the idea hopped across the ocean than Army officers all over the country jumped on it. "Just what the men need," "There should be a nationwide tournament," "It will make every man fight-conscious," are just a few comments.

The War Department hasn't said anything publicly but a glance at some of the recent Army doings indicates that the bug bit the right persons.

Several soldiers who used to indulge in a little prize fighting have been given permission to have a few outside bouts. Two or three jockeys were allowed to ride during furloughs. Hank Soar was given permission to play football for the New York Giants during weekends.

So why not permit Joe Louis to meet Billy Conn? A little birdie says that it won't be long now before both boys will be allowed to indulge in a few professional appearances during furloughs.

By Al Capp

NEW YORK, Jan. 21—Four Dodger pitching prospects have become doubtful starters for next season, President Branch Rickey mournfully announced here yesterday in outlining Brooklyn's spring training plans.

Southpaw Bob Shipman and right-hander Bill Lohrman, who finished the season with the Dodgers, Rookie Wes Flowers, southpaw, and Lloyd Dietz, right-hander, have notified Rickey they probably will be in service.

Lohrman requested his draft board to classify him as a professional baseball player, although he owns and operates a farm near New Paltz, N.Y. Lohrman told Rickey his number comes up in April and he expects to be in service not later than June 1, but Rickey hopes to induce Lohrman to pitch until his induction time.

Rickey said that he had counted on Flowers for regular duty next season. The Deacon spoke highly of Frank Drews, second baseman coming up from St. Paul. Drews hit .258 last year, but Rickey says that he has a respectable extra-base record.

Concerning Leo Durocher, the Dodger president said that he had heard that the Lip may not go overseas after all.

Armstrong Beating Drum For 90-Pound Nuttall

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 21—Henry Armstrong says that the best left-hand puncher he ever saw is 13-year-old, 90-pound Keith Nuttall, of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Henry said he "Like to have fell dead," the first time he saw Nuttall. Armstrong says that Nuttall, the son of an old-time boxer, chases kids from the ring who outweigh him by 30 pounds.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21—A drive has been started here to lift Sam Langford, blind and penniless former prize fighter, from destitution.

Langford, now 57, was located two weeks ago in a Harlem hall bedroom by New York Herald Tribune sports writer Al Laney. Laney told in his story how Sam said every one of his 642 fights had been a pleasure and he had no complaints except that he could use some change occasionally to buy an occasional cigar or some pipe tobacco. Sam's only income is a small pension from the Society for the Blind.

Langford, although only a middle-weight at his best, chased Jack Johnson through several countries in a vain attempt to get a shot at the heavyweight championship, but the old Boston Tar Baby never caught up Johnson.

When the sports fans read of Sam's plight, they immediately started sending contributions to Stanley Woodward, Tribune sports editor. Woodward and Laney conferred with several contributors and a fund committee was formed. The committee must pass on any money withdrawn from the fund so Sam won't be victimized.

The money deposited in the Sam Langford Fund at the Guaranty Trust Company by the sports fans will keep Sam in cigar money and better for a long time.

Wings Subdue Chicago, 4-3

Five to Near Third Place

DETROIT, Jan. 21—The fast-moving Detroit Red Wings, playing the most consistent hockey in the National League, racked up a 4-3 triumph over the Chicago Black Hawks here last night and moved to within one point of third place in the ice loop.

The Wings provided rookie goalie Connie Dion with a strong defense and thwarted a Chicago drive in the third period which fell one goal short of bringing them a tie.

Each team scored once in the opening period, Cully Dahlstrom banging one for the Hawks and Mud Bruneteau for the Wings. Bruneteau's tally came 30 seconds before the buzzer.

Murray Armstrong and Adam Brown put the Wings in front, 3-1, in the second, but Clint Smith came back within 30 seconds of the final stanza to disc one for the Hawks. Fido Purpur netted the final Detroit marker.

