



THE STARS AND STRIPES

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in the European Theater of Operations



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Friday, Sept. 24, 1943

Fifth Occupies Hills, Sees Naples Aflame

Forts Pound Nantes Sub Base Twice

British Smash Hanover In Record Raid; France Hit by Marauders

American and British bombers left German factories, airfields, ports and important rail and highway communications smoldering last night following a sweeping 24-hour aerial assault spread all the way across northwestern Europe, from the North Sea to the Bay of Biscay.

The Blow-by-Blow Account

This was the toll of destruction rained on Germany and the occupied countries in the round-the-clock offensive:

Hanover—In 30 minutes Wednesday night and early yesterday morning, the RAF dropped probably 1,500 to 1,800 tons of bombs on this metropolis of half a million, site of Germany's largest rubber works, 160 miles west of Berlin on the vital Berlin-Cologne railway.

Nantes—Forts dumped high explosives on the docks and shipyards at this French Atlantic port, key base for Nazi U-boat and naval operations and important coast-wise shipping, twice yesterday, once in the morning and a second time in the afternoon.

Emden—Big German port on the North Sea, previously hit several times by Fortresses, struck again in the RAF's night operations.

Oldenburg—Inland army, railway and air center west of Bremen, another target hit by the RAF.

Vannes-Meucon—Coastal air base, 70 miles north of Nantes, struck by Fortresses yesterday morning.

Kerlin-Bastard—An air base farther to the northwest, near Brest, also hit by Forts.

Evreux-Fauville—Another air base, 45 miles west of Paris, hammered by Marauders late Wednesday, in their deepest penetration of France so far.

Brest—French air base, struck simultaneously by RAF Typhoons.

Conches—Air base in Normandy, 60 miles west of Paris, pounded yesterday by Marauders.

Rouen—Industrial targets at the French port blasted by RAF Mitchells.

Wemeldinge—Canal entrance in Holland's Outer Schelde, as well as shipping off the Dutch coast, struck by RAF Typhoons.

The combined air forces also slashed at other scattered airfields in France, Holland and northwest Germany.

RAF Loses 26 Bombers

In its night assault on Hanover, the RAF lost 26 bombers and one fighter. The USAAF's day operations cost one heavy bomber and two fighters.

The Forts, escorted by Thunderbolts, encountered heavy fighter opposition in the Nantes attack. Nine enemy fighters were shot down by the Forts and four others by the Thunderbolts. Two more enemy fighters were destroyed by Forts attacking the Kerlin-Bastard airfield, headquarters reported.

The RAF attack on Hanover was the fourth recent blow at Nazi rubber sources. (Continued on page 4)

Elevator Strike Ties Up Rockefeller Center in N.Y.

NEW YORK, Sept. 23 (UP)—Somebody fired seven charwomen, and as a result, Rockefeller Center, one of the world's largest buildings, was tied up by an elevator strike today.

Thousands of workers arrived this morning to find but one elevator servicing the 65-story building. Nobody did much about it except Rene McCall, British newspaperman, who walked up to his 44th-floor office in 15 minutes.

Mrs. Roosevelt Back Home

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 23 (AP)—Mrs. Roosevelt arrived by plane yesterday after her tour of New Zealand and Australia.

Reds Smash at Kiev, Smolensk

Nazi Retreat Draws Near to Climax as Full-Scale Rout

MOSCOW, Sept. 23 (AP)—The German Army's great withdrawal in Russia bore all the earmarks tonight of fast turning into a full-scale rout under sledgehammer blows from pounding Soviet forces which had swept within sight of the gilded domes of Kiev and were closing in on Smolensk.

In a fierce bid for the greatest double victory of the Russian war, the Red Army was drawing an iron ring about the capital of the rich Ukraine and driving sharply down from the northwest after outflanking Smolensk, now a tottering monument to Hitler's drive for Moscow.

The day's communiques, which contained Soviet revelations of slashing advances on every front, also brought a German admission of the evacuation of Poltava, great rail junction 40 miles from the Dnieper River.

Only One Road to Dnieper

The Germans had been using Poltava to funnel out troops withdrawing from the embattled sector southwest of Kharkov, and with loss of the junction, large forces of Nazis face annihilation or capture. The last remaining rail link with Poltava has been cut by the Russians, necessitating enemy use of a single road leading to the Dnieper.

Meanwhile, three great Dnieper cities were being assaulted by Soviet armies. A three-pronged drive was launched toward Kiev from the north, south and east, while frontal assaults were begun on Dnepropetrovsk and Zaporozhe. Russian spearheads were reported a bare 13 miles from the great Dnepropetrovsk dam, blown up by Soviet forces retreating before the Nazi onslaught two years ago.

Death Stand or Flight

In the Kuban Peninsula, the tiny port of Anapa, 40 miles northwest of Novorossisk, fell to surging Soviet armies, leaving the Germans only a small foothold around Temryuk for a death stand or flight across the Kerch Straits to the Crimea.

Gomel, 200 miles north of Kiev, also came into dispatches for the first time. Heavy fighting was reported in this area. (Continued on page 4)

Allied Push Held Big Aid to Reds

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23 (AP)—Allied successes in the Mediterranean undoubtedly have accelerated the German retreat in Russia, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson told a press conference today.

Stimson refused comment either on the reported appointment of Gen. George C. Marshall as global commander-in-chief of Allied forces or Gen. Douglas MacArthur's position.

Summarizing recent victories on all fronts, the Secretary said Italians now regarded the Allies as liberators instead of invaders and that sabotage of German installations by Italians was proving very effective.

Fort's Perfect Belly Landing Recorded by Movie Camera

A U.S. BOMBER STATION, England, Sept. 23—"Take the wheels off 'em, grease 'em and slide 'em in on their bellies!"

That's the new Flying Fortress landing technique the ground crewmen at this station are advocating today after watching J/Lt. Keith E. Harris, 23-year-old pilot of the "Spot Remover," from Earlville, Ill., slide his B17 in with a perfect emergency belly landing that was filmed for future instruction of other pilots.

Harris, running into difficulty trying to land, circled the field for three and a half hours, taking time out to jettison his bombs and drop the ball turret in the "wash," a feat achieved by T/Sgt. Crockett L. Harmon, of Amarillo, Tex.

