

## U.S., British Troops Hurl Germans Back

### Cavalry Crew Goes Through Final Paces



On the alert for orders to "fire," an armored car crew of a crack U.S. cavalry unit train their machine-guns on the "enemy," in a mock battle over woody, hilly countryside of England where these fast-moving outfits are undergoing final paces before moving into the real battle.

## Planes, Tanks, Guns Hammer Rommel's Retreating Columns

### Even Fortresses Join Attack on Men, Trucks; Allies' Biggest Air Blow Helps Turn Battle Three Miles from Thala

By the Associated Press

American and British forces have hurled Rommel's panzers back into the mouth of the Kasserine Gap in Tunisia, where the Allied air forces have carried out some of the heaviest raids of the war on the retreating German columns.

The German flood tide of panzers, which had rolled to within three miles of Thala, started retreating early Tuesday morning pursued by British and American forces, which inflicted "heavy losses."

Field reports reaching Allied Field Headquarters in North Africa yesterday said the Germans were in full retreat, pursued by Anglo-American forces from Thala.

British forces hurled Rommel's panzers into the mouth of the Kasserine Gap, while American forces attacking from Tebessa captured more than 300 German and Italian prisoners and enough small arms to equip an entire battalion.

Even Flying Fortresses, usually reserved for heavy bombardment of airfields and ports, joined in the attacks on Rommel's columns, splashing tons of bombs along the roads where the Axis was trying to withdraw.

#### Heaviest Nazi Losses

The Germans attempted to make a stand, but their effort to smash the Allied flank had been blocked with the heaviest losses they had suffered since the original fighting in this campaign last November.

A delayed dispatch from the front said that on Tuesday night American artillery moved up to shell the cream of the German panzers as they retreated into the narrow confines of the pass.

The crest of the German sweep came suddenly on Monday when striking forces, estimated at 70 tanks, including ten or 12 Giant Mark Six machines, struck north along the road to Thala, the dispatch said. At the same time, German and Italian infantry and tanks overran some American positions on the west side of the valley.

Then Allied planes and artillery intervened and forced the enemy to fall back under a rain of steel. Disheartened by the ferocity of the Allied attacks, the Germans and Italians started back down the valley before dusk.

Allied staff officers said the Germans put almost everything they had into the push in southern Tunisia.

#### 220 Axis Tanks

The total number of enemy tanks involved in the fighting was put at 220—practically all their armor in North Africa.

A British major, viewing the German retreat through field glasses, said: "He is a great fighter when everything is his way, but whenever he runs into anything a bit thick he starts to back away."

German radio last night, broadcasting a report from the "international information bureau," said that "the fighting for the southeastern part of the Atlas mountains has come to an end temporarily. . . . German and Italian tanks have their grip on all the decisive passes."

The Germans claimed the British and American forces had lost 4,500 dead, while the number of men put out of action, including prisoners and injured, was estimated as "20,000 at least."

German radio added: "It seems that the British are considering a renewal of a big-scale encirclement action, although the desert territory makes operations with stronger formations very hard. No activity is reported on the central and northern flank of the German-Italian positions by the British Eighth Army."

The German flood tide of panzers which rolled within three miles of Thala started retreating early yesterday morning.

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## RAF Endorses Day Raiding by Libs and Forts

### American Heavy Bombers Best For Job, Says Spokesman

Six months after their first raid in this theater, America's heavy bombers have been accepted by the battle-ried RAF as the best of the heavy day bombers, and the chief hope of the RAF is that enough Flying Fortresses and Liberators soon will be available to make around-the-clock bombing a second-by-second actuality.

That was the declaration yesterday of an RAF spokesman who flatly endorsed the American specialty of day bombing as a vital part of the Allied air offensive.

Discussing the performances of a year in which British planes dropped more than 50,000 tons of bombs on Nazi targets in Germany, Italy and Occupied Europe, the spokesman for the RAF referred to a misconception that the British looked down on day bombing. He pointed to RAF day raids last year by everything from Bostons to Lancasters on targets from Milan to Copenhagen.

Just as the Eighth Air Force, the RAF, he said, is looking forward to the time when incessant night and day raiding across all Europe will so stretch and batter the Luftwaffe's fighter strength and the ground defenses that huge fleets of four-engined bombers may sail in daylight against vital targets on the continent.

When that day comes, he said, "the end could not long be delayed."

Referring to reports of dive-bomber sorties in Tunisia, the spokesman said that German dive-bomber strength in North Africa had been substantially reduced and that probably many of the attacks there were being made by fighter-bombers, to which the Luftwaffe is said to have been turning in place of the Stukas.

The Nazis' overall strength of dive-bombers—Ju 87s—probably is not over 300 today, it was said, as compared with 500 at the time of the Battle of Britain.

## Lieutenant Has Score to Settle: Three Tanks He Had to Destroy

By Hal Boyle

Associated Press War Correspondent  
WITH THE U.S. ARMY, Tunisia, Feb. 22 (delayed)—The thin little lieutenant's voice broke with anger as he told his story—how he had been forced to destroy his three light tanks to save them from capture, then hike 35 miles in a zig-zag trek through enemy lines, bringing back safely with him 14 lost soldiers he had picked up on the way.

He lay at length in the yellow sand under a cactus plant, his face grey with fatigue from days of battle. He was still too restless for sleep, but even weariness could not wash the hatred from his purple-tinged eyes.

"If once—just once—they would meet us on a man-to-man basis," 2nd Lt. Truman O'Boyd, 23, of Long Beach, Cal., kept repeating. "If just once—oh, but they won't—they won't come out until all the angles are their way."

The lieutenant's passionate anger was easily understandable—he didn't like the

memory of having set fire to his three little tanks after a running fight with six German Mark Fours, which are twice as big and far more heavily armed.