Tipkens Stops Bengay In SBS Ring Feature

SBS HQ., Jan. 21—Pvt. Hewitt Tipkens, Brunswick, Ga., 138-pounder, scored a TKO over Cpl. Freddie Bengay, of Albuquerque, N.M., 138, in the first round of the feature bout here last night.

In other bouts: Pvt. Louis Martinez, Los Angeles, outpointed Cpl. Louis Mazzoulo, Chicago, 130.

Pfc Ralph Pombano, Brooklyn, 156, outpointed Pfc Bill Neglia, New York, 164.

Pvt. Paul Losurdo, Chicago, 142, outpointed Pvt. Glen Ferguson, Kokomo, Ind., 140.

Sgt. George Leetch, Los Angeles, 190, outpointed Pvt. Glen Reed, Akron, 180.

Ellsworth Vines Cops First Golf Tourney

SAN GABRIEL, Cal., Jan. 21 (Reuters)—Ellsworth Vines, former tennis champion, won his first tournament against first class opposition since he turned golf professional here yesterday.

He captured the San Gabriel Country Club event, equalling the course record of 64, seven under par. Byron Nelson, leading golfer of 1943, was second with a card of 67.

Li'l Abner

AS THE SWOON CROON OF FREDDIE MCGURGLE VIBRATES OVER THE AIRWAVES—ALL RED-BLOODED AMERICAN GIRLHOOD—EVEN IN DOGFATCH—GATHERS AROUND THE RADIO.....

GAH DONE HEERD CITY GALS FAINT LIKE FLIES AT THET VARMINT'S CHIN-MOOSIC!?

SHECKS—THEM CITY GALS FAINTS AT ANYTHING!! US DOGFATCH GALS IS TOUGH 'N' RUGGED!!—NAT-CHERLY HE'LL LEAVE US COLD!!

SHOOOSH!!—HYAR HE GO!!

EV'RY GAL BUT M-ME—?—?—K-KIN IT BE THET AH IS A LI'L ABNORMAL?!

Dodger Mound Prospects Sag As Draft Beckons 4 Starters

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Four-F Wrestling Fan Gives 235 Pounds, and He Pays, Too

NEW YORK, Jan. 21—Judge Frankland fined Joseph D. Fabiano, 140-pound wrestler, committing assault and battery on the Golden Terror, 375-pounder, and groaner after a bout here yesterday.

The judge expressed amazement when Fabiano was brought to court.

"What's your draft status?" the judge inquired.

"Four-F, your honor," answered the giant killer.

Asked the reason for the clarification, Fabiano said, "Nerves."

The judge then admonished Fabiano against attending wrestling matches for the good of his nervous system and imposed the fine.

Hockey League Standings

Montreal	W	L	T	Pts.	Detroit	W	L	T	Pts.
20	3	5	45		12	11	5	20	
Toronto	16	13	2	34	Chicago	11	16	1	23
Boston	13	12	4	30	New York	5	22	1	11

Boxing Bugs Dig Down to Aid 'Boston Tar Baby' Langford

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Langford, now 57, was located two weeks ago in a Harlem hall bedroom by New York Herald Tribune sports writer Al Laney. Laney told in his story how Sam said every one of his 642 fights had been a pleasure and he had no complaints except that he could use some change occasionally to buy an occasional cigar or some pipe tobacco. Sam's only income is a small pension from the Society for the Blind.

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The money deposited in the Sam Langford Fund at the Guaranty Trust Company by the sports fans will keep Sam in cigar money and better for a long time.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21—The latest communication from the figure filberts is a note on Whirlaway. Now everyone knows that Whirly won more money than any other horse ever to run on the American tracks, but this guy has it figured down to the most exact numbers. Whirly won \$1.39 for every foot he ran, and he ran 404,590 feet. That amounts to \$561,161, to keep you from having to figure it out. . . . Tennessee gave more support to the story that it is coming back to football next year when they signed Ray Graves of the Phil-Pitt. pro team as a coach for the coming campaign.