Meanwhile, base personnel travelled 40 miles to get a motion picture camera to record the landing. With the stage set and most of the base



With the capture of Poltava, the Russians now hold nearly every major city east of the Dnieper River. The German army is still in retreat but may be preparing for a stand this winter behind the Dnieper.

New Landings Along Vital Cape Imperil Jap Base in New Guinea

ALLIED HQ, New Guinea, Sept. 23—New landings yesterday by United States and Australian troops on King William Cape—under cover of a terrific sea and air bombardment—have virtually isolated the Jap garrison at Finschafen, strategic New Guinea port only 90 miles across the straits from New Britain.

At the same time the Allied paratroops which captured Kaipat (55 miles from Finschafen) have consolidated their positions and are driving to cut off any Jap stragglers which may be escaping from the cape area.

With the two-pronged thrust converging on them, the desperate Japs at Finschafen have little chance of escaping alive. Their slim chance of getting out will be from ships which must sneak through a U.S. naval blockade of the Houn Gulf waters.

With the capture of Finschafen the Allies will be in a favorable position for an offensive against the great Jap port of Rabaul, on New Britain, jungle island stretching in a northeasterly direction about 150 miles from the present battle scene in New Guinea.

Few details of the fighting have arrived yet at Gen. MacArthur's headquarters. First reports merely said the Allies had moved inland six miles north of Finschafen, smashing all Jap resistance. (Continued on page 4)

USAAF Bombs Rhodes, Athens

CAIRO, Sept. 23—Germany was reported rushing troops to Albania and Greece yesterday as Liberators of the Ninth Army Air Force flew from secret bases to again batter Nazi invasion defenses on the Greek mainland and in the Aegean.

Nearly 200,000 lbs. of explosives were dropped on the Eleusis airdrome near Athens and on the Maritza air base on Rhodes. It was the third Allied raid in three successive days on Rhodes and the second in two days for Athens.

Bases for the Allied air forces in their softening up blows against the German-held Balkans have not been announced. It is believed, however, that the bombers are operating from the recently-captured Dodecanese islands of Cos, Samos and Leros.

The Liberators hit German airfields in Greece and Rhodes in two simultaneous daylight raids, taking a heavy toll of enemy aircraft on the ground and smashing hangars, runways and dispersal areas. No enemy fighter opposition was encountered and all the B24s returned.

As the tempo of the Allied aerial war against the Balkans increased, Ankara reported the Germans were rushing troops to possible invasion areas.

20,000 Allied Prisoners Reported Free in Italy

Approximately 20,000 U.S. and British prisoners have been liberated by the Italians and have joined "Italian partisans," Morocco radio announced yesterday.

"Rommel is offering 1,800 lire for each prisoner handed over. But in spite of this more and more join the partisans. Recently 3,000 Anglo-American prisoners crossed into Switzerland," the report said.

Allies Push North Along Whole Line

No Major Offensive as Yet; Nazis Retreat to Avoid Montgomery's Trap

The Fifth Army, battling against determined German resistance south of Naples, yesterday smashed its way to strategic positions in the hills and began shelling Nazi troops in the plains below. The Allies are now stretched along a 140-mile unbroken front from sea to sea across Italy and are driving northward.

Algiers radio said last night elements of the Fifth, advancing in the mountains under the fire of the heavy mortars and machine-guns of the Germans, had reached heights from which they can see Naples in flames.

As yet no major offensive has been launched but Allied attacks are being increased and the left wing of the German line is falling back to escape being trapped by Gen. Montgomery's Eighth Army moving ahead north of Potenza. Only in the rough country north of Salerno are the Germans putting up any sort of a fight, and even in this sector they are slowly being pushed back by the American and British troops under Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, whose advance in some cases has been so rapid that the Germans had to make hurried departures from small mountain towns to avoid being trapped in the passes.

Ginosa Occupied

In the Potenza sector the Eighth Army has pushed ahead ten miles to capture Avigliano. The Germans are retreating very rapidly on this front and are not even taking time to do a good job of demolishing roads and bridges. At one place the Eighth was only about five miles behind German rearguards.

On the extreme eastern end of the front the Fifth Corps has occupied the little town of Ginosa, 30 miles west of Taranto. It was officially announced from Allied Headquarters that the Fifth Army also had taken Acerno, nine miles north of Battipaglia. East of Eboli, the Fifth pushed back the German flank and took Contursi, located in the Sele, where the Germans made their heaviest counterattacks under a barrage of artillery. The situation now is reversed, with the Allies holding the commanding positions from which they are pouring artillery fire into enemy positions on the plains.

Victorious French Commandos and American Rangers drove German forces in Corsica into the northeast corner of the island, while Allied naval and air forces hammered Bastia, the port from which the Germans are trying to evacuate their troops. Leghorn, the other end of the shuttle line, also was plastered with bombs.

"Allied naval and air forces are very effectively blockading the east coast, making enemy evacuation very difficult," Allied headquarters announced.

In Naples itself cholera reportedly has broken out, and, according to reports from Switzerland, at least 120 people already have died. The Germans, meanwhile, were demolishing the city systematically, obviously intending to abandon the city but determined to make its facilities

(Continued on page 4)

3 Hours Daily Added To U.S. Radio in ETO

The American Forces Network will be on the air an additional three hours daily, from 11 AM to 2 PM, starting Monday.

This will supplement the regular hours of broadcasting—5:45 PM to 10:30 PM Monday through Friday, 5:45 PM to 11 PM Saturday, and 8 AM to 10:30 PM Sunday.

The installation of a number of new transmitters, to reach troops not yet able to get the AFN programs, has been approved, and they will be fitted shortly. The radio section of the Special Service Division, SOS, which operates the network, hopes to expand the facilities so that eventually all American forces in the ETO will be serviced.

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Good News

Over a month ago Dr. Wilhelm Schmidt, spokesman for the German Foreign Office, told neutral newspaper correspondents in Berlin that Germany's war situation had improved notably during the past four weeks and that in another four weeks time—that is about now—there would be some really great good news for Germany's friends.

This announcement created some speculation. A few people thought Dr. Wilhelm Schmidt might be referring to the often discussed but never produced German secret weapon. Others remembered that just as Schmidt was making his announcement Himmler's SS paper was telling the German people not to expect miracles. Perhaps Himmler knew more than Schmidt about the general situation.