"We were withdrawing," he said, "firing all the time we kept moving back from them. But they could stay out of our reach and still slug at us, and it was hopeless for us to try to close with them in view of the odds in their favor."

"Finally they pressed us back against the mountain. We dropped into a wadi hoping that relief would come. Soon I saw the situation was beyond help—that none of our heavier medium tanks could get through to support us—and it then became necessary to get our men out."

"To prevent our tanks from falling into enemy hands we had to set them afire with thermite grenades. I never in my life hated to do anything worse. As soon as they were burning we started out on a 35-mile march across country. We made

(Continued on page 4)

## No Jeep, Not American, French Figure Correctly

An Allied military source in London yesterday related this incident in fighting Tunisia:

A party of German glider troops, stopped by a French patrol, called in response to the Frenchmen's challenge: "We are Americans."

"Ou est votre jeep? (where is your jeep?)" asked the French.

The Germans had no reply and all were taken prisoner.

## Nazi Resistance Mounts as Thaw Spreads North

### Soviet Airports Imperiled By Floods Between Kharkov, Azov

MOSCOW, Feb. 24 (UP)—The thaw is moving north, spreading across the entire Ukrainian steppe. The thermometer is steadily rising and a bright sun and a warming breeze make the Russians doff their winter clothes.

It is threatening to flood the airdromes between the Kharkov area and the Sea of Azov, and it is undoubtedly one of the reasons behind the mounting strength of the German resistance in the Donetz Basin, where the full effect of the thaw will be felt first, apart from the Kuban bridgehead area.

Staging what appears to be an all-out effort to stem the Red offensive, the Germans are hurling increasingly large armored forces into the Donetz Basin hoping to keep the Basin open between Krasnoarmeisk and the Sea of Azov.

The fury of their counterattacks is mounting steadily in the Krasnoarmeisk and Kramatorskaya areas, and west of Rostov. In this last area, however, the advance of the Red Army still goes on. (It is now 10 days since the Russians took Rostov.)

#### Nazi Air Power in Rostov

The Germans still have big air support in the Rostov area. Yesterday Russian planes destroyed 35 German machines while supporting advancing ground troops.

In the Krasnoarmeisk and Kramatorskaya areas the Germans threw 100 tanks in a counter-attack follow counter-attack battle without ceasing by day or by night, says Pravda.

Russian artillery and "tank-busters" are cutting into the German strength.

(Continued on page 4)

## Middle East Chief Watches Tunisia Battle Confidently

CAIRO, Feb. 24 (UP)—Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, today expressed confidence regarding the Tunisian situation.

After praising the work of Gen. Sir Harold Alexander, from whom he took over the Middle East command, Gen. Wilson said: "We hope it won't be so long before he has the Axis forces in Tunisia mopped up."

He said that, while bad weather had affected the operations of the Eighth Army, Allied bombers had done good work. He praised the U.S. bomber command, which, he said, had done exceptionally good work in bombing Italian towns.

## Cavalry Swapped Oats for Gas But Still Rides Hell-for-Leather

By Philip H. Bucknell

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A U.S. CAVALRY BASE, England, Feb. 24—Two years ago they said goodbye to their horses in the United States; they started learning the tricks of peeps, jeeps and the other mechanized dobbins of a modern, fast-moving army. Now the members of this crack reconnaissance unit, polishing off its training here, have become an interchangeable bunch of drivers, gunners and mechanics.

## New War Bond Purchase Plan

### Class A Pay Reservations Terminate Automatically In March

Class A pay reservations for the purchase of war bonds will terminate automatically with the deduction for March, 1943, Finance Division, ETOUSA, announced yesterday. Personnel who wish to continue buying bonds on the installment plan may do so by applying for Class B allotments.

Present accounts will not be transferred automatically to the new system. Each subscriber must make an application for his allotment.

Applications for Class B allotments will be made on WDAGO Form 29-5 to become effective on the first day of April, 1943, or later. The forms will be sent by airmail to the Army War Bond Office, Finance Dept., 366 West Adams St., Chicago.

Each Class B allotment must conform to one of the following plans:

Plan No. 1, a monthly deduction of \$3.75; Plan No. 2, \$6.25; Plan No. 3, \$18.75, for the purchase of \$25 bonds; Plan 4, \$12.50; Plan 5, \$37.50, for the purchase of \$50 bonds; Plan 6, \$25; Plan 7, \$75; Plan 8, \$150; Plan 9, \$225; and Plan 10, \$300, for the purchase of \$100 bonds; Plan 11, \$375, for the purchase of a \$500 bond.

Enlisted men and civilians receiving pay at a rate less than \$2,400 a year may have deductions under any of the plans, while officers, others of equivalent status and civilians receiving pay at a rate of \$2,400 or more a year may take out allotments under plans No. 3, 5, 7, 9, or 11.

## Three Officers, Sergeant Awarded Air Medals

Four airmen of the Eighth Air Force have been awarded Air Medals, it was announced yesterday.

Decorated were: 1st Lt. John R. McKee and Gilbert T. Schowalter and 2nd Lt. Forrest D. Hartin, all of Washington, and S/Sgt. Sebastian L. Vogel, Fargo, B.D.

Hartin and Vogel won Purple Hearts earlier this week.

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Escort Vessels Wanted

"The news of the sinking by U-Boat action of two passenger-cargo ships in the North Atlantic, with the loss of 850 persons, underlines the grim fact that we still have a long way to go to overcome the submarine menace," states the Washington Post. Continuing, it claims: "It is not stated whether the ships lost were traveling alone or in convoy when attacked. The lack of detailed information regarding the disaster, coupled with the fact that loss of life was exceptionally heavy, suggests that the ships were probably unconvoyed, and depended on speed alone to elude the marauder of the deep."