Eighty-four racehorses that became three-year-olds on Jan. 1 are nominated for the Kentucky Derby. Probably no more than 15 will start. . . . Here's how a Rose Bowl trip pays off. Georgia finished this fiscal year with an athletic fund surplus of \$23,000. A year ago, before Sinkwich and Co. took them bowling, they had a deficit of \$125,000. . . . The first \$45,000 taken at the Rose Bowl game was reserved for the services. That amount was donated to the recreational fund for men in the armed forces. All the other Bowl games made similar contributions until the total reached over \$150,000.

When the Maritime Service commissioned Charley Keller as an ensign in its physical training program, it made the 18th Yankee who has entered service. In the last war only 14 players answered the call. . . . Danny Fortmann may have made his last appearance for the Chicago Bears when they beat the Redskins in the playoff for the National League crown. Danny, who is a doctor by profession, says that the press of medical duties makes it increasingly hard to devote sufficient time to football, and that he may not be back next year. The Bears lost one star when Dr. Bill Osmandski accepted a Navy commission during the season.

Frankie Rogers, a Seattle boxer now in the service in the South Pacific, wrote a friend about a recent bout. He commented that he had lost a decision and that he "was robbed." As usual, the censor had the last word when he stuck a postscript on Frankie's letter saying, "Robbed nothing, he got beat, and badly."

Johnny Pesky, Boston Red Sox shortstop now in the Navy, received unusual honors when the National Baseball Congress named him as its "Man of the Decade." The award came on the tenth anniversary of the semi-pro organization and was one of several given to sandlot players for achievements in the past ten years. Pesky's uniform didn't change much since he was a semi-pro, for then he played for the Silverton, Ore., Red Sox.

The University of Chicago basketballers are beginning to believe charging admission to games is too mercenary and is jinxing them. They made a last-minute addition to the schedule, booking Chicago Tech, and decided to play at Midway Fieldhouse New Year's Eve without charging admission. The result was startling. They won their first game since Dec. 6, 1941, after losing 45 games. They have another losing streak to break, however, as they haven't beaten a Big Ten rival in their last 43 starts.

Basketball Results

Dartmouth 61, Norton Abravives 30
Great Lakes 72, Ootumwa Naval 30
Indiana State Teachers 52, DePauw Pre-Flight 40
North Carolina 50, VMI 22

Hockey Results

Indianapolis 3, Providence 1

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, Printing House Sq., London, EC4. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, direct all correspondence c/o Help Wanted.

APOs Wanted

(When requesting an APO be sure to include last known unit, APO, ASN and home town of the person you want as well as your own.)
JACK D. Anderson, Chickasha, Okla.; Pvt. Sam Amantulo, Fordham, Bronx, N.Y.; Lt. Flora M. Atteberry, New Orleans, La.; Pvt. William C. Adams; Pvt. Leonard Anderson, Coatesville, Pa.; Sgt. Warren T. Allen, Denton, Mont.; Ervin Caplin, Cleveland, Ohio; Sgt. Burton Carter, Knightstown, Ind.; Cpl. Joseph F. Cappiotti; Gordon Cauliflower, Charleston, Mo.; Lt. Ernest J. Dimick, Baltimore, Md.; Pfc Gerald J. Deen, Redlands, Cal.; 2/Lt. Irwin J. Deegan, Guttenberg, Iowa; Sgt. David Gustine, Shreveport, La.; Capt. Maurice Hyman, Crittenden, Ky.; Capt. James P. Hubbell, Kelly Field, Tex.; Lt. Hoyt Isaacs, Allen, Okla.; 2/Lt. John W. James, Bowling Green, Ky.; Pvt. Charles E. Krapf; 1/Sgt. John Lee.

Lost
MUSSETTE bag, in cloakroom switch at Grosvenor House officers' mess, Wed., Jan. 19. Contained electric razor, toilet kit, clothing. Name and serial number are on inside flap.—Lt. Col. M. F. Regner, 0-360660.