The month is now up and there has been good news all right; but only if considered from the Allied viewpoint. During the time allowed by Dr. Schmidt Sicily was occupied by Allied troops, the Eighth Army moved across to the Italian toe and invaded Italy, the Fifth Army landed at Salerno, established a beachhead and attacked inland. Italy surrendered unconditionally and the Italian fleet became Allied property, Sardinia surrendered, Corsica was successfully attacked by the French, new targets in Germany and occupied Europe were smashed by Allied bombers almost without retaliation, the U-boats met new defeats and on the Russian front the Germans have lost the Donbas and most of the Ukraine.

It could be that the prematurely announced German victory at Salerno was the news Dr. Schmidt anticipated, or maybe it was the new elastic defense by the Germans in Russia. We are inclined to believe, however, that the good news predicted by Dr. Schmidt was nothing more than the usual German propaganda line, which, like its own emblem, is as crooked as the Nazi double cross.

The Russian Campaign

The Russian summer campaign has developed into two unmistakable major drives, the first to liberate the Ukraine and Crimea, the second to split the whole eastern front into two parts.

In the early stages of this campaign the Russians disguised the directions of these drives and used up German reserves by a series of hammer blows on different sectors in succession. Now, however, there is no doubt as to the nature and gravity of the threats to the German army in the east.

The southern threat developed first. Swift Russian maneuvers brought about the fall of Byelgorod and made the salient northeast of Kharkov. This caused the Germans to throw in their reserves fruitlessly and prematurely. Since then alternate advances on the coast, north of Kharkov and in the center have caused the collapse of the whole Eastern front and will in due course bring about the fall of the Crimea.

The most serious threat at present is the thrust towards Kiev. Apart from its psychological importance as the third city in Russia, Kiev is the most important meeting place of roads and railways in South Russia. It lies only 120 kilometers to the southeast of the Pripet marshes, which have in the history of war in Russia invariably cut the armies in western Russia into two parts, and if the Russian advance continues it will split the German armies into two parts.

During the summer campaign the Germans have continually claimed that their planned withdrawals have shortened their lines. Far from this being true, the salients made by Russian advances have extended all but a few German lines of communication. As a result the Germans are quite unable to find troops to man the Russian front, which now features many deep salients, and it was by smashing against the flanks of similar salients that the Russians were able to take Orel and Kharkov.

Russian strategy, in other words, has succeeded, and the German position on the eastern front continues to deteriorate.

By the way, if you want to read some really funny jokes, the new Readers Digests are out.

Our favorite ETO ribbon story. S/Sgt. Lawrence Fultz Jr., of Houston, Texas, handed the supply sergeant at his bomber station an ETO ribbon on salvage day. "It's beat up and it has to be replaced," was the only explanation Fultz gave.

Signs of the times. A man who couldn't get a bath house to use for undressing



at Atlantic City dug a hole deep in the sand and undressed there.

GIs are spreading American sports all over the globe. From our spy in the South Pacific comes word that natives down there have gone in for basketball in a big way—the only difference is that they use a skull instead of a ball. And how does your head bounce, little man?

We nominate as the most considerate son-in-law of all time an unidentified Massachusetts man who was picked up by the cops this week. Arrested for bootlegging, he alibied, "I operate a still in my home to provide a little liquor for my 99-year-old mother-in-law."

Overheard in Hyde Park, No. 53436. Two WACs were strolling along. One commented with a sigh, "Gee, I suppose when I get home I'll find some man in my job."

An Indianapolis matron was rather surprised to find a basket on her back porch containing a baby boy and a note, reading, "William Patrick Franklin is a good boy." The Pfc who just read this paragraph over our shoulder says that any GI would be glad to find a basket outside a Nissen hut with a blonde and a note reading, "— is a bad girl."

A corporal, sweating it out on a sun-scorched Sicilian beach, took a swig of the



lukewarm water in his canteen. It was a light swig, for there wasn't much left and it had to last him six hours. A private came rushing up and handed him a letter. Eagerly he tore it open; it read: "Dear Sir, If you do not make another payment by Wednesday we will have to reclaim the silver-plated cocktail shaker you bought from us." The Cpl. blinked, laughed hysterically, straightened up, polished off his last swig with gusto.

Overheard in Piccadilly, No. 6432. "What a gal. With her it's nothing doing all the time!" J. C. W.

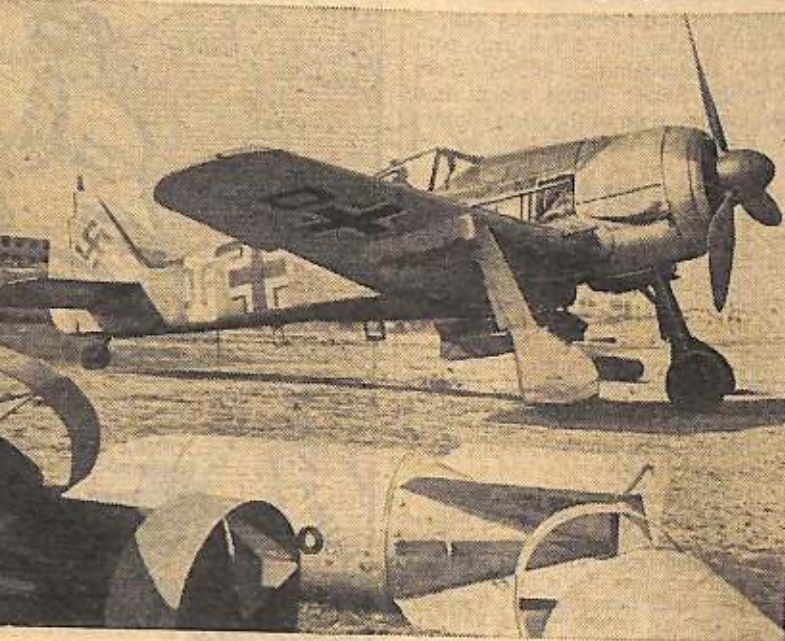
PRIVATE BREGER



"Casualty from that last attack, Sir. He can't uncross his fingers!"



As fresh troops and supplies are poured into Italy, the drives by the American, British and Canadian armies have mounted to a degree nearly equalling that of the thrust across Africa. In this picture, British troops and trucks come ashore near Naples from a U.S. landing craft while smoke pots give cover from enemy air attacks.



In their push northward the Allies have seized great quantities of German equipment with items ranging from rifles to warplanes. Here is a Focke-Wulf 190 fighter-bomber captured intact with bomb on hooks (under fuselage) at an airport near Salerno by the RAF. Allied forces are now using these fields for operations.



