

Mareth Line Pierced, Yanks Advance

Red Armies Hold Nazis, Strike Back

Stop Central Front Jabs And Recapture 40 Villages

Battered Russian armies, which have been meeting heavy German attacks for nearly a week, steadied yesterday and were officially reported last night from Moscow as holding their positions—or moving ahead—along the entire 2,000-mile front.

At a few points they even resumed the offensive themselves and forged ahead. This was particularly true on the central front, west of Moscow, where Soviet units captured 40 villages, crossed the upper Dnieper River and cleared a bridgehead on the western bank.

German attacks in the Byelorod area, north of Kharkov, seemed to have been abandoned. For three days heavy fighting has been going on in this zone with small villages changing hands dozens of times as the Germans brought up tanks to support their infantry—only to be met by massed Russian anti-tank units.

Briansk Attack Fails

Another German attempt at a breakthrough, in the Briansk area, north of Zhidra, broke down after Russian guns killed 5,500 Germans in three days of fighting.

Further south the Red Army has resumed its offensive against German forces holding the Kuban bridgehead. The weather in the Kuban has cleared up and air activity is increasing. Russian air and ground units claimed 18 Nazi planes, in a communique issued early yesterday.

The counter-attacking Russians are now only 25 miles from the mouth of the Kuban River and have occupied 15 more villages, including Petrovskaya.

Berlin said German troops had gained ground near Kursk, but that elsewhere there was only minor activity. The Germans said 150,000 Russians had been killed in the Orel area during the last eight weeks.

On another sector, on which the Red Army troops captured an important height after a stiff struggle, three more inhabited villages have been brought back into Russian hands.

On the southern front the Russians are holding their lines in the face of continued fierce attacks. In the Byelorod area masses of motorized infantry supported by tanks are still being thrown in against the Red Army positions.

Coal Strike Off At FDR's Plea

NEW YORK, Mar. 23—Mine workers and operators of the Southern Appalachian soft coal district accepted a formula offered them by President Roosevelt tonight which apparently ended the threat of a strike in the vital defense industry.

The President had sent telegrams to both the operators and John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers when the contract negotiations here appeared deadlocked. The present contract expires at midnight, Mar. 30. In their answers the union agreed not to walk off the job if no new agreement is reached, and the operators said they would continue the talks past the deadline with the understanding that any agreement reached would be retroactive to April 1.

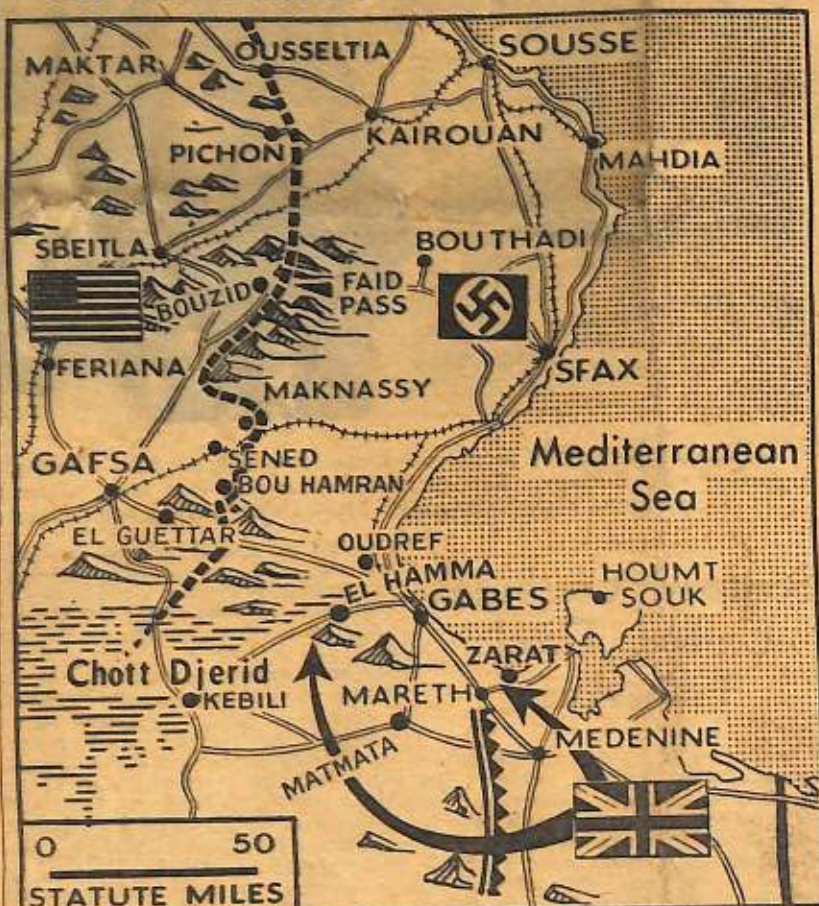
Envoy Denies Spanish Ships Tip Off U-Boats

RIO DE JANEIRO, Mar. 23 (AP)—The Spanish Embassy here denied today the suggestion published in the Brazilian newspaper *Diario Carioca* Mar. 19 that Spanish ships revealed the position of Allied vessels in the south Atlantic to Axis submarines.

The Embassy has made similar denials previously. Some Brazilian newspapers recently asserted that Spain was frankly aiding the Axis and should end her "neutrality."

Roosevelt Recovered From Cold
WASHINGTON, Mar. 23 (AP)—President Roosevelt, who had been kept indoors by a cold over the week-end, returned to his offices today to keep his appointments. White House officials said that the President had apparently recovered completely.

As the Pincers Close on Rommel



The squeeze on Rommel became tighter yesterday as one Eighth Army force outflanked the Mareth Line and approached El Hamma, another broke through near the coast, and U.S. troops took Maknassy in their push toward the coast.

'Yanks Tip OK,' Cabbie Says, Denies Stories of Stinginess

Stanley Crewe, secretary of the London Motor Cab Drivers' Association, last night denied stories published in London to the effect that American servicemen in the British Isles were "stingy tippers."

As a matter of fact, "the Americans are so generous that the drivers sometimes wonder if they understand the British money," Crewe declared.

The Star, a London afternoon publication, Monday printed a story on page three which purported to be a survey of taxi drivers, 21 of whom said Americans "never tip." Six cabbies said Americans tip from one to three pennies; three said Americans were "all right," the story asserted.

The Star also quoted Crewe as saying he had taken a cab out himself and found "not one of my Americans tipped me."

When the Americans first arrived, Crewe said last night, they failed to tip in many cases, not understanding the system. These misunderstandings have been largely straightened out, however, he said.

"The Americans are learning what the drivers expect in the way of tips," the

(Continued on page 4)

Transfer Yanks In Polish Forces

More than 200 U.S. citizens now serving with the Polish forces will transfer to the American Army commencing April 7. Fifty-six of them are men from the Polish Air Corps, some with flying experience. The rest are army men.

Most of those who will be repatriated are Americans with Polish ties, but there are some who, living in Canada when the war started, decided to enlist under the Polish flag in admiration for the first country to stand up against Hitler aggression.

The transfers will be in groups of ten to 15, and it is expected that the whole number will be absorbed by the end of next month.

There have been two previous bulk transfers of Americans in foreign forces: those in the Canadian forces last July and the Eagle Squadrons in the RAF last October.

Flies in Axis Formation, Gets Photos—and DFC

ALLIED HQ, North Africa, Mar. 23 (UP)—Lt. Col. Frank L. Dunn, of San Antonio, Tex., received the Distinguished Flying Cross from Maj. Gen. Carl Spaatz here for a reconnaissance flight in which he actually joined an Axis plane formation over the airfield at Cagliari, Sardinia.