New Apostolic Church Services
SERVICES every second Sunday from 4.5 PM at 15 Parkgate Gardens, East Sheen, S.W.14.

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Nazis Believed Ready for New Retreat in Italy

Anchor of Gustav Line Broken at Ends; Allies Near Cassino Road

With both the northern and southern anchors of their line in Italy pierced, the Germans last night were reported to be preparing a withdrawal to a new fortified zone about six miles west of the Gustav Line as the Allies battled westward toward Gaeta and northward toward Cassino from their Garigliano River bases.

Four miles to the northeast of Minturno, the capture of which was confirmed in yesterday's Allied communique, the Fifth Army fought fiercely on the slopes of Mount Cosina in a bid to take Castelforte and Ventosa.

Karl Praeger, a Berlin radio commentator, said that American troops, after forcing their way ahead at Mount Rotondo, west of Castelforte, were dislodged from newly won positions by a Nazi counter-attack.

In the Minturno area, Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's forces were only two miles away from the main road to Cassino along which the Germans supply the Tyrrhenian sector of their line.

On the northern end of the Gustav Line, French troops increased Cassino's danger of envelopment by capturing Ilago, just north of San Elia.

To support the Garigliano landings British cruisers pounded German shore positions Tuesday and Wednesday as Allied troops crossed the river and swept forward to the Gustav line, it was announced yesterday.

The Apian Way, where the road runs close to the sea near the village of Terracina, 30 miles northwest of the mouth of the Garigliano, was heavily shelled.

Eighth Air Force Musical, 'Skirts,' Set for Premiere

"Skirts," all-GI musical show in 15 scenes, produced by Eighth Air Force Special Service, will have its official premiere at 6.30 PM Monday at the Cambridge Theater, Cambridge Circus, London, W.C.2.

It will run there for a week with performances every day at 6.30 PM and matinees at 2.30 on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Tickets are free to officers and E.M.s of U.S. and Allied forces, and may be obtained from Special Service officers and at Rainbow Corner, Allied forces get theirs from the Trafalgar Sq. ticket pool.

Following the London run, "Skirts" is scheduled to play a week for members of the forces only, starting Jan. 31 at the Pavilion, Bournemouth. The show, which has a cast of 28 soldiers, and also features the "Flying Yanks" orchestra, goes to the Theater Royal, Norwich, for a week from Feb. 7.

Ginger Rogers, Ronald Colman To Be Heard on AFN Program

Screen stars Ginger Rogers and Ronald Colman will appear, via recordings, on "Take the Air," the Eighth Air Force AFN program today at 8.10 PM.

A rebroadcast of New York Mayor LaGuardia's "pardon" to 2/Lt. Jack Watson, Fortress pilot from Indianapolis, who buzzed the World Series last October, also will be included.

"Rhapsody in Khaki," an all GI event, will present talent from ETO headquarters tomorrow at 5.30 PM. Manhattan and Staten Island, N.Y., will share the spotlight in the "Your Town" program at 11 AM tomorrow.

On Your Dial
1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.
218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.

- Saturday, Jan. 22**
- 1100—GI Live.
 - 1145—Personal Album—with Betty Rhodes.
 - 1130—Hit Parade—with Frank Sinatra and Mark Warnow's Orchestra.
 - 1200—Albert Sandler Trio (BBC).
 - 1230—Yank Swing Session.
 - 1300—World News (BBC).
 - 1310—Serenade.
 - 1315—War Commentary.
 - 1330—Hello India—Special feature to the GIs in India.
 - 1400—Happy Norman's Ranch House.
 - 1430—Sign off until 1745 hours.
 - 1745—Spotlight on Al Donahue and Program Resume.
 - 1800—World News (BBC).
 - 1810—GI Supper Club.
 - 1900—Seven O'Clock Sports.
 - 1905—Waltz Time, with Abe Lyman's Orchestra and Frank Moon.
 - 1930—Dinah Shore Program.
 - 2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A., with Corporal Ford Kennedy.
 - 2010—Take the Air.
 - 2030—GI Journal.
 - 2100—World News (BBC).
 - 2110—Remember.
 - 2120—American Commentary—Raymond Gram Swing.
 - 2135—All Time Hit Parade.
 - 2200—Xavier Cugat.
 - 2230—Tommy Dorsey Show.
 - 2235—Final Edition.
 - 2300—Sign off until 0800 hours Sunday, Jan. 23.