A wounded, and captured, German leaves a U.S. first-aid station after one of the bloody assaults last week against the stubborn Salerno beachhead defenders.



Lt. Betty Iredale, an Army nurse, was the first American woman to set foot on the European continent with the Fifth Army. She draws water in her helmet for a wash shortly after the landing.



A U.S. military policeman stands guard over the first batch of German prisoners taken near Agropoli and Salerno. Only a few have been captured so far in the campaign because the Nazis are not using the old defense tactics of "do or die" but instead are withdrawing after extensive demolition, cunningly planned.

Three Ulster Nines in ETO 'World Series'

Moles, Air Force Champs, Lead List of Six Flier Entries

By Ray Lee

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

EIGHTH AIR FORCE HQ, Sept. 23—Three of Northern Ireland's top diamond squads have been entered in the ETO "World Series" which will be held here Sept. 27-30.

The three teams are: the Agitators, North Ireland champs, managed by Sgt. Joe Aycock, of Alexandria, La.; Chief Jerry Patrick's Creevaghs, representing the Navy, and the Marines, who earlier in the season upset the dope by defeating the Creevaghs to take the base championship at Londonderry.

The Agitators' mound staff is headed by Sgt. Carl Smith, of Alexandria, La., who recently bested Pvt. Ed "Deacon" Behnen, of East St. Louis, Ill., strikeout king of the Blues, in the North Ireland playoff. S/Sgt. Earl Roshto, of Pineville, La., will give opposing hurlers plenty of trouble at the plate, according to Manager Aycock.

Creevaghs Made Clean Sweep

The Creevaghs, who made a clean sweep of North Ireland competition earlier in the season, and the Marines, both are determined that "the Army won't win this one."

Topping the six Air Force entries will be the Bomber Command Moles, bolstered by Sgt. Joe Rundus, of Bellville, Kan., who has hurled three no-hitters this season, one in the Air Force playoffs. The Moles also have another sturdy moundsman in Sgt. Bill Craddock, of Norfolk, Va., who has contributed his share in their parade of 29 victories against one loss.

WBS Sending 3 Squads

Other Air Force squads entered are the Composite Command Mustangs, the Eagles of Air Support Command, Fighter Command Thunderbolts, Headquarters Engineers and Service Command Red Devils.

Mainstays of the Engineers are Cpl. Larry Toth, of Toledo, Ohio, at second; Pfc Frank Burger, of Chicago, at third; Pfc Andrew Dzuris, of Denmore Pa., and Outfielder Pfc John Kilroy, of Washington, all of whom have seen some professional experience. The Red Devils, runners-up in the Air Force series, claim five pros.

WBS will be sending the well-known Port Ramblers, MP Nightsticks, Americans and the Signal Hounds, all tidlers in their own units.

SOS Hq is sending the Yanks, while the field forces will be represented by the Yankees.

Howell Hurls Three Hitter As Chiefs Rap Leafs, 5-3

TORONTO, Sept. 23—The Syracuse Chiefs jumped into the lead over the pennant-winning Toronto Maple Leafs by taking a 5-3 decision in the first game of the International League playoff finals.

Millard Howell turned in a three-hit pitching job to whip the favored Toronto club in the opener of a best of seven game series. Luke Hamlin was charged with the loss.

Help Wanted

—AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, Printing House Sq., London, EC4.

Fraternity Notices

SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY will have its next dinner Saturday, Oct. 2, at 7 PM, instead of Oct. 9 as originally planned. It will be at Grosvenor Sq., London. Members and prospective members should make reservations with Lt. Comdr. H. M. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, c/o Help Wanted.

PHI DELTA THETA will hold its first reunion in the ETO at 6 PM Friday, Oct. 22, at 3 Grosvenor Sq., London. All Phi Deltis intending to be present should notify Capt. O. C. Olson, c/o Help Wanted.

APOs Wanted

DOMINICK Domentilli, Raymond Ferris, Utica, N.Y.; Lt. Edith Lamb, ANC, Thomaston, Conn.; Cpl. Royd A. Mohaffey, Princess Anne, Md.; Pvt. George W. Ivins, Trenton, N.J.; Mike McCammon, John Ambister, Maryville, Tenn.; Pvt. Raymond McCrory, Ft. William, Beattie, Fayette City, Pa.; Pfc James McCrory, Dayton, Ohio; Sgt. Gordon Johnson, Fargo, N.D.; Pvt. Eugene Cagle, Faisalade, Ky.; Tim Matthews, Declo, Idaho; Thomas Calabro, Leo Vitelli, Paw-Sucker, R.I.; Capt. George A. Murray, San Antonio, Tex.; Capt. Frank Brew, Superior, Wis.; Sgt. Frank Williams, Nasawauk, Minn.; Sgt. Elmer N. Van Bibber, Baker, Ore.; Cpl. Oscar E. Johnson, Silverton, Ore.; Lt. Chester Kraunik, Ft. Joy, Dooly, Ark. Bay, Billy Alexander, Capt. Robert P. Millikin, Sgt. Ben H. Dembertz.

Bronko Is Back

By Pap



THE FORMER ALL-AMERICA END IS RETURNING TO HIS FIRST LOVE — FOOTBALL AT THE AGE OF 34

I STILL REMEMBER A FEW TRICKS

JUST FOLLOW ME

BRONKO HAS BEEN OUT OF FOOTBALL HALF A DOZEN YEARS BUT HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HELP THE BEARS AT TACKLE

BRONKO RAN HIS OWN INTERFERENCE WHEN HE WAS THE TERROR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE IN THE BEARS' UNIFORM

Million Dollar Boxing Gates After War, Jacobs Predicts

By Mike Jacobs

(Second of a series by national sports leaders on the post-war sports outlook.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 23 (AP)—A recent article predicted that the next world's heavyweight champion would come out of the army. The writer pointed out the prominent part boxing plays in the training of soldiers and indicated that this training would develop the successor to the heavyweight throne.

Boxing drills in the army—and in the other branches of the service—are arousing interest among thousands of men, men who never before thought much about the ring sport.

After the war is won, and these men return to civilian life, they will make excellent fans. They will crowd the arenas to see fights, which will mean bigger gates and, for the fighters, bigger purses.