The observations and photographs he made, after joining "a traffic pattern" of Axis ships taking off and circling to land, provided "immensely valuable information," his citation read.

Five RAF pilots, members of Lt. Col. Elliott Roosevelt's photographic reconnaissance unit, were given the American Air Medal in the same ceremony. Two Americans also got Air Medals. They were Lt. Lawrence L. Craig, of Duranauo, Calif., and Lt. Joe Scalpone, of North Bergen, N.J.

8th and 5th Armies Now 50 Miles Apart In Squeeze on Axis

One British Force Smashes Line, Another Outflanks It as Americans Take Maknassy in Drive to Sea

Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's famed Afrika Korps, which once mastered the African desert far beyond the Egyptian border, was fighting for its life last night between two steadily advancing lines of Allied forces.

In the south a strong British force, after a brilliant dash across nearly 100 miles of desert and the Matmata hills, had outflanked the Mareth Line and was reported to be pressing close to El Hamma, a desert crossroads less than 20 miles west of Gafes, the principal Axis base on the Tunisian coast.

Further north two American columns also were reported to be marching in the direction of Gafes, while a third American column, having captured Maknassy, struck westward toward the coast in an effort to slice in two the Axis forces in northern and southern Tunisia.

It was officially announced at Allied Headquarters last night that the Eighth Army had established a bridgehead through the main enemy positions in the Mareth Line. This was interpreted to mean that the British forces had breached the first of the three main Mareth defense lines.

RAF Hammers St. Nazaire In 300-Plane Blow

American Attack Poured 'Several Hundred Tons' On Wilhelmshaven

St. Nazaire, second largest of Hitler's submarine bases in occupied territory, smoldered yesterday in the wake of a heavy RAF night attack which followed by only a few hours the American daylight blow Monday against Wilhelmshaven, 700 miles to the east in Germany.

A force of almost 300 four-engined bombers, probably carrying about 1,000 tons of explosives, slogged through difficult navigational weather Monday night to hit St. Nazaire in that port's 45th raid of the war. One bomber was reported missing.

An indication that all Nazi U-boat bases—which for two months have been prime targets of U.S. and British bombers—have begun to lean heavily on smoke camouflage for defense was seen in RAF reports that as the attack opened the ground forces sent smoke clouds across the target. Monday, American air crews returning from Wilhelmshaven reported scores of snudge pots set out by the Nazis to cover the target area.

The entire civilian population has been evacuated from St. Nazaire and other ports, according to Vichy radio, while three-fifths of the area is said to be in ruins.

Nazi defenses were harried throughout Monday. In addition to the big American

(Continued on page 4)

From a Crown Prince to KP In 6 Months, Soldier's Record

By Philip Bucknell
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
REPLACEMENT DEPOT, England, Mar. 23—From crown prince to KP in six months is the democratic record of Pvt. Tatoa Auela of the U.S. Army now in England.

In September, 1942, as son of the hereditary high chief of Satala Village in Pago Pago, on the Samoan Island of Tutuila, Auela was receiving obeisance from 12,000 subjects; yesterday he was taking orders from the KP pusher.

But the prince doesn't mind. He likes it. "It is the first time in my life," he says, "that I have really had fun. In Pago Pago all there was to do was to sit in my house with my dad or to drive my car. Here I have jokes and mix with the fellows."

Auela, a tall soldier with a Navarro look, wears four native work rings on his fingers, and around his neck, jostling the dog tags, there is a coral necklace. He left Pago Pago on a U.S. cruiser in order to get into Uncle Sam's Army. "When the war is over," he says, "I will go back to Pago Pago and my dad has promised that I will be chief. I learned a lot both in the States and in army life that will be useful to me as a ruler."

Auela's only beef is—no bananas or breadfruit. He likes spam, though.



Pvt. Tatoa Auela

Through the Line

Coinciding with the flanking movement around the southern end of the Mareth Line by part of the British Eighth Army, other British forces driving along the Mediterranean coast penetrated some of the toughest defenses of the Mareth Line to take the desert village of Zarat, well beyond the line of fortifications and about five miles northwest of the town of Mareth.

Terrific resistance was being met on all fronts. On the Mareth Line itself violent fighting was reported and one strong German counter-attack was turned back, the Allied headquarters communique said. To the north, German tanks yesterday morning attacked the American Fifth Army positions southeast of El Guettar in what was obviously a desperate attempt by Rommel to break open the trap which is closing on him.

German forces also attacked the U.S. positions at Hadjeb El Alouin, 17 miles southeast of Fondouk, on the Fondouk-Sbeitla road.

The Eighth Army's daring wheeling movement around the southern end of the Mareth Line—began in bright moonlight Saturday night in conjunction with the frontal assault on the line itself—brought British forces within 30 miles of Gafes, Rommel's main supply port.

In its advance, the Eighth Army was officially reported to have captured 1,700 prisoners. American forces operating on the other side have taken about 1,400, mostly Italian.

Mines at Maknassy

The town of Maknassy fell to American armored infantry early Monday morning. There was slight enemy resistance, but the Americans found that the town had been heavily mined by Axis forces before they retreated.

One report, broadcast from Algiers by Winston Burdett, CBS correspondent, said American troops were in contact with Rommel's forces only 10 miles from El Hamma, but it was not known whether this account had confused the advancing U.S. force with the British Eighth Army forces proceeding north toward that town.

It was generally believed that the American forces in the west and the British in the east were still about 50 miles apart.

As the Allied pincers closed, only 40 miles of bare Tunisian hills and desert country lay between the U.S. Fifth Army advancing from Gafes and the coast road through which Rommel must pass everything he hopes to salvage from the Mareth Line. Between the Americans and the coast there still stood one important pass—the Djebel Djebbs, five miles out of Maknassy.

Beyond that pass, now covered by Axis batteries on hills at either side, the country slopes down to the coastal plain along the Mediterranean. Already American patrols were moving towards the mountains guarding the pass.

Gen. Montgomery's brilliant outflanking move around the southern extremity of the Mareth Line, which entailed a forced march across 100 miles of desert and mountains, started at the opening of the general offensive Saturday night. By 9.30 PM Sunday the force was attacking enemy positions 15 miles southwest of El Hamma, well beyond the Mareth Line. That night the enemy withdrew another five miles.

During that night the British force had

(Continued on page 4)

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of the U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations. The Stars and Stripes is edited and published under auspices of the Director of Special Service Division, S.O.S., War Dept., Brig. Gen. F. H. Osborn, and Col. Theodore Arter, Chief of Special Service Sect., ETO, for the U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations and Africa. Printed by The Times Publishing Company, Ltd., at Printing House Square, London, E.C.4 (Telephone: Central 2000). Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors: subscription, 26 shillings per year.

EDITORIAL BOARD Editor: Maj. E. M. Llewellyn Associate Editors: Capt. H. A. Harchar 2nd Lt. J. C. Wilkinson STAFF News Editor: T/Sgt. Robert Moore City Editor: S/Sgt. Bud Hatton Photo and Makeup: T/Sgt. Ben. F. Price Sports: S/Sgt. Mark Sentro Navy: Yeoman Tom Bernard, USNR Vol. 3, No. 121, March 24, 1943

Hash Marks

Newspaper headline: "Woman Hides \$75,000 in Bustle." That's a lot of money to leave behind.

Two dogfaces on KP had this rather enlightening conversation. "Remember,



pal, a girl can make a fool of you in ten minutes." Replied the other GI, "Yeah, but think of those ten minutes."