"The fact of the matter is that the lack of escort vessels is such that economies in their use have to be made wherever possible. The ideal arrangement would be to have innumerable small convoys made up of ships of more or less equal speed, each convoy protected by an adequate number of escort vessels. But shipping needs are such that these ideal arrangements are out of the question. Thus some ships are allowed to travel unescorted while a large part of the traffic between Allied ports is sent under convoy."

The United States Navy is operating convoy lines thousands of miles in length to Russia, India, Persia, Australia, Alaska, South America, North Africa, Great Britain, West Africa and the Caribbean. It is a tribute to the efficiency of our navy that while we have sent well over a million troops abroad no convoyed vessels have been sunk except in the North African landing operations, and then only with little loss of life. The heavy toll taken this time emphasizes the vast importance of stepping up our production of escort vessels. This fact is well known, and all America is doing its utmost to build the protection needed in this continuing battle with the U-Boat.

Dies Committee Busy

An applauding House recently was informed the Dies Committee on un-American Activities had compiled and tabulated the greatest file on subversive agents and activities anywhere in the world.

Urging the chamber to place continued confidence in the committee, enabling it to continue its investigations, Representative Noah M. Mason, of Illinois, advised his colleagues to judge the group according to the Biblical injunction, "By their fruits shall ye know them."

The huge file—on agents, organizations and individuals whose interests are inimical to the interest of the United States—Congressman Mason described as one of the foremost results of the committee's work. It embraces 135 cabinets and contains more than one million cards. The file is in constant use by those charged with the responsibility of combating subversive influences within the borders of the United States. Information in the file has been used frequently as a basis for prosecution of subversive agents.

The Dies Committee, in pre-war days, called to the attention of the American public the attempts by Axis agents to undermine and weaken the faith of all Americans in Democracy. Its work through the years has been of tremendous value. It is the wish of every loyal American that its work shall be continued . . . and continue to meet with increased success.

A New Plan

President Roosevelt has expressed approval of a plan to conduct only two major national fund raising campaigns at home this year. The plan approved was submitted by the War Relief Control Board, Joseph E. Davies, former Ambassador to Russia, chairman.

Under the new program, a National War Fund Drive will be undertaken in October of this year, while the American Red Cross will conduct its campaign in March.

The United Service Corporation, the Community Chests and Councils, certain war chest organizations and the major foreign relief organizations have all approved the idea for the national war fund drive.

The new plan will eliminate separate campaigns conducted for charitable and war fund raising purposes which if conducted separately would keep solicitors in the field nearly every week in the year, interfering in time with the sale of War Saving stamps and bonds.

Hash Marks

"13" may be an unlucky number for most persons but for two U.S. Army nurses who have 13 aunts living in Northern Ireland, it means visiting relatives. 2nd Lt. Maureen J. Martin, Bellefontaine, Ohio, has six aunts there; 2nd Lt. Florence McBride, Youngstown, Ohio, has seven. They spend one day each week renewing acquaintances with relatives.

The Associated Press reports that the first women's police unit in the United States has been organized in Virginia as



the Women's Auxiliary of State Police. Appropriately enough, they are known as WASPS—which won't help take the sting out of getting a traffic summons.

WANTED: The address of 1st Lt. Henry Wilkinson, of Buffalo, N.Y., now serving with an anti-aircraft unit somewhere in the British Isles. When Lt. Wilkinson's address is learned he will be sent 50,000 cigarettes for distribution to the Buffalo and western New York men in his organization. At present the 250 cartons are being held by a Buffalo Evening News distributor, a member of a hospital unit in N. Ireland, pending the receipt of Wilkinson's APO number. If Lt. Wilkinson will send his APO to "Hashmarks," we'll help start the smokes on their way—and not even take a ten per cent cut.

Pvt. Patrick Boggs of a bomb group over here vouches for this one. An officer of his unit had business to attend to in a fairly large town. He had his driver leave him at a rather busy intersection and instructed him to pick him up there at a later hour. In the blackout, the officer couldn't see which vehicle was his; so he started to shout for his driver—suddenly recalled that his name was Marvin L. Rape—and discreetly continued his search in silence.

M/Sgt. Larry McCabe of a bomb squadron tells us this one. The Topkick of the bombardment squadron—Donald N. Kronforst, of Fond du Lac, Wis.—is a patient man. His multitudinous duties include checking and rechecking of the morning report, not an easy job at an air base. The other day the report added up one man short. Card files, rosters and previous reports were tediously checked; clerks were put through the inquisition. After an hour the error was traced. And Topkick Kronforst patiently (very patiently) inserted as present for duty—one 1st Sergeant.

They tell us via grapevine that a private at Ft. Bliss, Texas, keeled over in a heap as he was standing in ranks waiting to

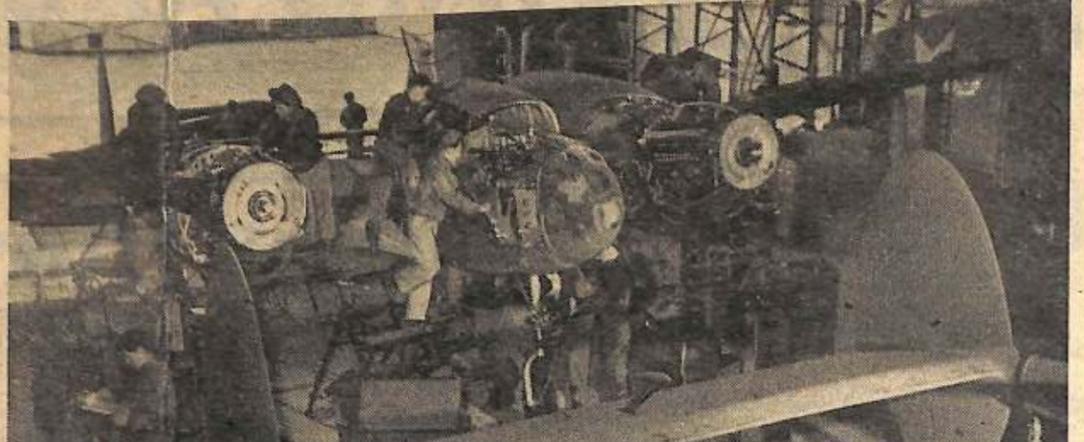


answer morning roll-call. He recovered quickly and explained that he "must have dropped off to sleep." That's unusual—most of the guys we know stand reveille without ever waking up in the first place. J. C. W.