Many of the returning service men, having learned some of the fundamentals of boxing while in uniform, will want to try their luck in the professional ring. I believe all sports will thrive in the post-war years—boxing, perhaps more than others, because it is recruiting so many new fans in the service camps. That's what happened after World War I and I think the same will be true this time.

It may be that the war will end soon enough for the boxers now in service to take up where they left off. But if the war lasts a long time these fighters will have been out of action too long to regain their best form and then we'll have to wait for the younger crop to develop.

People often ask me: "Will there ever be another million-dollar gate?" My answer is always: "Yes, lots of them."



Mike Jacobs

If the war were to end soon I'm sure a Joe Louis-Freddie Mills international bout, or a Louis-Billy Conn return contest each would draw in excess of a million dollars. And there will be others.

Minor League Results

International League
Playoff Results
Syracuse 5, Toronto 3, (first game)

Eastern League
Playoff Results
Elmira 9, Scranton 8 (first game)
Scranton 1, Elmira 0 (second game)
Elmira 4, Scranton 3 (third game)

American Association
Playoff Results
Columbus 11, Milwaukee 1 (first game)
Milwaukee 8, Columbus 6 (second game)
Toledo 2, Indianapolis 1 (first game)
Indianapolis 6, Toledo 3 (second game)

Pacific Coast League
Playoff Results
Seattle 3, Los Angeles 2 (first game)
Seattle 4, Los Angeles 1 (second game)
Seattle 8, Los Angeles 2 (third game)
San Francisco won second bracket series, 4-2.

Omaha Drops Football

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 23—Athletic Director Dr. William Thompson explained why the University of Omaha dropped football for the duration. "Civilian schools having football material comparable to that at Omaha would be so few and far removed from the campus that it would be impractical to schedule games with them this fall."

N. Islanders Cop Fighter Crown

— FIGHTER STATION, Sept. 23—The deciding game of this station's elimination baseball playoffs resulted in a 7-3 victory for the — Fighter Squadron North Islanders over the — Service Squadron Dry Runs. The regular league champions, the Scalders, were eliminated in the semi-finals by the North Islanders while the Dry Runs eliminated the Vagabonds in their semi-final game.

The North Islanders collected ten hits to the Dry Runs seven. T/Sgt. Buford Petty, pitching for the winners, hit two triples, while Sgt. Milo DeCostro, pitcher, and T/Sgt. Rosie Rousselle, shortstop, each hit three singles. Sgt. Bob Ellsworth, Dry Run pitcher, connected for two safeties to lead the Dry Run attack.

Losing pitcher was Pvt. Pete Dudeck, of Scranton, Pa., with Sgt. Bob Ellsworth, of Rochester, N.Y., catching. Cpl. Neil Davidson, of Appleton, Wis., relieved Dudeck in the fifth.

Apple Polishers, No Doubt

EXETER, N.H., Sept. 23—The entire varsity football squad of Phillips Exeter Academy is getting in shape by picking apples on Rockingham County farms.

Pro Grid Rams to Play In League Next Year

CLEVELAND, Sept. 23—Vice President Charles Walsh said today that the Cleveland Rams of the National Professional Football League will return to competition next year.

Walsh coaches the Rams, who dropped out of League play this season because of the number of players in the armed forces as well as the fact that Dan Reeves and Fred Levy, club co-owners, also are in service.

Walsh already has notified Commissioner Elmer Layden that the team intends to resume next year.

Engineers Top Hq. Squad, 7-5

5-Run Rally by Winners Overcomes Early Lead In Loop Playoff

Making a five-run rally in the fifth, the Engineers defeated Headquarters Company, 7-5, at Paddington Recreation Grounds Wednesday in a seven-inning affair called because of darkness, to win the second-half championship of the London International Baseball League. The Engineers will meet the — Signal Monarchs, first-half winners, for the league pennant.

The Engineers drew first blood in the second when Sgt. Amy Fontana, of Wampum, Pa., their captain, hurler and cleanup man, singled and scored on a double by S/Sgt. Stan Swaverly, of Bayertown, Pa. Swaverly was out trying to come home on a single by T/4 Hoffman, of Yonkers, N.Y. Hoffman later scored on another single, giving the winners two runs off five hits.

Headquarters promptly took the lead in their half of the second, gaining four runs off singles by Sgt. Pete Pavich, of South Amboy, N.J., and Sgt. Hunter Thompson, of Richmond, Va., two errors and a sacrifice by Hurler Cpl. Jim Wright, of Los Angeles, Cal. The winners' five in the fifth were shoved across on a triple by Cpl. George Burns, of Sylacauga, Ala., two singles, two doubles and an error, giving them a 7-4 lead.

The losers tallied an unearned run in the seventh off two free passes and two errors.



American League
Wednesday's Games

New York 4, Detroit 2
Chicago 6, Philadelphia 0 (first game)
Chicago 2, Philadelphia 1 (second game)
Washington 4, St. Louis 0 (first game)
St. Louis 9, Washington 1 (second game)
Other teams did not play.

W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
New York	89	.52	Chicago	72	.507
Washington	81	.63	St. Louis	67	.472
Cleveland	76	.54	Boston	63	.447
Detroit	72	.507	Philadelphia	46	.329

Yesterday's Schedule

Chicago at Philadelphia
St. Louis at Washington
Detroit at New York
Cleveland at Boston

National League

Wednesday's Games

New York 10, Cincinnati 4
Chicago 5, Philadelphia 1 (first game)
Philadelphia 3, Chicago 0 (second game)
Boston 5, Pittsburgh 3
St. Louis 4, Brooklyn 3

W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
St. Louis	95	.674	Boston	64	.75
Brooklyn	76	.539	Chicago	64	.76
Cincinnati	75	.65	Philadelphia	61	.82
Pittsburgh	76	.69	New York	54	.87

Yesterday's Schedule

Boston at Pittsburgh
Brooklyn at St. Louis
New York at Cincinnati
Philadelphia at Chicago

Leading Hitters

American League

Player	G	AB	R	H	Pct.
Aplins, Chicago	142	536	54	174	.325
Wakfield, Detroit	143	585	86	182	.311
Cramer, Detroit	131	566	76	170	.301
Cutright, Chicago	125	435	61	130	.299
Johnson, New York	142	540	65	156	.289

National League

American League

Player	G	AB	R	H	Pct.
Musial, St. Louis	144	578	100	206	.356
Herman, Brooklyn	141	538	70	180	.335
Witek, New York	140	566	62	182	.322
Elliott, Pittsburgh	147	551	76	174	.316
W. Cooper, St. Louis	114	418	49	130	.311

Home Run Hitters

American League—York, Detroit, 31; Keller, New York, 29; Stephens, St. Louis, 20.
National League—Nicholson, Chicago, 24; Ott, New York, 18; Northey, Philadelphia, 16.