The invasion of women workers at a locomotive company inspired production line worker Michael Hatch to write: There's lipstick on the drinking font, There's talcum on the bench; There's cold cream on the surface plate, Hand lotion's on the wrench; An "Evening in Paris" scents the air That once held lub oil's smell; I just picked up a bobby pin Believe me, war is hell!

No one was more surprised than fire truck driver Carl Lund of Denver when the fire department rushed to the scene of a burning auto. He found it was his own car.

You can get rich quick if you've got the goods. An unknown enterpriser recently raised more than \$4 in an hour for a war fund drive by passing around a lemon for onlookers to whiff at tuppence a whiff.

Here's a sight we're sorry we missed. Mugs, a giraffe at a zoo in the States, skidded and fell on the ice. Trying to regain his stance he skidded around some more and accidentally kicked himself in the jaw—probably the first time in history a giraffe ever kayoed himself. Mugs remained slap happy until his keepers gave him a shot of nerve stimulant; then he came around apparently none the worse for wear.

A woman warworker was tapped on the shoulder by Mr. Stork as she stood at her machine in a Fort Wayne war plant. She made it from the assembly line to a restroom where she became the mother of an eight-pound boy. We trust she was awarded the Army-Navy "E" pennant for extra production on the assembly line.

Wotthehell, we miss all the fun. A "nut house" near Evansville, Indiana,



caught fire the other day and several of the inmates took unexpected advantage of their new freedom. Two women patients strolled around the area in the nude while a third, clad only in a slip, swiped a bicycle and went for a ride through the center of town. (A mechanized Lady Godiva, so to speak.)

J. C. W.

France Again Mothering Revolt



Associated Press Photo

A French sailor calmly prepares to face a Nazi firing squad as a hostage for German officers killed by French patriots near Brittany. Reports from France state that many of the doomed men have marched to their execution place singing the "Marseillaise" and shouting "our comrades will avenge us."

Scattered Outbreaks Unified, Tricolor Flies Anew

Somewhere in the high passes of the Haute Savoie, cornered between the shores of the Lake of Geneva and the Swiss border, a force of French patriots under former officers and non-coms of the French Army has proved to the world that France has not died. They proved, too, that the invading Germans can be defied and that Vichy collaboration is a thing of French politicians—not the men, women and children of France.

Facing almost hopeless odds, knowing that a German firing squad probably awaited them all if they were captured, some thousands of French youths rallied around stern, aging Gen. Armand Cartier when his love for France outweighed his admiration for his old leader, Marshal Henri Pétain.

They were but one manifestation of the seething spirit of revolt which has swept France, growing stronger every day since the tragic October day in 1940 when Pétain told France:

"It is with honor and to maintain French unity within the framework of the constructive unity of a new European order that I enter today the path of collaboration. . . . I speak as a leader. Follow me."

Frenchmen who had seen how the "new order" had operated in Czechoslovakia, in Poland and in Austria, buried their rifles under the flower beds in their gardens to await the day of retribution.

England beat off the Luftwaffe. Gen. Charles de Gaulle raised the banner of France again in New Hebrides, the Cameroons, French Equatorial Africa and Chad.

The United States entered the war, Gen.

Henri Giraud escaped from a Nazi prison, was smuggled across Europe and emerged as a leader of Frenchmen in North Africa. Night after night the drone of first English, then American, bombers echoed over every city in France. Commandos at Dieppe—American paratroopers in North Africa—the United Nations on the march.

Once again Paris, "the mother of revolutions," ran true to type. First in a whisper, then spoken and at last shouted aloud from the mouths of guns in the Alpine peaks the French heard their old rallying cry: "Aux armes, citoyens!"

First to rebel against the Nazi invaders were the Alsace-Lorrainers. Plucked by the Germans in 1870 they had conducted a campaign against their conquerors until in 1918 their lands were returned to France. When, in 1940, against all treaty rights, they were once more ordered to be German, 25 per cent made the long trek to the then unoccupied territory, while most of the remainder adopted an attitude of contemptuous acquiescence to their foes.

Through the drear months of late 1940 when Hitler seemed firmly astride Europe the French were understandably quiet. They had trust in Pétain and the men of Vichy. But as Vichy grew more and more compliant to German demands, and Britain, strangely, had not capitulated, hope and resistance grew. In January, 1941, President Roosevelt appointed Adm. Leahy as Ambassador to Vichy and Frenchmen knew that the world had not forgotten France.

Resistance grew. In Lyons and Marseilles, in Nice and Clermont-Ferrand saboteurs operated. As in the last war, an underground press sprang up. Papers like Liberation and Resistance and Combat circulating among the people told how vulnerable the Germans were, what to do, how to fight the occupation. They gave the people hope.

In Bordeaux 12,000 students were brought together to affirm loyalty to Pétain and faith in the policy of collaboration. They were drilled to shout "Long Live France, Long Live Pétain." At the ceremony they shouted only "Long Live France." In cafes and restaurants around the Place de Terte in Paris, where the all-conquering Germans consumed their drinks, home-made bombs, flung by men who ran away into the maze of cobble streets, put an end to drinking parties.

Collaborationists were forced to employ armed guards. Marcel Déat, arch-fascist, has been wounded once and attempts on his life have been numerous. Another would-be passenger on the Hitler band wagon, Jacques Doriot, one-time deputy for the workers district of St. Denis in Paris, now finds it safer to join the Germans in Russia than to face the vengeance of his voters.

Resistance grew. Germans finding their attempts to pacify and assure the inhabitants with posters—"Have confidence in the German soldier"—read one—demanded hostages. Fifty Frenchmen were executed for every German officer killed. But German officers never walk alone at night in the streets of Paris, Lyons, Toulon, or in the farm villages. When Yugo-Slavia resisted German "protection" 50,000 Frenchmen in Marseilles demonstrated around the statue of the late King Alexander shouting "Long live Serbia."

When British Commandos stormed the submarine base of St. Nazaire hundreds of Frenchmen joined in the scrap, knowing that the Gestapo would wreak revenge.

The call to arms became insistent. Germans warned the French against picking up weapons and explosives they alleged were being dropped from RAF planes. The British have no comment to make about these activities, but more and more Germans are being shot, and many a freight car, loaded with loot and destined for a German town has been blown up, most unexpectedly. From the United States, from Britain,

came round-the-clock broadcasts, telling the truth about the progress of the war. November 7, 1942, came and even the compliant Vichy-men could not control the upsurge of emotion when the Frenchmen learned that the "Yanks are coming."

Invasion of the European mainland is coming. The Germans know and fear it. The Frenchmen await the day. Just this week the Nazis, through their Vichy henchmen, have appealed to all male citizens between the ages of 16 and 60 to give themselves up to the German soldiers on invasion day.

Labor Draft Spark

But the French laugh—and resist. The attempts of the Lavalists to round up skilled workers to go to the Reich to ease the labor situation there has failed. In the Department of Savoy 110,000 men received mobilization orders on Sept. 4, 1942. Fifteen per cent accepted, 12 per cent were arrested while trying to decamp, seven per cent were arrested at home for evading the call, while the rest have taken to the mountains, defying appeals from the scared collaborationists and the threats of the German and Italian military.

Now, entrenched in the mountains and passes of the French Alps, thousands of patriots under the command of Gen. Cartier have been conducting large-scale guerrilla warfare. On a loose front men, who the Nazis thought would be factory fodder, fought back. Scanty reports reaching this country suggest that they had some of the famous French 75s. Certainly they had small arms. Hand grenades are plentiful. The Nazis tried to underestimate this resistance to the world, but it is known that they were afraid to allow the apparently compliant Vichy forces to come into close contact with the guerrillas. It could be, they feared, that stirred by the spirit of resistance shown by Cartier's army, the Gardes Mobiles might be persuaded to fight for France again.