- Sunday, Jan. 23**
- 0800—Sign On—Organ Music and Program Resume.
 - 0815—Sound Off.
 - 0830—Major Bowes Amateur Program.
 - 0900—World News (BBC).
 - 0910—Melody Roundup.
 - 0930—Sunday Serenade (BBC)—Scottish Variety Orchestra.
 - 1015—Navitime.
 - 1030—Moran Tabernacle Choir.
 - 1100—Your Town—Radio News-Letter from two

Bleary-Eyed Nazis Who Said 'Uncle'



Queer expressions are registered on the faces of these assorted German prisoner-types captured in Italy last week. The unshaven gent (left) asked for food a few minutes after being captured, "sad-eyes" (center) registers smiling satisfaction at being out of the war, while the 20-year-old boy (right) sneers at his Allied conquerors.

12 States So Far Have Laws Adequate to Give Soldier Vote

(Continued from page 1)

the change under the 1943 emergency state war powers law.

Gov. Leverett Saltonstall (R.) of Massachusetts said he would ask the state Supreme Court to determine whether he had the authority, under his war powers, to change the dates of the primary election. Arkansas, meanwhile, has found a partial solution by the discovery of a little-remembered law passed in 1923 which permits servicemen to vote without payment of poll tax.

Worley's bill would provide free air-mail postage for ballots sent to servicemen. Unless this, or some other simplified plan were adopted, he said, the soldier vote problem "threatens to become ensnared in a vastly complex net of red tape and restrictions that would materially cut down the response of servicemen abroad."

In addition to the three states which have passed special measures, the states whose present machinery is considered adequate to handle absentee soldiers' votes are North Carolina, Montana, Kansas, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Florida, and Maine.

States whose election machinery is questionable are Kentucky, Arkansas, Michigan, South Carolina, Rhode Island, Iowa, North Dakota, Colorado, Ohio, Connecticut, Washington, Oklahoma, Indiana, South Dakota, Georgia, Virginia, Idaho and Utah.

The Illinois soldier voting will be handled like all absentee voting. Soldiers may apply for ballots 100 days before the election and receive the ballot as early as 45 days before. Both application and ballot must be certified by a commissioned officer. The system will not be effective for the April primary.

West Virginia, thanks to a special session of the legislature, has enabled its men in the forces to vote a full ballot. Requests for a ballot to be sent a serviceman may be made to the county circuit clerk by any person or the man himself. If the voter is unregistered under per-

manent registration system, the serviceman must apply on a specific form obtainable from the circuit clerk by any person or the man himself.

The West Virginia law allows an officer or a non-commissioned officer down to the rank of sergeant to certify the application and ballot.

Two of the problems which individual states, in absence of Congressional action, must iron out are: (1) Servicemen from Tennessee who entered service after Jan. 1, 1943, must pay poll tax, and (2) Alabama servicemen under 45 must pay poll tax.

Waiving of these requirements must be arranged before soldiers from these states can cast their ballots. Other states have waived poll tax payments, and it is expected that Tennessee and Alabama will provide some machinery to enable their citizens abroad to register their choice.

Michigan officials are now arranging a special session of the legislature where a soldier-vote plan will be worked out. A special session is expected in Connecticut, and Gov. John W. Bricker (R.), of Ohio, recently said he would consider calling a special session if he finds his state's present laws inadequate cause of federal regulations.

Acting Attorney-General Washington of West Virginia, has recommended a special session for his state and a state senator in Nebraska recently suggested that one be held there to consider new laws. Rhode Island, Mississippi, Virginia officials say a special election laws may be regular legislative session.