"I don't believe they feed those fighting men properly—they all looked frightfully hungry to me."

'We Fix Anything'—And They Do



Civilian Technicians Help Keep 'Em Flying

This is the first of two articles telling the story of American civilian technicians at an air base in the ETO who are helping the Air Force to keep 'em flying.

By Tom Bernard  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A USAAF AIR DEPOT, Northern Ireland, Feb. 24—If you remember those obscure little stores tucked away between two towering buildings on a side street in your home town, and the signs in the windows which defiantly proclaimed, "We Fix Anything," you can picture for yourself what goes on at this unique repair base, where a Consolidated Liberator and a Piper Cub are one and the same to batteries of skilled civilian technicians.

Or perhaps you had better compare it to an American airplane plant with plane after plane in various stages of assembly stretching along the entire length of a lofty hangar. But primarily, it's like several hundred acres of America at war transplanted to Ireland where this section of America can do more good than if it were just outside of New York or 20 miles west of Chicago. With a few modifications, it would look just like any Army camp somewhere in the British Isles. There's the mud, the huts, the dirt-grimed jeeps and command cars, and even the MPs patrolling the winding roads which are too narrow for the unending flow of truck traffic.

It's true the Army has its thumb in this pie, but fundamentally it's a civilian project—built by civilians and maintained by civilians.

Briefly it's this: A massive repair and assembly base where Allied aircraft damaged in action against the enemy are made battle-fit again, and where hundreds upon hundreds of planes shipped across the Atlantic in convoy are assembled and tested for the USAAF, the RAF and Allied air forces. No Army men, other than pilots and a guard unit, are employed at the base. It's manned by skilled technicians, familiar with every part of every one of America's dozen or so warplanes, who were assembled by

Civilian technicians at a Northern Ireland air corps repair depot (top) give a P38 Lightning a final checkup before delivery to the North Africa battlefield. Leslie Hamilton, of Dallas, Tex. (bottom), works on an automatic pilot at the technician "lab."

Lockheed Overseas Corporation to do the job.

You land on a neat concrete runway after a flight from London in one of the Army's twin-engined C-47 transports, and the first thing that arouses your curiosity is the wide variety of planes scattered across from the block-shaped control tower. There's a Flying Fortress being refueled. Next to it is a trio of sleek P-38s. Farther down the line is an Oxford trainer. That big, single-motored job is a dive-bomber. A "Maytag Messerschmitt" taxis in after a landing, looking ridiculous against the background of tough fighting ships.

A tour of the base reveals a systematic planning that leaves no room for frantic fumbling but only for the efficient completion of the task at hand.

Most of the seven or eight sites are devoted to living quarters.

Hangar Assembly Lines

But the most important sites seem just as tranquil until you get inside one of the hangars which squat beside runways hacked through groves of tall, slender trees.

A Fortress, two Liberators and a P-38 are resting comfortably in this one. A crew of men, armed with riveting guns, blow torches and hammers, is attacking the Fort with gusto. Just above the port wing two men are riveting metal plates over bullet holes. The nose has been removed and its shattered remnants are being pieced together with new parts a few feet away. Two more mechanics are working on a .20 mm. cannon hole in the starboard wing. A section of the tail turret has been removed and riveters punch new protective armor around the gap. The crew chief shows you a splintered two-inch section of glass from the rear turret.

"Cannon shell, I guess. Understand there wasn't anyone killed," says B. W. Howey, North Hollywood.

The first Liberator looks oddly lopsided until you realize that one engine has been removed and that technicians have torn it apart and are overhauling it. The Lightning is undergoing a modification job in preparation for North Africa.

In the next hangar men running up to wire cages, shout above the racket of the riveters, and run away, clutching a shiny piece of metal in their hands.

50 Yards of Tools

Tool cribs, fifty yards long and banked with thousands of boxes containing every imaginable piece of equipment or supply. You think:

"This is more like an aircraft plant than an aircraft plant."

Lockheed Lightnings, most of them immodestly stripped of their cowlings and some of their wings, are lined up in military order in the next hangar.

Tom Delmoe, a P-38 assembly line crew chief, takes you down the line to where one of the fleet monsters is being stripped of its trans-oceanic crating. Melvin Stoltz, Sunland, Cal., and James Tyler, North Hollywood, help explain the steps in the assembly of these pursuit planes.

"Sure, we whip 'em together in no time," Tom says, stepping back a bit while some men swing a wing section over on a derrick. "Those too," he adds, pointing to some Brewsters just emerging from their crates.

Another building is packed with quiet

machines and quiet men. An atmosphere of exact precision pervades the place. You find out that it's manned by experts from the Sperry company and that all those intricate gadgets are machines for repairing or rebuilding the delicate instruments which face a pilot from the instrument panels of a plane. Gyroscopes, compasses, altimeters, pressure gauges, flight indicators all of the hundred and one complex scientific devices which make present-day aerial warfare amazingly modern.

Every Part Checked

Nothing is taken for granted here. An example is the minute and scientific inspection through which each plane's power plant must go before it is installed. Every engine which arrives is torn apart and each part is subjected to the closest scrutiny. These modern technicians don't depend on mere eyesight for their inspections. They have for their use the largest collection of modern Magnaflex machines anywhere in the world.

R. C. Brumhall, Los Angeles, an engine inspector, gives a demonstration on a piece of aluminum engine part. He holds the part between two large pieces of metal and steps on a pedal. You hear a hum from the machine. He squirts a clear, oily liquid on the metal.