Over the air from Algiers and London messages went to the patriots. "Your struggle is our struggle. Have courage and be patient. Your hour will strike soon."

The French await that hour. The Germans dread it.



Help Wanted Department

If you want to find a buddy And you've lost his A.P.O., If you want to meet a cousin Or just any GI Joe, Call Help Wanted.

If you wear a boot terrific Or a very tiny shoe, And you're having lots of trouble Getting shoes to wear for new, Call Help Wanted.

If you've lost your sweetie's picture Or found an address book, And you cannot find the owner No matter how you look, Call Help Wanted.

If you think you are a peg Sittin' in an Army hole, And not makin' any progress Towards your army goal, Call Help Wanted.

If you want to be a gunner And go to gunner's school; But find instead you're living In a dull replacement pool, Call Help Wanted.

We won't always have the answer; But we'll do our level best To get army wheels a rollin', Lettin' "Big shots" do the rest. That's Help Wanted.

E. M. L.

The Big Inch

The Big Inch is America's name for the world's greatest oil line. Nine months ago "The Big Inch" was just an idea in the mind of Harold Ickes, U.S. War Petroleum Coordinator. Today it is in partial operation delivering oil produced in Texas to Illinois, 531 miles east.

By June of this year the new pipe line will be delivering oil to New York, a distance of 1,388 miles. Its operation will eliminate the need for ocean shipments of oil and will release dozens of tankers now running between Houston or Galveston and Philadelphia and New York. These tankers will then be available for trips to North Africa, England and other theaters of war.

"The Big Inch" was conceived and construction started against serious opposition from railroads and other transportation organizations, fearful of the loss of the oil shipping business. Heavy sub sinkings off the Atlantic coast and shortage of railroad rolling stock soon caused a crisis in oil on the eastern seaboard, and the "pipe dream" became a pipe line. Five thousand men began work on the line, and, working day and night, built 500 miles of line in four months. This section is now in operation. On completion "The Big Inch" will go down in engineering history as one of America's engineering miracles, for it will be able to deliver a half-million gallons of oil each day to the east coast. This service will contribute materially to allied victory in this war.

Army 'Hit Kits'

To meet the growing demand from Army personnel for the latest songs, Special Service has concluded plans whereby distribution of popular songs will be made monthly to the Armed Forces both at home and abroad. Twenty-one of America's outstanding names in radio and the popular music field, including Bing Crosby, Kay Kayser and Kate Smith, have agreed to serve as members of a committee, with Fred Waring as chairman, to select the six songs to make up the Army "Hit Kit" each month.

The lyrics of the songs selected will be printed in pocket-size folder form, and the music for piano and voice will be made up in a standard sheet music size folder.

Sets of fifty pocket-size folders and one folio of the sheet music will be packed in envelopes for distribution on the basis of one set for approximately each two hundred men. The first allotment will be ready for distribution this month, and are expected to reach the British Isles some time next month. Succeeding issues of the Army "Hit Kit" will follow during the last ten days of each month.

This new service should prove very popular, for it will give us all the latest hit tunes. And what a relief it will be to hear something new, after all these months of "Deep in the Heart of Texas."

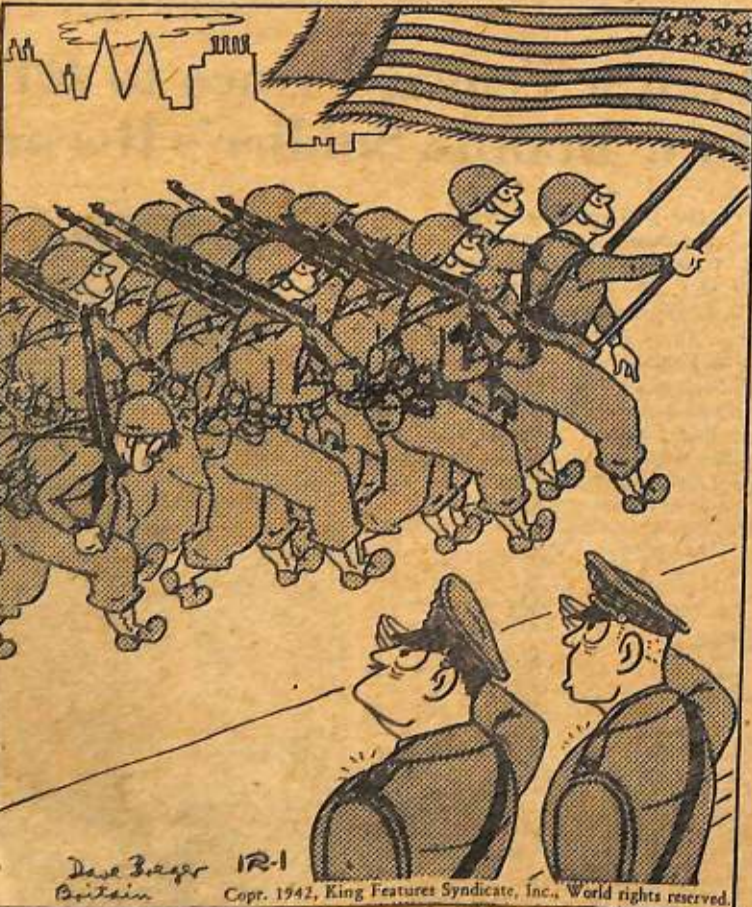
Disappointing

The Cincinnati Enquirer plainly expressed the opinion of many of us when it said recently, "It is a little disheartening, considering the incalculable investment that the American people are making in world peace, to note how industriously certain ones of us are cultivating the thought that when the war is over we should go back to the void in which World War II started."

We believe we are expressing the opinion of the majority when we say we are not spending our blood and treasure to make all nations and races alike; but if it is not all to be spent for naught, we are spending it for an opportunity to make certain that there will be peace in the world for somewhat longer than a few years.

But, however the war ends, and whoever is left on our side when we win it, the need for international agreement to forestall another world war will exist, and we should recognize it now. We have found that our good neighbor policy as applied to South America has paid real dividends. With the coming of peace we should expand that policy to include the world. This is fundamental. The rest is a matter of details.

PRIVATE BREGER



"I understand he lost a shilling here last time!"

Copyright 1942, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

Division Boxers Hammer Victory Over All-Stars

Rams, Redmen Eke Out Close Cage Victories

New York Quintets Forge Ahead in Last Minutes, 51-49, 60-58

NEW YORK, Mar. 23—A crowd of 18,000 yelled themselves hoarse as second-seeded St. Johns eked out a tense 51-49 decision over Rice to gain the semi-finals of the annual National Invitation Basketball tournament at Madison Square Garden while sixth-seeded Fordham gained the semi-finals with a toe-tingling defeat of Western Kentucky State, 60-58.

St. Johns will oppose Fordham in the semi-finals coming up on Saturday, while Toledo meets Washington Jefferson in the other half of the bill.

In the opener last night, Rice, pre-game underdog, trailed the Redmen by only three points at half-time and forged ahead to take the lead at the ten-minute mark of the second half, but again St. Johns, paced by the set shooting of Center Harry Boykoff and Guard Hy Gotkin, moved into the lead. The score was deadlocked four times as the game drew rapidly to a close, but Gotkin hooped a long basket in the last second to give the Redman an edge.

Boykoff led the scorers with 21 points while Rice Center Tom Closs was a close second with 19.