Ballots cannot be issued before election in North Carolina, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, 25 days in Colorado, 20 days in Alabama, Delaware and New Jersey, 15 days in Wyoming, Nebraska, Idaho, West Virginia, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

Kentucky has no provisions for absentee voting, and under Texas absentee voters regulations servicemen are disqualified by the state constitution. Members of the armed forces from South Carolina can vote in the regular primaries but the state has no provision for absentee voting in a general election.

Utah will provide absentee ballots for servicemen in the United States but not those outside the country because the primary run-off and the general elections are only 30 days apart. New Mexico has no absentee voting law but servicemen can vote for federal officers.

Rhode Island constitution says every voter must register by June 30 every two years, which would probably affect many servicemen from that state.

Utah's laws demand registration in person. Maryland has no provision for absentee registration. Virginia's election laws state that would-be voters "unless physically unable" must make application to register in their own handwriting in the presence of a registered officer.

The 1942 elections were handled just as the 1944 balloting will be under the present Senate plan—the job to be done by the states with Uncle Sam acting as mailman for the various state ballots. About 28,000 servicemen voted two years ago.

Want FDR Again

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21 — The Midwestern Democratic Conference, comprising state chairmen and committee-men of 13 states, adopted unanimously today a resolution expressing the hope President Roosevelt would be re-nominated.

Terry and the Pirates



Joe the Trapper on Trail Of Geezil the Weasel

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Jan. 21—Joe the trapper, famed as a weasel hunter, has been called in by Police Chief Harold Mady to trap or exterminate the weasel which has been creeping into the bed of 70-year-old Mrs. Ella J. Rhone each night and biting her. Mady sent for Joe after a sanitary inspector failed to kill the weasel, named Geezil, with cyanide.

Berlin, France Are Hit Heavily

(Continued from page 1)

unusually frank admissions about the success of the attack, particularly in the strategy employed. The Berlin correspondent of the Stockholm Aftonbladet was permitted to cable a story that Berlin's defenses were not fully certain of the direction of the British waves because of the raiders' feint attacks, though there was ample warning that the main force seemed headed for the capital.

The RAF planes attacked at low level through a bank of cloud that stretched from 300 feet above the ground to a height of 3,000 feet, the same correspondent said. He added that the bombing was concentrated on the outskirts of the city. It is in Berlin's outskirts that its biggest factories are situated.

Crews returning from the daylight runs told of the heavy flak.

Capt. William J. Jones, of Peterville, Ill., squadron operations officer, flying as a Fortress co-pilot, corroborated other crewmen's reports by saying the flak was as heavy as he could not have hoped for.

Capt. Walter C. Beckham, P47 pilot from DeSuniak Springs, Fla., brought his enemy-aircraft-destroyed total to 13 by bringing down two Me109s in the day's operations.

Another Thunderbolt pilot, Capt. Robert S. Johnson, of Lawton, Okla., destroyed an Me109 seconds after the first shot had shot down a German plane, to bring his score of enemy aircraft destroyed to 12.

Bedell Smith Promoted

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21 (Reuter)—Maj. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, chief of staff to Gen. Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of the Allied invasion forces, has been nominated by President Roosevelt for promotion to the temporary rank of lieutenant general.

Red Cross - -

(Continued from page 1)

the front line to stock up there on comfort supplies for the troops, as in Sicily.

When troops move on, the Commissioner said, the girls will simply pack their stuff back into the vehicles and roll to another unit.

"Plans may have to be altered to fit changing circumstances," he said, "but we are prepared for any eventuality and have in Britain all the equipment we need."

"We are planning to maintain a certain number of operational groups in the combat area, each comprising four units. Each group will have tenting facilities, folding cots, blankets, &c., to set up field clubs, and a generator-trailer sufficient to operate the donut machines of four clubmobiles.

"Each unit will have two clubmobiles, a supply van, a utility vehicle similar to a jeep, and various types of trailers. It will carry a month's supplies.