Leading Pitchers

American League—Chandler, New York, 19-4; Murphy, New York, 11-4; Smith, Cleveland, 16-6; Bridges, Detroit, 12-6.
National League—Cooper, St. Louis, 21-8; Wyatt, Brooklyn, 13-5; Shoun, Cincinnati, 12-5; Sewell, Pittsburgh, 21-9.

Yankees Subdue Bengals, 4-2, on Keller's Homer

Circuit Blow Nets Three Runs; Bombers Four Games From Flag

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—A homer by Charlie Keller at the Yankee Stadium yesterday put the New Yorkers within four games of the 1943 American League pennant as they topped the Detroit Tigers, 4-2.

Keller's 29th circuit blow came in the first inning with two aboard to give the McCarthy men a commanding lead. Hank Borowy limited the Bengals to seven hits as he notched his ninth triumph in his last ten starts.

At Washington, the Senators divided a twin bill with the St. Louis Browns, winning the first game, 4-0, then dropping the second, 9-1. Johnny Niggeling allowed only two hits in the opener and no Brown reached second. In the final, Denny Galehouse was nicked for a single earned run, George Case scoring from second on Spence's infield out.

In a swing shift double-header at Shibe Park, the White Sox annexed both games from the Athletics, 6-0 and 2-1. The second game was broken up in the ninth inning with two out when Ralph Hodgins doubled, sending two men home. Hodgins' safety erased a 1-0 lead gained by the A's in the fourth when George Staller homered.

Moses Pilfers Three More
Edgar Smith allowed four hits as his mates pounded Don Black and Orrie Arntzen for an easy triumph in the opener. It was Smith's ninth win of the year. Wally Moses stole three bases in the contest, raising his total to 53 for the season. He scraped his leg attempting to make a shoestring catch in the fourth of the second game and retired. Cleveland's game at Boston was postponed.

Mort Cooper picked up his 21st victory of the season with nine-hit pitching against the Brooklyn Dodgers as his Cardinal mates edged the Bums, 4-3, at St. Louis. The National League champs slugged Kirby Higbe, Rex Barney and Fred Ostermueller, for eight blows, Walker Cooper getting four, including his ninth home run with Harry Walker on base in the fourth. Walker Cooper also accounted for the game-winning run in the seventh when, with two out and the score tied, 3-3, he singled to drive in Walker.

Riddle Lands 20th Triumph

The jinx which has plagued Bucky Walters in his daylight games held true at Cincinnati yesterday as the Reds dropped a 10-4 decision to the New York Giants. Walters has won all his seven night games, but has failed in eight daylight attempts.

The Reds gained an even split as Elmer Riddle landed his 20th victory in the first game off Bill Voiselle to snap a 2-2 tie. Walters had a 4-2 lead going into the seventh inning of the second game. A single sandwiched between two walks and a double by Johnny Rucker tied the score and sent Walters to the showers. Mickey Witck singled off Reliefer Joe Beggs, scoring two more runs and the Giants added four more before the game ended.

The Cubs smacked the Phillies, 5-1, at Wrigley Field in the first half of their double contest, then went down, 3-0, in the clincher. Kewpie Barrett was the loser in the opener, giving up three runs in the second and two in the sixth as Claude Passeau notched his 15th mound triumph.

Etchison Doubles in Debut

The Bruins outlit the Phillies, 6-4, in the nightcap, but Al Gerhauser kept six safeties well scattered while his mates pecked at Hi Bithorn for two runs and Alderson for the other counter. Coaker Triplett homered in the eighth for the Quakers.

A double by Rookie Buck Etchison in his first major league trip to the plate featured a three-run rally in the eighth that gave the Boston Braves a 5-3 margin over the Pirates at Pittsburgh. The Braves got a two-run lead in the first as Nate Andrews set the Bucs down for the first four frames.

In the eighth, Hugh Poland was safe on an error after one man was out. Phil Masi, sent to run, went to second when Hank Gornicki passed Whitey Wietelmann. Etchison, just up from Hartford, batted for Connie Ryan and sent a blooper into left that scored both runners. Andrews singled to score Etchison.

SBS Court Loops Planned

SBS HQ, Sept. 23—Eight basketball leagues are planned for this base season with play expected to start on Oct. 15. Units planning to enter teams should contact Lt. C. R. Ifft, athletic officer, SBS Hq., not later than Oct. 1.

Great Lakes Loses Two Backs

GREAT LAKES, Ill., Sept. 23—The Great Lakes football team has lost two backfield candidates, Bill Craig, of Ohio State, and Robert Walker, of Colorado

LIL ABNES



New Automatic Pilot Disclosed For Bombers

Steadies Plane in Bombing Run, Achieves Greater Degree of Accuracy

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—The U.S. Army Air Force and the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co. have revealed the details of an automatic pilot, so perfectly developed it virtually converts a plane into a stable aerial platform from which high altitude bombing can be conducted with newly-achieved precision.

The electronically-controlled instrument has been in use by the Army Air Force since Oct., 1941, and was one of America's most closely guarded secret weapons until the loss of planes bearing it gave the details away to the enemy.

The device takes over completely the duties of the pilot on bombing runs and holds the plane on a designated course without wavering, despite cross-currents, wind variations and air blasts from exploding anti-aircraft shells.

So perfectly does the mechanism work that the plane crew usually is unaware of any movements from the predetermined course.

Super-Sensitive

Alfred M. Wilson, vice president in charge of Honeywell's aeronautical division, said that the auto-pilot's electronic operation surpassed the sensitivity of all mechanical and electrical devices previously used.

Wilson said that because of the rapidity of its responses, Allied bombers have been able to cut down the time required for the bombing run itself. He said it has resulted in more highly coordinated bombardier-pilot teams, and bombing missions are made easier and more effective because pilot fatigue is reduced.

"At high altitudes," Wilson said, "slight variations from a perfectly stable platform are greatly magnified, as in the case of target rifle shooting, where, if a gunsight is off only a fraction of an inch, the bullet will miss the bull's-eye by feet at several hundred yards. To overcome this, a rifleman will steady his gun, where possible, with a tripod or some stable and convenient rest to hold the gunsight on the target."