In the second game, Bob Mullens' goal with a little over a minute to play gave Fordham the winning margin. The Rams of Rose Hill trailed by six points when the second half began and dropped back further when Western Kentucky State stepped up the scoring pace. But Mullens started Fordham's scoring spurge and as the game neared the end, the Rams held a five-point advantage, 56-51. John Oldham sparked the Kentuckians to a 58-tie with two minutes remaining, only to see Mullens split the cords with the winning basket.

Kentuckian Don Ray led the game's scorers with 21 points, while Mullens led Fordham with 19.

Sailor Five Edges Cardiff

CARDIFF, Mar. 23—A basketball team from the naval armed guard of an American merchant ship defeated the College of Cardiff, 16-13 today in a keenly fought game. The sailors did not establish their superiority until late in the final quarter. The Welsh University students, new to the sport this winter, did well to hold their more skilled and experienced opponents to such a small margin.

NEWS FROM HOME

Cold Wave Sweeps New York, 8 Below in City, 20 Elsewhere

NEW YORK, Mar. 23 (UP)—New York has just thawed out after one of the three coldest spells since the city began keeping weather records. Temperatures reached eight degrees below zero in the city itself, while suburban areas reported 12 to 20 below.

More than 20 persons died from the cold in New York city alone.

One of the coldest spots in the State was the winter resort of Lake Placid, where levels of 50 below zero were reached. Brakes and signal mechanisms froze on railroad lines and crack trains from Canada and Chicago were as much as 12 hours late.

It was so cold at LaGuardia Airport that passenger planes were brought into the hangars for loading and unloading instead of having passengers go out on to the runways. The Hudson froze from bank to bank.

Fuel oil rationing added to the difficulty of heating homes and apartment houses.

U.S. Now 135,604,000 Strong

NEW YORK, Mar. 23—The Census Bureau estimated today that the population of the United States, as of Jan. 1, was 135,604,000—an increase of 1,851,000 during the year. The increase was largely due to war marriages, the Census Bureau said.

Mme. Chiang Favors League

CHICAGO, Mar. 23—Mme. Chiang Kai-shek told a press conference here during a week-end visit that she favored

Lt. Larry French Hopes To Pitch Weekends

NEW YORK, Mar. 23—Navy Lt. (jg) Larry French is working out with his old mates, the Brooklyn Dodgers, at West Point, and revealed that he is seeking permission to play weekend ball with the Brooks so that he can have a shot at reaching the 200 victory mark before he hangs up his spikes.

French pitched 197 major league victories, winning 15 and losing four last season. He wants to play Saturdays and Sundays on his own time while the Dodgers are in Brooklyn and will turn over his pay to the Navy Relief Fund.

Tribuani Loses To Armstrong

Hammerin' Henry in Good Form in Tuneup For Jack Tilt

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 23—Hammering Henry Armstrong, former featherweight, lightweight and welterweight title holder, poured the leather hard and fast to win by a wide margin in a ten-round decision over sturdy, young Al Tribuani, of Wilmington, Del., to continue his successful comeback campaign during which he has won 16 bouts and lost only to Willie Joyce and Ruben Shank.

Despite a weight handicap of nearly eight pounds, 30-year-old Armstrong overpowered his opponent from start to finish and missed few punches as he bobbed and weaved from a low crouch and proved himself ready to meet Beau Jack at Madison Square Garden early in April. The bout attracted over 12,000 customers.

After a slow start, Armstrong took the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth rounds as he ripped many short rights to Tribuani's head while resting his left shoulder against his opponent's chin. In the seventh, Henry went after Tribuani's body and as a result took plenty of punishment as his rugged opponent stayed outside and sent home right and left hooks to the head. Armstrong took the ninth by a small margin.

The tenth round went to Armstrong by a wide margin as he hammered Tribuani from one side of the ring to the other with a two-listed attack to the head. Henry never stopped punching in this round and looked like the former perpetual motion man.

Backs N. Africa Policies

CAMP ATTERBURY, Ind., Mar. 23—Maj. Gen. Jonathan Anderson, who commanded American troops who landed at Fedala, French Morocco, last November, said in a speech here that the policy of cooperation with French local authorities had made possible "a prompt and close co-ordination of effort toward the ultimate defeat of the Axis."

New York Has Blackout

NEW YORK, Mar. 23—A surprise trial blackout was held in New York at 5 AM today—the first time such a test has been held after most people had gone to bed. The alert lasted 35 minutes, during which time many people violated Army "lights out" orders by getting up, turning on the lights and then leaning out their windows to find out what was going on.

Sets Clipper Record

MIAMI, Fla., Mar. 23—Capt. Joseph Hart, of Pan American Airways, has just set a new clipper record for crossing the South Atlantic. He made a round trip from Natal, Brazil, to a West African port, in 23 hours and 59 minutes.

Nats Get Bob Johnson

WASHINGTON, Mar. 23—The Washington Senators have acquired Outfielder Bob Johnson from the Philadelphia Athletics for Outfielder Bobby Estallella and Infielder Jimmy Pofahl.

Boy Wonder to Manage Lowly Phils



Stanley (Bucky) Harris, "boy wonder" of 1924, when he led the Washington Senators to the American League pennant and a World Series triumph over the New York Giants in his freshman year, measures his new uniform as manager of the last place Phils of the National League in the presence of William D. Cox, new owner of the Phils. Only Connie Mack of the As can display more service stripes as a major league manager.

GIs, Playboys Will Represent Ulster in Cage Championships

By Paul Lange
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

BELFAST, Mar. 23—The GIs and Playboys will represent Northern Ireland in The Stars and Stripes ETO championship basketball contests in London starting Mar. 30 at the Royal Albert Hall along with a team from the U.S. Naval Base at Londonderry.

In the Army finals at the Red Cross club here the GIs defeated the Redbirds, 21-19, for the SOS championship and the Playboys upset the Thunderbolts, 30-14, for the right to represent the Eighth Air Force Composite Command.

Both games were thrillers and Referee Cpl. Norman Olsen, of Albert Lee, Minn., and Cpl. Willis Fox, of Oelwein, Iowa, had their hands full keeping up with the blistering pace set by the teams.

The Thunderbolts appeared headed for certain victory in the first quarter as they led 8-2 and were still in the lead, 12-8, at the half-time. But the tide turned in the second-half and the Playboys went on a scoring spree, collecting 22 points while holding the Thunderbolts to a lone field goal. Sgt. Hugh Smith, of Shaw, Miss., and Pvt. Soldier Sanders, of Tahlequah, Okla., scored 21 of the 30 points for the Playboys. The pair able to hit for the Thunderbolts were Sgt. Charles Darnell, of Marthaville, La., and Pfc Richard Rose, of Crystal Lake, Iowa.

The GIs started out strong and were in front, 13-7, at the half. But the Redbirds began to rally in the final two quarters and almost caught up. Sgt. James Blalock, of Alexandria, La., and T/4 Owen Poucher, of Ridgeville, Ind., scored six points each for the GIs, while Pvt. Oliver Murphy, of Duluth, Ga., was best for the Redbirds with nine points.

Division All-Star Quintet Trips Statesmen, 33-25

AN ARTILLERY STATION, Mar. 23—A furious last period spurt which netted 14 points saw the Division all-star basketball squad come from behind and score a 33-25 win over the Artillery Statesmen on the latter's court.

Pvt. James Sharpe, of Oakland, Cal., led the All-Stars in the point getting as he spun six baskets and added a free throw through the hoop for 13 points. Cpl. Louis Koons, of Harrisburg, Pa., was close on the heels of Sharpe as he got six double deuckers for 12 points.