"See that," he exclaims, pointing to a jagged line running through the white metal, "that's a definite flaw. Have to make a new one."

Here also are three assembly lines, one for each make of engine which America uses most in her warplanes. There's one line for Pratt and Whitney, one for Allison and one for Curtiss-Wright.

They've got everything here; everything, that is, which is necessary to "keep 'em flying."



The 'Genius'

He was a "genius," people said of him, Because the things he wrote went to the heart;

He was a "genius," thus they all decreed, Because it seemed his talent to impart A glow of lustre to small, lowly deeds, To warmly color homely, human things; For this, upon his brow the accolade, For this, their meed of praise still fondly rings.

But was it "genius" that enabled him Thus to touch the heart-strings of the throng, Or was it something quite apart from that, That caused the eye to dim with his each song?

I think the "genius" that gave him the power To move men's hearts and cause their tears to start

Lay in the simple fact that he himself well knew Just how it felt to have a broken heart!

Jazbo.

# Redmen Jolt Georgetown in Garden Game

## Henry, Boykoff Lead in 65-43 Victory; LIU Wins

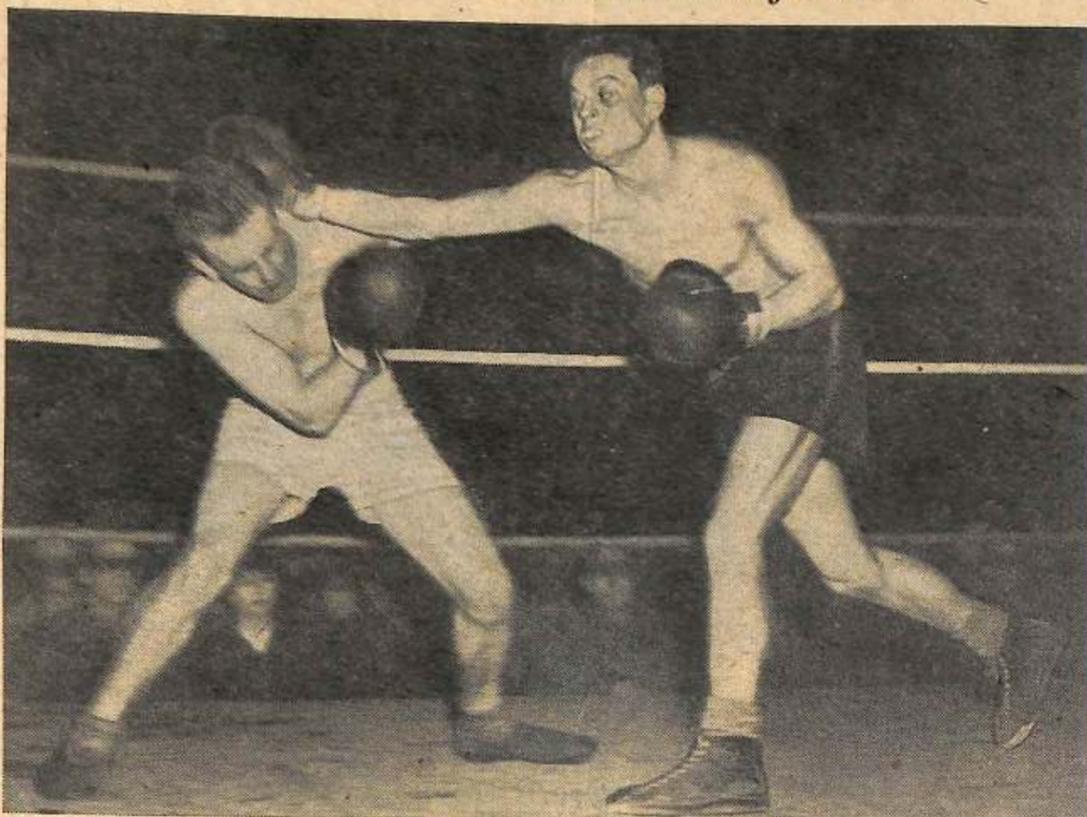
NEW YORK, Feb. 24—St. Johns walloped touted Georgetown, 65-43, at Madison Square Garden here last night in the first game of a doubleheader basketball card. LIU defeated Canasius, 48-44, in the nightcap.

The Redmen's victory apparently clinched for them a bid to the post-season invitation tourney. Looking hot enough to beat any college hoopsters in the country, the boys from Brooklyn featured a double-pivot threat in Center Harry Boykoff and Guard Tom Henry. The division in the scoring was enough to warm the heart of any coach. Henry, who has been Boykoff's center substitute during most of the season, wound up with 16 points for top honors. Boykoff and Forwards Fuzzy Levane and Larry Baxter netted 14 each.

Boykoff specialized in tap-ins and one-handers, while Baxter made his on loopers and Henry on bucket shots. Georgetown was pitifully inaccurate, netting only 17 of 108 field goal attempts.

In the second half of the twin-bill, Long Island's Blackbirds surprised everyone by reversing a previous defeat by Canasius. Saul Cohen, with nine points, and Frank Fucarino, with 13, sparked the Blackbirds' well-coordinated attack.

# Spontak Clouts Flowers in Semi-final Bout



Cpl. George Spontak, of Pittsburgh (right) hangs one on Pvt. Joseph Flowers, of Atlas, Pa., during a semi-final bout of the 135-pound class during the — Division boxing tourney. Spontak won by a knockout and meets Pvt. Charles Schnappauf, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., for the title.

# Bill Cowley Still Heads Scorers

## Bentley Brothers Are Up Among First Five In Ice Loop

BOSTON, Feb. 24—Although the Boston Bruins lost every contest of their recent three-game road trip, Center Bill Cowley managed to retain the individual National Hockey League scoring lead.