"Three girls will be assigned to each clubmobile, will have regular male helpers and, we expect, the usual good-hearted voluntary soldier-KPs who always appear when clubmobiles roll into camps and open for business."

He added that the ARC now has 63 clubmobiles, and each can be quickly cleared and used, if necessary, as an ambulance to take ten stretcher cases or 20 ambulatory cases from the front line to hospitals.

Permanent clubs will be opened as soon as conditions are sufficiently settled, Gibson said, staffed by experienced club personnel now serving in Britain.

Gibson, who served as ARC Commissioner to France in the last war, emphasized that 1944 troop welfare schemes will be 100 times more complete and comprehensive than in 1918. Stress then, he said, was on large dock and railway canteens, with comparatively few clubs, and those mostly for officers.

NEWS FROM HOME

Average Budget Is Still Going Up, Survey Shows

Miss Perkins Cites 3 Pct. Rise in Year; 23.4 Pct. Increase Since 1941

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Increased rent and retail prices increased the December budget of the average American family of moderate income 3.3 per cent over December, 1942, and 23.4 per cent over January, 1941, Secretary of Labor Francis Perkins reported today.

Keeping pace with rising costs, the budget reflected the increased price of motion-picture admissions, newspapers, household supplies, beauty and barber-shop services and furniture.

Popular brands of five-cent cigars were hard to obtain in December, the report said; dealers were rationing purchases to six.

Clothing costs, largely because of the trend toward replacement of cheap goods by more expensive togger, advanced eight-tenths of one per cent from Nov. 15 to Dec. 15, the report revealed.

Rents in 21 of 34 cities polled, the survey showed, advanced slightly. The report stated that in some cities owners were not renting vacant homes but were holding them for sale, adding to the shortage of homes available for rent.

Hemp Mills to Close

MASON CITY, Ia., Jan. 21—President Fred E. Butcher, of War Hemp Industries, Inc., announced that 28 of the 42 hemp mills which the government has been operating in the Middle West would close down this year. Butcher said that the plants had been necessary because the Japanese cut off the normal sources of supply for rope materials, but that the shortage now could be overcome by importation of hemp from Central America and jute from the Mediterranean area.

Philadelphia Strike Ends

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 21—A strike of 3,000 employees of the city's Public Works Department apparently was ended today as the city agreed to grant the workers an immediate wage increase of five cents an hour. Strike leaders and city officials announced they would discuss a demand for an additional five-cent pay boost.

Too Much Jiggle, No Juggle

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 21—Juggler Billy Rayes, whose real name is William C. Wegner, filed a suit for divorce against his actress wife, Leila Stepe. He told the judge that she used to sit on the edge of his bed and jiggle it so that he couldn't fall asleep. "I have to have my rest so that I can jiggle," he said. The judge gave him a divorce.

Estate Goes to Ickes

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 21—The Illinois Supreme Court ruled that Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes was entitled to the bulk of the \$800,000 estate left by his late wife. The court upheld the Cook County Superior Court which disallowed the claim of Robert Ickes that he was entitled to a \$200,000 share in his foster-mother's estate.

Crash Kills 3 Students

DEARBORN, Mich., Jan. 21—A bus which sideswiped an automobile and then crashed into a tree near this Detroit suburb carried three Fordson High School students to their death and injured 57 other pupils and factory workers. Driver of the bus, Alvin Roy Sweet, of Detroit, was held for questioning.

Russia - - -

(Continued from page 1)

the ruined town of Pushkin, ten miles south of Leningrad. Fall of the town would put the Russians well behind a German pocket south of Lake Ladoga.

Simultaneously, a battle was developing to clear the Leningrad-Moscow railway.

Enemy reports said the Russians on the Baltic front were "trying to encircle German forces as never before."

A Berlin spokesman, quoted in Stockholm dispatches, said, "This new offensive is the heaviest and most widespread the Russians have ever launched in this sector and sets the German high command bigger and more serious tasks than ever before."

By Milton Caniff