In a preliminary game the Division Yankees scored a decisive 25-19 victory over the Statesmen B quintet. Never was the division team behind as they took the lead in the opening quarter.

Dahlgren Reports At Last

HERSHEY, Pa., Mar. 23—Babe Dahlgren, first baseman of the Philadelphia Phils, acquired from the Brooklyn Dodgers, made a long-delayed appearance at the Phils' camp here yesterday. He said he was glad to be with the club and was in tip-top condition.

3rd Mat Show at Rainbow Club

The third Stars and Stripes wrestling program at the Rainbow Corner starts at 7:30 PM tomorrow night with five amateur and two professional bouts already scheduled.

Pvt. Malcolm Hummel, of Clearfield, Pa., 165, already a two-time winner on the previous cards, will be back seeking his third straight. Hummel has had 35 matches in the States.

Veteran matman on the show will be S/Sgt. Maurice Roy, of New York, 137. Roy has had ten years' experience on the mats and wrestled for the West Side YMCA in New York. Another standout is T/5 Anthony Psaros, of New York, 155. Psaros was New York City high school champion in his weight in 1938.

Referee for the matches will be Lt. Col. P. B. Rawley, of Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., one of the foremost referees in Eastern intercollegiate wrestling circles.

The full card of bouts will be announced in tomorrow's edition of The Stars and Stripes.

Fred Corcoran, McLemore To Visit Northern Ireland

BELFAST, Mar. 23—Fred Corcoran, tournament manager for PGA, and Henry McLemore, noted sports columnist, will present a number of sports quiz programs in Northern Ireland Mar. 25 to Mar. 29. Frank Kammerlohr, athletic director at the Red Cross club here, announces.

Corcoran and McLemore will appear at the Lockheed Overseas Corporation Mar. 25, at the Red Cross club at Londonderry Mar. 26, at a U.S. Air Force station Mar. 27, at a veteran hospital unit the afternoon of Mar. 28 and the Red Cross club here at night.

Bounces Back

After being rocked solidly through the first round and hitting the canvas three times in that frame, Pvt. Robert Thompson, of Philadelphia, put the division team ahead 5-3 when he came back to jolt Pfc Lewis Fetters, of Allentown, Pa., the rest of the match and get the decision.

In a decision that brought boos from the crowd, Cpl. William Eck, of Allentown, Pa., outpointed Pvt. Benny Droll, of Peoria, Ill. It was Eck's second victory in four days.

The team score was squared at five-all after the tenth bout, when Pvt. Glen Carpenter, Artilleryman from Hoopa, Cal., outpointed Pvt. Chester Marcinkiewicz, of Culpont, Pa., light-heavyweight champ of the Division. The first and third rounds were even but Carpenter got his advantage in the second when he dropped Marcinkiewicz for a count of six with a right to the jaw.

Dircks, Kozak Kayo Victories Give Edge, 7-5

Commander of Division Present at Rainbow Club Bouts

A pair of rugged heavyweight sluggers made the big difference last night when the Division boxing team defeated an all-star Engineer Artillery outfit, 7-5, before a packed house on the Stars and Stripes weekly card at the Rainbow Corner.

Present to see his boys take the major share of laurels was the winner's commanding general, who occupied a front row seat whenever his men are in action.

Heroes of the night were Sgt. Bill Dircks, of Cumberland, Md., and Pvt. Vince Kozak, of Hazelton, Pa., runnerup and champion of the heavyweights in their division. The tea mscore was tied at five-all before Dircks and Kozak won the last two bouts by knockouts. Dircks blitzed Cpl. Blitz Waltjen, of Cleveland, with a three-round knockout while Kozak halted Pvt. Lawrence Paris, of Washington in the first heat. Waltjen was downed eight times before his bout was stopped. Kozak had Paris down twice before the final bout was stopped in 1.15.

Mighty McGinty Wins

In the first team bout of the evening, Cpl. Andrew McGinty, Cleveland, of the Engineer-Artillery team, battered Sgt. Chester Ruby, of Baltimore, — Division featherweight champion, from ring post to ring post for two rounds and then at 1.05 of the third round dropped him cold with a left and right to the chin. Ruby never fathomed McGinty's left through the opening rounds, and in the second McGinty came through with a jolting right uppercut that was a forerunner of the sleeper punch that ended the session.

In a preliminary non-team bout, Pvt. William Sabo, of Cleveland, kayoed Pvt. John Smith, of Pensacola, Fla., with a straight right to the jaw at 30 seconds of the second round. Fifteen seconds earlier Sabo had dropped Smith with a left for a no count.

The Engineer-Artillery team took a 2-0 lead in the second bout when 1/Sgt. G. J. Patrick, of Philadelphia, decisively outpointed Cpl. Joe Abboud, of Omaha, in a bristling lightweight scrap. Using a sharp left jab and a right cross, Patrick beat Abboud to the punch throughout and won going away.

Abbato Gets First Victory

S/Sgt. Joe Abbato, of Baltimore, — Division lightweight semi-finalist, gave his team its first victory of the evening by taking a hard-fought decision over Pvt. Ernest Passamoni, of Iron River, Mich. Although Passamoni fought gamely, Abbato had the winning edge all the way through.

The lightweight co-champions of the Division, Pvt. Charley Schnappauf, of Wilkes Barre, Pa., and Cpl. George Spontak, of Pittsburgh, combined to pull their team from behind and go out in front with a 3-2 lead by winning the fourth and fifth battles. The heavily-backed Schnappauf had a close call with Pvt. Frank Missella, Engineer from Cleveland, in a fight that could have gone either way. Missella fought a "cute" fight against his sharp-hitting southpaw opponent firing counter-punches from long range, but the Pennsylvanian earned his edge by getting most of the telling blows. Spontak also had a tough job with Pvt. John Robinson, artilleryman from Kansas City, Kan. Spontak's left eye was cut in the opening round, but it did not stop him from slugging his way to an edge in all three rounds. Robinson was jolted in the second and third round but gamely came back for more.

Pfc James Grantham, of Pulaski, Va., division welterweight titleholder, gave his team its fourth straight victory of the evening as he took a one-round TKO over Pfc Sam Gualandi, of Wilmington, Ill.

A hard left landed by Grantham above Gualandi's right eye opened a deep cut, following it up with repeated lefts and rights. Referee Richard Didder, after one minute and five seconds had elapsed, stopped the contest.

Hard-hitting Pvt. Eddie Whalan, Engineer welterweight from Brooklyn, put his team back in the running in the seventh bout by whipping Pvt. Eugene Walker, of Baltimore, in a wild battle that had the crowd howling all the way. Walker was down for nine in the second.

Bounces Back

After being rocked solidly through the first round and hitting the canvas three times in that frame, Pvt. Robert Thompson, of Philadelphia, put the division team ahead 5-3 when he came back to jolt Pfc Lewis Fetters, of Allentown, Pa., the rest of the match and get the decision.

In a decision that brought boos from the crowd, Cpl. William Eck, of Allentown, Pa., outpointed Pvt. Benny Droll, of Peoria, Ill. It was Eck's second victory in four days.

The team score was squared at five-all after the tenth bout, when Pvt. Glen Carpenter, Artilleryman from Hoopa, Cal., outpointed Pvt. Chester Marcinkiewicz, of Culpont, Pa., light-heavyweight champ of the Division. The first and third rounds were even but Carpenter got his advantage in the second when he dropped Marcinkiewicz for a count of six with a right to the jaw.