Cowley has netted 62 points on 22 goals and 40 assists. He has a five-point lead on Doug Bentley, of the Chicago Black Hawks, who has scored 27 goals and made 30 assists. Doug's brother Max is right at his skate heels with 56 points on 21 goals and 35 assists.

The Toronto Maple Leafs, who at the beginning of the season had almost a monopoly on the first five scorers, have dropped so that they have only one man in the select group. He is Lorne Carr, with 54 points from 26 goals and 28 assists. Buzz Boll, of the Bruins, brings up the rear with 52, 25 goals and 27 assists.

# Frenchy's Been Sharpening Army Boxers for 20 Years

CAMP EDWARDS, Mass., Feb. 24 (AP)—This Camp is all-out fight conscious and one of the chief reasons for the fighting fever is the boxing coach, Cpl. Ivan "Frenchy" LaFrance, who has been shufflin' on resin, in and out of Army camps, for 26 years. Frenchy started swinging in Toronto, in 1916, and has boxed all over the United States, Europe, Australia and Hawaii.

LaFrance fought under the names of Jimmy and Ivan Evans, and Ivan, Georgia and Frenchy LaFrance. Entering the Army in 1922, he served in Hawaii. His prize pupil was Sgt. Sammy Baker, one of the greatest fighting men to come out of the Army.

As a lightweight, Frenchy sharpened Jack Dempsey's boxing speed for the Manassa Mauler's memorable fight with Georges Carpentier at Boyle's Thirty Acres. Despite his age, LaFrance still boxes with Camp Edwards' ring hopefuls.

# Army Call-Up of Reserves Hits Southwestern Teams

COLLEGE STATION, Texas, Feb. 24—Biggest news in the Southwest Conference this week is the nation-wide call-up of the Army Air Corps reserve. This order hits Texas the hardest, taking 19 athletes, most of whom are footballers, from last year's conference camps.

Nearly every school has suffered inroads in its basketballers. Texas lost Paul Pennington and Lynn Smith, Baylor lost Co-captain Bill Hailey and Frankie Edwards, while Southern Methodist will have to go without Clifton Patton.

Bill Closs, Rice center, clicked for 38 points last week to lead the individual conference basketball scoring parade with a total of 132. Johnny Hargis, of Texas, has 112, and Clayton Wynn, Arkansas guard, is third with 104.

# Basketball Results

- |  |
|--|
| Dartmouth 70, Columbia 48.                     |
| Seton Hall 38, LaSalle 27.                     |
| Worcester Tech 58, Tufts 53.                   |
| Western Maryland 54, American University 40.   |
| Maryland 51, William and Mary 36.              |
| Vanderbilt 66, Georgia 31.                     |
| Richmond 59, Washington and Lee 41.            |
| Memphis Naval 50, Mississippi 45.              |
| Notre Dame 64, Butler 32.                      |
| Ohio State 53, Michigan 38.                    |
| Kansas 52, Nebraska 23.                        |
| Wayne 45, Albion 40.                           |
| Xavier 57, Ohio 41.                            |
| Wheaton 51, George Williams 25.                |
| Westminster (Mo.) 47, Tarkio 28.               |
| McPherson 56, College of Emporia 35.           |
| Kansas Wesleyan 35, Baker 25.                  |
| Maryville-Teachers (Mo.) 42, Peru Teachers 31. |
| Pittsburg Teachers (Kan.) 49, Southwestern 33. |
| Rockhurst 45, St. Benedict's 39.               |
| Camp Crowder 37, Drury 36.                     |

# Cubs Get McPartland

CHICAGO, Feb. 24—The Chicago Cubs have announced the purchase of Pitcher John McPartland from Dallas, of the Texas League. McPartland, a southpaw, won eight and lost 17 for last-place Dallas last season.

# Buckeyes Drop Canadian Five

By Wade Barton  
Stars and Stripes Unit Correspondent

AN AIR DEPOT STATION, Feb. 24—Jumping into the lead at the opening whistle, the Buckeyes' quintet of this station went on to whip a Canadian Air Force five, 66-33.

The Buckeyes had things their own way the first half and built up a commanding 21-6 lead in the first quarter, increasing their advantage to 36-10 at halftime. The Canadians made a masterful effort to overcome this margin by running up 15 consecutive points at the start of the third quarter. With their winning margin sliced to 11 points, the Bucks recovered and put on the biggest scoring flurry of the evening.

Pfc Donald Samsal, of Lima, Ohio, poured 21 markers through the hoop to lead the offensive. Pfc Sam Rozenman, of Tiffin, Ohio, with 12 points, teamed with Samsal to account for half of the Buckeyes' total. Vander Velden led the Canadians with nine counters and Squadron Leader Sears garnered eight.

Buckeyes			Canadians				
G	F	P	G	F	P		
Masallas, f.	3	0	6	Laing, f.	0	0	0
Cooper, f.	3	1	7	Vander	4	1	9
Wick, f.	1	0	2	Velden, f.	1	0	2
Diehr, c.	2	0	4	Porter, f.	1	0	2
Wickert, c.	3	0	6	Johnston, f.	0	0	0
Samsal, g.	9	3	21	Miles, c.	2	0	4
Rozenman, g.	5	2	12	Tarzan, c.	1	0	2
Van Horn, g.	1	0	2	Sears, g.	4	0	8
Peshoff, g.	3	0	6	Copeland, g.	2	0	4
				Jensen, g.	0	0	0
				Copeland, g.	0	0	0
				La Brossc, g.	2	0	4
Totals	30	6	66	Totals	16	1	33

# Mize Ordered to Report

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 24—Johnny Mize, first baseman of the New York Giants, has been ordered to report for a preliminary draft board examination. Mize, married and classified 3-A, has no dependents except his wife. If he passes the exam, he expects reclassification as 1-A.