Proven in Combat

"Roughly, that is what we are doing with our auto-pilot: providing an artificial tripod to hold aircraft on the bull's-eye (center of target) when bombs are released."

Wilson said that the instrument permitted installations of control stations in various parts of the plane so that it could be flown from two or three different points. He said this was the secret explaining the case of a Flying Fortress which returned safely after a Messerschmitt 109 shot away two-thirds of the fuselage area and severed the pilot's manual controls connecting to the rudder and elevators.

"The ship was flown safely home on the auto-pilot because the control surface motors of the electronic system were located far in the tail and were not damaged."

Raids - - -

(Continued from page 1)

Just seven days before the RAF hit the big Dunlop rubber factory at Montlucon, France; the Forts knocked out one of the biggest synthetic rubber factories in Europe at Huls, in the Ruhr, on June 22, and the Forts also raided Hanover on July 26.

Besides being Germany's largest rubber center, Hanover also has large oil refineries, textile mills and tank works.

The Air Ministry reported that large fires were burning when the last planes turned away, just half an hour after the bombing started.

Miners to Get \$1.75 Daily Increase in Illinois Pact

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23 (AP)—The United Mine Workers and Illinois Coal Operators Associated announced today the signing of a new agreement which will increase underground mine wages an average of \$1.75 daily.

The agreement was subject to the approval of the War Labor Board.

American Forces Network

Operated by Radio Branch, Special Service Section, SOS, ETO.

- 1402 kc On Your Dial 1420 kc
213.9m. (All times PM) 211.9m.
Friday, Sept. 24
5.45—Spotlight on Mitchell Ayres.
6.00—News (BBC).
6.10—Personal Album—Nan Ryan.
6.25—GI Supper Club.
7.00—Sports—Stars and Stripes radio reporter.
7.05—South American Way.
7.30—Comedy Caravan—Bing Crosby and the Charlottes.
8.00—News From Home—Stars and Stripes roundup.
8.10—The Fred Waring Show.
8.25—Miniature.
8.30—Tommy Dorsey.
9.00—News (BBC).
9.10—Happy Norman and his Guitar.
9.20—The Charlie McCarthy Program.
9.45—Hit Bits.
9.50—Suspense—mystery!
10.20—Final Edition.

Breakfast in Bed! GI's Wake to a Real Dream

KINGSTON, Sept. 23—Breakfast in bed, the dream of every soldier, came true for a group of GI Cinderellas yesterday morning after a first-anniversary celebration at the Red Cross club here the night before.

Troops sleeping in the club's dormitory were awakened by a beaming "Cookie" bearing trays featured by—grin and bear it—real fried eggs!

This sweet hangover followed ceremonies the previous evening in which the club officially was turned over to men of the Eighth Air Force HQ. Participating were Maj. Gen. Ira Eaker; Harvey D. Gibson, ARC commissioner to Great Britain; Miss Louisa Farrand, of New York, club director, and S/Sgt. Walter K. Bartlett, of Baltimore.

Hayes, Chorus In 1st Rehearsal

Free Tickets Available For Concert Starring Negro Tenor

Roland Hayes, American Negro tenor, and a chorus of 200 Negro aviation engineers held their first joint rehearsal yesterday in London for the concert they will give with the London Symphony Orchestra in Royal Albert Hall next Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

The soldiers sang "Go Down, Moses" and "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" with Hayes, who came from the United States to take part in the concert. They will rehearse in Royal Albert Hall for the first time this afternoon.

Free tickets for the Wednesday performance will be available for enlisted men and officers of Central Base Section beginning tomorrow morning at the Special Service office in London. American soldiers showing pass or furlough papers may obtain free tickets at the American Red Cross Rainbow Corner at 11 AM Wednesday. Ticket-holders are asked to be in their seats in the hall at 5.45 PM Wednesday.

All tickets for the Tuesday performance have been sold. The concert is sponsored by the London Daily Express, in conjunction with Headquarters, ETOUSA.

Eagle Broadcast to U.S. Features George Arliss

George Arliss appeared yesterday on the Eagle Club broadcast to America. Master of ceremonies was Maj. Brooks Watson.

On the program were S/Sgt. Harry S. East, Omaha, Neb.; F/O Elliot M. Orr, Oakland, Cal.; Lt. Robert Matthews, Philadelphia; Lt. John Carson, San Francisco; Leonard A. Wright and his brother, T/S Fred Wright, of Philadelphia; T/S William Barger, Alendale, Mo.; and T/Sgt. Merlin Gonschius, Bergenfield, N.J.

Warrington

WARRINGTON, Sept. 23—Program for the week at the Red Cross club here:
Friday—Tennis, 10 AM-8 PM; dance, 8-11 PM.
Saturday—Swimming, 7.30 PM; handicrafts, 7 PM.
Sunday—Movie, 2-4.40 PM; dance, 3-6 PM; classical recordings, 5-6 PM; swimming, 7.30-9 PM.
Monday—Recorded music, 4-6 PM; movie, 7.30-9 PM.
Tuesday—Request recordings, 5-6 PM; movie, 7.30-9 PM; dance, 8-11 PM.
Wednesday—Theater party, 7-10 PM; dancing class, 8.15-10.40 PM.

Gable Makes Fifth Raid; May Take Film to U.S.

A U.S. BOMBER STATION, England, Sept. 23 (AP)—An Air Force captain named Gable—Clark Gable—went on today's Fortress raid on Nantes as a combination cameraman and gunner. "I didn't hit a damn thing," he said.

It was Gable's fifth raid, earning him an Air Medal. He plans to leave soon for America with the gunnery training film he has been directing here since April, but he said he hoped to see active service in some other theater before the end of the war.

"But you know," he said, "I just do whatever the Army tells me."

Britain Can Conscript Yanks

Ernest Bevin, British Minister of Labor, announced yesterday that Britain would conscript eligible United States nationals now living in the United Kingdom under the Allied Powers Act of 1942.

Terry and the Pirates



ETO Beauty Shoppe—and Strictly GI



Stars and Stripes Photo
WAC Pvt. Esther Wisotzke, of Eau Claire, Wis., newly arrived in the ETO, gets an expert shampoo from Pvt. Stanley Mizeli, of Richmond, Va., in the beauty shop where she is located.