British Pierce Mareth; Yanks Take Maknassy

Two Armies Now Within 50 Miles as Pincers Close on Rommel

(Continued from page 1)

smashed its way through broad minefields and across a series of anti-tank ditches. That task accomplished, fierce fighting broke out anew and last night was reported to be continuing.

The outflanking maneuver was an integral part of the Mareth Line attack. While that force was striking across the hills, other Eighth Army units facing the Mareth Line were hammering at the German positions until they, too, had broken through and established themselves inside the strongly fortified German positions near Zarat, not many miles inland from the Mediterranean.

This frontal attack started with a thrust at the Wadi Zigzaou, the depression which runs down northeast of the Mediterranean from a point south of Mareth.

Here the Germans had improved on the old French defenses by building themselves a complex system of trenches strengthened by machine-gun posts at all strategic points, but the men of the Eighth Army tore their way through the German positions, fighting grimly for each few yards of ground as they went, and captured the two German strongpoints southeast of Zarat.

Hot Air Combat

All over the battle area there has been intense air activity, with the Germans throwing in more planes than have been seen for a long time in Tunisia. But they could do little against the massed weight of the British and American air offensive, and, so far, have lost 26 planes to the Allies' seven.

Brilliant air attacks characterized the operations carried out by the British outflanking force.

The Germans had massed their tanks near El Hamma to withstand the British thrust when U.S. and British planes struck. Thirty-two enemy tanks were hit and nine of these, along with four armored cars, were destroyed, headquarters said.

After taking Maknassy, the American troops pushed on three miles to occupy a ridge east of the village, Algiers radio said. Maknassy is about 40 miles from the coast and its occupation narrowed the escape corridor open to Rommel's Mareth Line defenders.

1/Lt. Samuel Neath, former Des Moines, Iowa, schoolmaster, was the first American to enter Maknassy—a cluster of about 50 cream-colored houses and a tiny station—early Monday morning. "I got orders to go on foot from about 500 yards outside Maknassy," Lt. Neath said. "I was really scared, but I went in and found that there was no opposition, although there were plenty of mines and booby-traps."

Dive-bombers Hit Yanks

Then U.S. tanks and other armored vehicles moved into the town, followed by infantry and other forces. Soon Nazi dive-bombers appeared, and the town's captors were subjected to some of the most intensive dive-bombing they have experienced in the campaign.

Most of the town's defenders, it was reported, were Italians, supported by about 40 Germans.

Some observers likened the plight of Rommel's forces to that of the German Sixth Army destroyed at Stalingrad, and even Berlin radio, sending heartening messages to the Afrika Korps, compared the spirit of the Afrika fighters to that of the forces which perished in the Stalingrad siege.

Maknassy is on the railway line to two important Axis ports—Sfax to the north and Gabes to the south. It was probable that Maknassy was occupied by the same American armored forces which took Sened. If so, the force had advanced 20 miles in the last two days.

Food to Decide World's Fate

DAVID, Panama, Mar. 23 (AP)—Vice-President Henry Wallace in his first speech to a Pan-American audience on his Latin-American tour said that agricultural production was destined to decide the fate and liberty of the peoples of the world.

Taxi Tips - -

(Continued from page 1)

union secretary said. "In most cases the drivers are given more than they expect."

Crewe said he took a cab out one night but denied the Star quotation attributed to him that "not one of the American passengers tipped me." He said a U.S. captain gave him a "generous tip" and an enlisted man a "good tip."

As an example he told of one U.S. sergeant who handed a cabbie two half-crowns for a one shilling, nine pence trip. The honest driver, thinking a mistake had been made, attempted to return one of the coins, but was assured by the American that the five shillings were all for him.

The union official also denied that drivers have been instructed to pass up Americans when they yell "Taxi!"

He explained that London cabbies are dependent on tips and extra charges for a large part of their income because they do not receive a regular wage.

Forced Down in Desert, Ducks Patrols Two Days

CAIRO, Mar. 23 (AP)—Though his own cooling system had been shot away by an Me109, Maj. Archie Knight, of Fountain City, Ind., dived on an attacking German plane and shot it down before making a belly landing in the desert.

Maj. Knight, who had been on a fighter sweep over the Mareth Line, played hide and seek with enemy patrols for 48 hours before reaching a British camp. He was shot at by planes, machine-guns and snipers during two days and once had to hide in a fox hole.

"Every time I'd lift my head they'd let fly at me so I'd duck again," he said. He eventually reached the coast in darkness and reported at a British camp.

New Nazi Raids For Slave Labor

Controlled French Police Arrest Youths Trying To Evade Draft

BERNE, Switzerland, Mar. 23 (AP)—Lyons was again the scene of intensive police raids and numerous arrests as the Nazis pressed the program to force workmen into German industry and defense works, and at the same time drain France of all possible manpower in the event of an Allied invasion.

A dispatch to the Swiss newspaper Tribune de Geneve today said the Nazis directed the French police, and many arrests were made in Lyons and vicinity.

The paper said control of travelers was very strict, especially in the hotels; the city was full of people unable to find a place to sleep, while the railway station was jammed and no movement of people or vehicles of any kind was permitted from midnight until 6 P.M. The dispatch said the trains were full of young people departing to Germany or elsewhere beyond the Rhine.

Evasion Attempts Continue

Youths were still endeavoring to evade the Nazi forced labor, but were finding constantly increasing difficulties, the dispatch said. Many were captured by gendarmes, who locked them in forts on the outskirts of Lyons with other French youths to await removal to Germany. No reprisals were being taken against the youths for efforts to escape, the dispatch said.

The newspaper La Suisse of Geneva said that even in France there was a report from Vichy that all men from 18 to 60 would have to go to Axis-guarded concentration camps in the event of an Allied invasion.

Another indication of French fears that women would be recruited next was seen in the newspaper Petit Dauphinois of Grenoble, which placed an account of Sauckel's speech on the need for the mobilization of German women for war industries on its front page.

Shy Sailors and Marines Learn Dancing At Club

LONDONDERRY, Mar. 23—Sailors and Marines who are somewhat shy and bashful on the dance floor are fast learning how to shake themselves loose from that bugaboo at the American Red Cross club here.

EM2C J. E. Fera, formerly a dancing instructor at Troy, N.Y., is conducting classes twice weekly for men of the U.S. Naval Base. He is teaching them how to rumba, jitterbug, do the shag and Lindy Hop as well as how to glide along in fox trot and waltz time.

Jap Base Falls To Allied Push Toward Lae

700 Enemy Troops Die In Battle for Valley On Guinea Coast

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Mar. 23 (UP)—Moving up the northern coast of New Guinea towards the key Japanese-occupied bases of Salamaua and Lae, Allied ground troops have thrown the Japanese from the Ambasi, Kumusi and Opi river valleys, and are now in complete possession of Mambare River, today's official communique reported.

Salamaua is some 100 miles northwest of Mambare River, while Lae is another 25 miles further on.

More than 700 of the enemy were killed and nearly 100 taken prisoner in the fighting for the Mambare River area, the communique said. Many other hundreds of Japs undoubtedly died of starvation and disease in the swamps where they tried to find refuge from Allied attacks.

Fortresses have pounded the runways at Gasmata, New Britain, while Beau-fighters strafed buildings and installations.

Fortresses searching the Solomons Sea found no trace of the Japanese destroyer hit and crippled on Sunday night.

Bomb Kiska 21 Times in March

WASHINGTON, Mar. 23 (AP)—The Navy Department said today that Kiska has been bombed 21 times so far this month. Sunday, two groups of Liberators and Mitchell medium bombers, with fighter escorts, attacked the Japanese positions at Kiska.