# Golfers Sought by Red Cross

CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 24—The Cambridge Red Cross hostel is trying to arrange golf matches between American servicemen and British golfers. Club swingers with the old fairways yen should get in contact with the Red Cross here.

# Bivins Stops Christofordis In 15 Rounds

## Cleveland Negro Earns Duration Light Heavy Crown

CLEVELAND, Feb. 24—Jimmy Bivins, Cleveland Negro light heavyweight, slugged out a 15-round decision over Anton Christofordis, Chicago Greek, to win the duration light heavyweight crown here last night.

Bivins, who had never gone the full route before, startled the experts by fighting best in the closing sessions. Christo, left hooking superbly, dominated the early sessions.

Bivins failed to show anything until the fourth when, suddenly galvanized into action, he opened a severe cut over Christo's left eye. Jimmy inexplicably re-lapsed in the fifth and gave Christo a chance to recover. Jimmy recaptured the fire in the sixth, smearing the Greek with rights to the jaw and hooks to the body.

# Mauriello Next

Again the effort seemed to exhaust Jimmy, and the boys fought evenly in the next round. Christo got aggressive in the eighth, slamming around the next two rounds with similar forcing tactics.

Just as the boys were giving up on Jimmy, he regained his zip, and from the eleventh to the finish he opened up with the best punching of either fighter in the entire fight. Christo was thoroughly battered and needed plenty of courage to stay up for the last two rounds. The crowd of 14,000 booted the decision, but the boos did not mean much except disappointment at the underdog failing to come through.

Bivins weighed 174, Christo 168. Bivins' next bout is a heavyweight tangle with Tami Mauriello in New York on March 10.

# Lulu Whipped By Montgomery

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 24—Looking like the "Bobcat" of old, Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia lightweight, swarmed all over Lulu Constantino, of New York, taking a unanimous ten-round decision before 10,000 fans at Convention Hall here.

Weighing 134½ pounds, Montgomery fully utilized his five and a half pound weight advantage, wearing down Lulu with a savage body attack which culminated in the sixth round. In that round Montgomery had Lulu backpedalling furiously and he opened a bad cut over the New Yorker's left eye. Only Lulu's ring cunning and boxing ability prevented a kayo. He rallied and took the ninth and tenth, but didn't have a chance of overcoming the Negro's earlier advantage.

After the fight Montgomery declared that he intends to work in a war factory for the duration. He starts March 1 with a shipbuilding company.

# Bruins' Early Lead Fades, Lose to Black Hawks, 7-5

BOSTON, Feb. 24—Despite the fact that they rolled up a three-goal lead in the first period, the Boston Bruins didn't have the reserve strength and succumbed to the Chicago Black Hawks, 7-5.

Bruin forwards Buzz Boll, Murphy Chamberlain and Bep Guidolin were sidelined with injuries. Bill Cowley, Boston center, added to his National League scoring lead by assisting in two goals in the first period. Doug and Max Bentley, the League's scoring runner-ups, each scored a goal and an assist.

# Mauriello Has No Trouble Outpointing Pimpinelli

NEW YORK, Feb. 24—Tami Mauriello, highly regarded Bronx heavyweight, had no trouble in outpointing Vince Pimpinelli, of New York, in ten rounds before 4,000 spectators at the Broadway Arena here last night.

Weighing in at 189½, Tami used his 17-pound weight advantage to punish Vince severely during the infighting while he showed himself equally fast afoot.

# American Hockey League

Hershey 7, Providence 2.  
Pittsburgh 5, Washington 5.

# Kansas Takes Big Six Lead

LAWRENCE, Kan., Feb. 24—What appeared two weeks ago as a tight Kansas-Oklahoma duel for the basketball championship of the Big Six conference suddenly became a rout last week as Kansas rushed a pair of easy triumphs over Iowa State and Nebraska while the Oklahoma Sooners stumbled against Missouri.

The Jayhawkers edge over Iowa State was a respectable 37-29, but they drubbed Nebraska, 56-24. Meanwhile Oklahoma barely beat last place Kansas State, 38-35, then fell victim to Missouri, 50-45.

Oklahoma's Center Gerald Tucker remained at the head of the Big Six scorers in total points, but his average per game dropped from 16 to 14.1 last week. Thornton Jenkins, Missouri forward, leads Tucker with a 15.8 average.

# Freshman Batters Swim Mark

EVANSTON, Ill., Feb. 24—Henry Kozlowski, Northwestern freshman, swam the 50-yard free-style here in 22 and eight-tenths seconds, clipping a tenth of a second from the intercollegiate mark held by Charles Flachman, of Illinois, and Waldemar Tomski, of Michigan.

# NEWS FROM HOME

# 650,000 School Boys to Help Harvest 1943 Crops in States

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24—The Department of Agriculture and the United States Office of Education were embarked today on a program to enlist more than half a million farm volunteers for work in the fields this spring and summer.

Announced by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, the plan calls for the enlisting of up to 650,000 high school boys, through the high school Victory Corps, for the jobs. Schools which do not have Victory Corps units will set up separate recruiting offices.

The Future Farmers of America, an organization of farm youth, will cooperate by inviting city volunteers to their country homes over weekends before the program goes into full effect. Approximately 100,000 of the volunteers will work and live on individual farms for the entire summer harvest season. The others will work in groups during the peak season, harvesting mainly fruits and vegetables.

# More Power to U.S. Censors

NEW YORK, Feb. 24 (UP)—American censorship, which has always been far more drastic than British censorship, has just got itself a new code of rules, including a ban on the transmission of certain news abroad, which seems to place enormous powers in the hands of the censors.

Prohibited subjects include:  
"Rumors which might render aid and comfort to the enemy."  
"Propaganda detrimental to the war effort of the U.S. and the Allies."  
"Or any other matter which might bring aid or comfort to the enemy, interfere with the war effort or disparage the foreign relations of the U.S. or the Allies."