— REPLACEMENT DEPOT, Sept. 23—The GI haircut has taken a back seat here to the GI permanent wave.

This replacement depot long has prided itself on its 20-chair barber salon, but with WACs and nurses passing through of late, gallantry has dictated an addition—a ladies' hairdressing parlor.

On orders of the post commander, Col. James A. Kilian, the arrangements were made, and the signs went up. The permanent wave brings a pound, hair sets cost 2s. 6d., while a manicure or just

plain hair cut takes 1s. 6d. out of a WAC's pay. She can get a shampoo, even, for 2s. 6d., but the sign warns her to "bring your own towel."

Lt. Kay Singer, of Oil City, Pa., an Army nurse stationed here, is all for the idea, claiming it's good for feminine morale. Pvt. Stanley Mizeli, of Richmond, Va., however, who ministers to the ladies' curls, cautiously sums up the male viewpoint with, "When I became a soldier I sure didn't expect this kind of work."

Vickery Praises Soviets Smash U.K. Shipyards Towards Kiev

Adm. Howard L. Vickery, vice-chairman of the U.S. Maritime Commission, who has just completed the first leg of his tour of British shipyards, in a special broadcast last night told shipyard workers in America that, fabulous as their record has been, the achievements of British shipyards under war-time conditions were just as amazing.

Unlike the British, the Americans do not build ships, but manufacture them, he said. If they were to be built in the U.S. in the same way, the same output would never be attained. Americans are further away from enemy bombers, he said, and have more "elbow room."

Commenting on the energy and stamina of the British worker, the admiral said they had been working day in and day out for four years, with few vacations and with extra Home Guard duty and drill.

Pacific - - -

(Continued from page 1)

Troops near Kaipat, meanwhile, killed 150 Japs driving to meet the new Allied landing force.

Bomb Jap Bases in Pacific

PEARL HARBOR, Sept. 23 (AP)—Adm. Chester Nimitz disclosed today that four Japanese bases were bombed and damaged heavily in a raid on the Gilbert Island area Saturday and Sunday night.

In coordinated cooperation an army, navy and carrier task force covered 500 square miles of Japan's equatorial outposts in the central Pacific, he said. Makin and Apamama as well as Naurau and Tarawa were raided. U.S. losses were four fighters, despite heavy A.A. fire and attempted interception by enemy fighters.

(Continued from page 1)
with Berlin claiming that all Red Army attempts to break through German lines had failed.

Three Russian columns were moving on this vital city, a great railway center linking southern Russia and the Baltic.

The middle column already had reached the southeastern corner of White Russia, 47 miles southeast of Gomel itself, while at the northern corner of the border of White Russia, Russian troops which outflanked Smolensk seized Demidov, important rail junction 50 miles east of Vitebsk.

Thus was the German line crumbling from one end to the other, and the speed of the Russian advance, matched only by the increasing rapidity of German flight, indicated that Berlin's hope of establishing a defense line along the Dnieper was a futile one.

An atmosphere of expectancy pervaded Moscow. In many quarters the belief prevailed that some of the greatest victories of the war appeared to be at hand.

Special Service Booms

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—The Army is spending more than \$1,000,000 a month for recreational and athletic equipment for its fighting men at home and overseas, the War Department announced today. More than \$13,000,000 of such merchandise has been purchased by the Quartermaster Corps since July, 1942.

More War Prisoners For U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23 (AP)—Axis prisoners now interned in the United States number 65,058, the War Department disclosed, announcing that additional camps would be built and existing ones expanded to handle a large proportion of the 267,000 prisoners now held by the Allies in North Africa.

NEWS FROM HOME Demobilization Based on Age, Service Asked

Discharge Priority Plan For Forces Urged by Eric Johnston

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 23—A priority system for the discharge of soldiers after the war was recommended by Eric Johnston, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, in an address to the American Legion Convention.

"I believe," he said, "it would only be fair to give priority of release to the oldest and those who will have served the longest, with the order of release determined by a balance of these factors."

Bootlegging Threat Seen

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—Distillers reported growing liquor shortages and forced rationing of available stocks by retailers were threatening to revive bootlegging. They declared illicit operations already were in evidence, and cited the hi-jacking of a valuable load of legal liquor in Chicago.

Allotment Bill Delayed

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—Rep. Andrew J. May (D.-Ky.), chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, reported that opposition had developed in his committee to a bill which would increase servicemen's dependency allotments. He said action on the bill would be delayed for at least two weeks.

Lewis Asked to Explain

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Sept. 23—The Alexandria Rationing Board, investigating reports that John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, had violated OPA gas rationing regulations, requested Lewis to submit "a full and complete itinerary" of his trip to Springfield, Ill.

June Knight Wins Divorce

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Sept. 23—June Knight, former stage and screen actress, won a divorce and a \$50,000 property settlement from oil millionaire Arthur A. Cameron.

Dodges Subway, Not Draft

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—The FBI reported a completely original excuse for draft dodging. A youth arrested by the FBI for evasion said he had not ridden on a subway since 1938 when he developed a mortal dread of underground travel. He said he was afraid he'd have to ride to the induction center in a subway if he reported to his selective service board.

Rhode Island Hits Bond Mark

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—The Treasury Department announced last night that subscriptions to the Third War Loan drive now total \$11,700,000,000, an increase of \$530,000,000 over Tuesday's total. Rhode Island became the second state to exceed its quota, following Maryland.

Italy - - -

(Continued from page 1)

useless to the Allied fleet. Tremendous explosions could be heard regularly inside the city, and there apparently has been no real attempt to extinguish fires that have been blazing for days.

Aerial photographs taken by the air force also revealed that the Germans have scuttled at least 30 ships in the harbor and that practically every usable berth along the docks has been blocked. The photos also showed that the industrial area north of the docks has been wrecked by bombs and the railway yards demolished.

Complete chaos reigned in the city, according to reports which said that the Germans are using tanks and light artillery to smash groups of Italians who offer resistance. Thousands of people who can make the journey are reported fleeing into the mountains around the city.

Reports of new Allied landings came from Vichy, as well as from Berlin radio, which also told of extensive troop movements in the Potenza area, and speculated whether these movements indicate that the Allies intend to launch a new offensive.

Bombers of the Northwest African Air Force continued to soften up the route to Naples by hammering German communication lines, night and day, all the way from Salerno to Naples and beyond.

By Milton Caniff