U.S. Blast Burma Japs

NEW DELHI, Mar. 23 (UP)—Continuing their attacks against the Japs in Upper Burma, fighter-bombers of the Tenth U.S. Air Force bombed Jap installations in Mogaung and southwest of Myitkyina yesterday. The official communique reports:

All bombs fell in the target area, causing great damage from blast and resulting fires. Some sections of the area were completely destroyed.

Other fighter-bombers on offensive reconnaissance in the Myitkyina area strafed and burned enemy motor vehicles and strafed two river steamers, both of which are believed to have been sunk. No Allied aircraft was lost.

Msgr. Spellman To Tour Camps

Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, of New York, chief Catholic prelate of the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps, today planned to begin his tour of Army camps in Britain.

The Archbishop has already visited American forces in North Africa. He arrived here by plane last week to attend the funeral of Arthur Cardinal Hinsley and visit troops in this theater.

Mgr. Spellman attended the solemn mass of requiem for Cardinal Hinsley yesterday at Westminster Cathedral, assisting in giving the absolutions following the mass.

He devoted the rest of the day to church duties and preparing for his visit with the forces. His aide on the tour is Maj. John E. Foley, executive officer of ETOUSA chaplains.

Cherry Trees Naturalized

WASHINGTON, Mar. 23 — The Japanese cherry trees around the tidal basin here—favorite tourist sight since they were planted as a good-will gift from the Japanese government 21 years ago—have been given a new name. They are now officially "Oriental flowering cherry trees."

Shakespeare Festival Opens In Stratford-on-Avon Apr. 17

STRATFORD-ON-AVON, Mar. 23—The annual Shakespeare Festival, which formerly attracted visitors from all over the world, will be held here April 17—with an American Red Cross Club in what used to be Shakespeare's favorite pub available to U.S. soldiers.

One of the club's features is a wall painting which, for over 400 years, had been hidden behind oak panels until it was discovered in 1927.

Miss Francis Kinnear, of New York, the club director, tells the boys that the

painting shows the apocryphal story of Tobit, but soldier reaction is best represented by T/Sgts. Denton D. Chandler, of Tampa, Fla., and James E. Ratcliff, of Dallas, Tex., who remarked "We would like to know what Shakespeare made of it, we don't make a darned thing!"

That would appear general sentiment for T/5 Louis Sabellio, of New Haven, Conn., looking at the massive green verbiage surrounding the little figure of Tobias, mused, "Geez, so they had brussels sprouts even in them days!"

Blondie

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



by Chic Young

Chinese Tell Yanks' Fortunes



Keystone Photo

Somewhere in China, Sgt. Claude J. Smith, North Carolina; Sgt. Andrew Chemsak, Pennsylvania, get their fortunes told by an old Chinese fortune teller who draws "futures" from a small paper tube. The Chinese writing is a complete mystery to the American doughboys but it's a lot of fun.

Ill Kids Miss Birthday Party, GIs See They Get It Anyway

Johnny, 4, and Ann, 2, had been looking forward to Ann's second birthday, last Sunday. The outfit which adopted them, through The Stars and Stripes War Orphan Fund, had planned a birthday party for Ann, and there was a 15-pound birthday cake, fresh from a GI kitchen, all ready for the affair.

Perhaps it was the excitement, perhaps the kids had learned about that big, lemon-iced cake—whatever it was it was too much for Johnny and Ann. They spent the week-end in bed after having been taken sick on their way to the party.

Rainbow Club Offers GI Show

"Petticoat Fever," the Army Special Service comedy production, will be presented at 8.45 PM tonight at the American Red Cross Rainbow Corner club in London.

The show, featuring a cast of soldier-actors supported by two British actresses, is the third play produced by Special Service for the entertainment of troops in the ETO.

On Saturday, the farce will be put on at the Queensberry All Services Club, London, at 7.30 PM. Next Tuesday it will be at the Hans Crescent club.

Director of the production is T/4 Thomas Palmer, of New York, former actor on Broadway. Included in the cast are: T/3 Jordan Miller, Manhattan, Kan.; Cpl. Walter Brooke, Philadelphia; Pvt. William McHale, Chester, Pa.; Cpl. Duncan Pope, Seattle, Wash., and Pfc Charles Cummings, Omaha, Neb.

The British actresses are Ilona Ferenc and Kay Lewis.

Red Cross Club Opens At Bournemouth Saturday

BOURNEMOUTH, Mar. 23—A new Red Cross club opens here next Saturday with a concert and dance music by a soldier orchestra, the "Statesmen."

The history of this band dates back to the last war. W/O H. K. Barnhart, of Sunbury, Pa., who directs the concert band, was a member of the original combination. Also with a fine collection of hash marks is S/Sgt. Charles F. Kniss, who played the french horn with the Navy band on the USS "Pittsburg" in World War I.

Directing the dance orchestra for Saturday evening is T/Sgt. Charles Meekins, of Northumberland, Pa.

Hindus in Spring Fete Paint Faces of Yanks

NEW DELHI, Mar. 23 (AP)—The Hindu Spring festival of Holi got into full swing yesterday with thousands of New Delhi citizens being plastered from head to heel with paint.

The Indians, in holiday mood, carried their painting salutations into the American barracks. The face of a soldier in front of a building was solemnly painted a bright red and blue by two college students while officers stood on the porch grinning. Instantly a party of Indians went after them, and, in a good humored pursuit chased them into their own barracks quarters.

Raids - - - -

(Continued from page 1)

daylight blow at the key port in north-western Germany, American-built Ventura bombers of the RAF attacked targets at Maasuis, near Rotterdam, Holland, and fighter-bombers hit other targets in Holland as well as railway objectives in northern France, all without reported loss. Later, Whirlwinds attacked places in Brittany.

While the RAF was out to St. Nazaire, enemy aircraft attacked coastal districts in northern England, causing damage and casualties. One Nazi plane was shot down, the Air Ministry said.

The American raid, which produced possibly the most accurate bombing yet by the Fords and Libs., according to crews, poured several hundred tons of bombs on to a narrow target area. It was the eighth U.S. daylight mission this month.

Three U.S. bombers were lost, and what Eighth Air Force Headquarters described as "a number" of enemy fighters were destroyed in combats which began before the formations reached the target and continued well on the way home over the North Sea. Enemy fighter opposition consisted of FW190s, Me109s and Ju88s, few of which seemed eager to close with the bombers.

Berlin claimed four bombers were shot down and admitted damage to the residential quarter of the port.

Among the Liberators which hit the target area was one which made its first bombing run on hand signals alone, it was revealed yesterday.

The Teggie Ann, piloted by Capt. K. O. Dessert, of Los Angeles, was hit by a 20mm. shell on the way to the target. The communication system was knocked out.

Capt. Claude A. Culpepper, of Poplarville, Miss., bombardier, found he couldn't communicate with the pilot to guide the bombing run. So he and Capt. Leander F. Schmid, of New Hampton, N.Y., navigator, teamed up to steer the ship by means of hand signals to the pilot and to Col. Edward J. Timberlake, of San Antonio, Tex., co-pilot.

One or two fingers held up indicated the degrees of course variation, gestures with the other hand indicated left or right, and the signals were relayed from bombardier to pilot.

Something About a Soldier

A 125 per cent increase in delinquency among teen-age girls throughout Britain, partly attributed to "the romantic appeal of uniforms," was revealed yesterday by London County Council Education Committee.

N.Y. Stock List Strong

NEW YORK, Mar. 23 (AP)—Industrial shares led the New York stock market in another recovery push today which lifted the favorites a point or more to the highest levels in a year. The volume was about 1,300,000 shares.