# Brooklyn Would Secede

ALBANY, N.Y., Feb. 24—Assemblyman Fred G. Morrill, Brooklyn Democrat, precipitated a minor sensation here by introducing a measure under which Brooklyn would secede from the five boroughs of New York City to become a city in its own right.  
"Brooklyn," declared Morrill, "has been subject to the whims of Manhattan

—and of Flatbush—too long. We have been deprived of cultural centers, of theaters and libraries which otherwise would be available to us as a separate city."

Originally another city, Dodgerland was incorporated into New York City years ago. Morrill's plan would go back to the original arrangement.

# Hog Prices Soar

CHICAGO, Feb. 24 (AP)—Farmers were paid \$15.80 per 100 pounds for live hogs yesterday, the highest price received since Oct. 16, 1920.

Livestock men explained that the unusually high prices were the result of a shortage of hogs in the face of increasing demands from the Army and Navy, Lease-Lend and domestic consuming channels. Packers and slaughterhouses were unable to purchase sufficient pigs to meet their demands and were obliged to pay higher prices in order to keep their plants in operation.

# Treason

NEW YORK, Feb. 24—On the stand in a citizenship revocation hearing, former German-American Bundsman Werner Ulrich was asked if he had read Hitler's book, "Mein Kampf." Ulrich said yes he had—"when I wanted to sleep."



# U.S. Guns Roar Song of Death At Mark Sixes

## 105s, Tanks and Planes Hurl Heavies Back; Story of the Rout

By Noland Norgaard

Associated Press War Correspondent

WITH U.S. FORCES, Tunisian Front, Feb. 23 (delayed)—Moving steadily and relentlessly forward over a broad battlefield littered with German and Italian tanks and other equipment, United States 105s and other artillery moved up tonight to shell the cream of the German Panzer armies which were retreating into the narrow confines of the Kasserine Pass.

Ahead of the big guns moved American tanks, mopping up the few isolated gun positions left to cover the Axis retreat.

To the rumble of the advance, the roar of American bombers and fighters added a sustained high-pitched accompaniment overhead, passing over the battlefield to unload tons of armor-shattering bombs on the already badly-battered Axis armies.

Tanks and guns moving east and south across the Hatab valley to press the advantage passed a line of Italian prisoners moving back under guard.

### Big Booty for Yanks

With well over 250 Italians and a few German prisoners, the advancing forces captured growing quantities of wrecked or abandoned Axis tanks, guns, trucks, motorcycles, ammunition and stacks of rifles, food and clothing.

The crest of the German sweep had come suddenly yesterday afternoon when striking forces, estimated at 70 tanks, including possibly ten or 12 giant Mark Sixes, struck north along the road to Thala through British positions.

At the same time German and Italian infantry with tank and artillery support had overrun some American positions on the west side of the valley.

### 105s Begin to Bark

Then Allied planes intervened while every available battery of 105mm. guns began a steady bombardment of the

### Mark Six Is 55 Tons, Shell Three Feet Long

The German Mark VI tank, which the Allies have successfully combated in Tunisia, weighs 55 to 60 tons, is armed with one 88mm. gun and two 7.92mm. machine-guns.

The British, who have examined captured Mark VIs, said a single round of ammunition for the big gun is three feet long and weighs 33 pounds. The gun itself weighs one and a half tons.

The front armor is four inches thick and the sides are protected by plates three and one-quarter inches. The tank is 20 feet six inches long, 12 feet six inches wide and nine feet six inches high.

enemy forces and tanks and surrounded and forced to surrender Italian infantry which, backed by German guns, held a strong line in a wadi near the center of the valley.

The enemy fell back under a rain of steel. Quickly the American forces recovered four guns which had been lost in the infantry attack earlier in the day. At dusk the retreat had definitely begun and it continued steadily today.

At nightfall, desert veterans of Rommel's newly equipped Afrika Corps and remnants of the supporting Italian infantry gave no indication of any plan to make a stand inside the broad valley of the Hatab river. American tanks leading the pursuing forces encountered no organized opposition.

The plastering of German armored columns and supply trains, begun yesterday by the American air forces, was continued during the night and resumed its full intensity throughout today (Tuesday). In steady succession B26 bombers roared out across the valley to unload their deadly cargoes.

After them came P39 tank busters to strafe the highway between Kasserine and Feriana along which German motor trains were moving. With them came Spitfires challenging the Luftwaffe to combat.

### Burned Tanks

(Continued from page 1)

most of it at night zig-zagging through the enemy lines.

"We marched the whole way with grenades in one hand and our pistols in the other. We bumped into one enemy patrol, but they ran from us.

"I got all my men safely home and on the way in we picked up 14 other soldiers who had become separated from their units during battle.

"One thing we did do was to keep those Mark Fours busy for an hour," he sighed. "They just overwhelmed us—that's all there is to it. But on an equal basis we could knock hell out of them and they know it.

"Someday, somewhere, we are going to run into Jerries on a man-to-man basis, and when we do..."

The lieutenant's tired voice trailed off.

# Cleaning Up After Tunisia Tank Battle



Mud splattered and battle-scarred General Sherman tank gets cleaned up by its American crew after a tank battle with the Axis armor on the Tunisia battlefields.

Planet Photo

# Forts Get 3 Hits On Jap Cruiser

## Planes Dodge Furious Fire In Attack on Shipping In Rabaul Harbor

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Feb. 24 (UP)—In the second night raid in succession, Flying Fortresses sweeping in low over Rabaul harbor scored three direct hits with 500-pound bombs on a Japanese cruiser or destroyer, according to today's official communiques.

To carry out the attack the Forts dodged furious anti-aircraft fire from ships anchored near the shore.

Other bombs fell within 25 feet of a 7,000-ton enemy cargo ship which was damaged. The communique did not refer to any specific damage to the cruiser.

A furious new outbreak of aerial activity in the Solomons area, came when a Jap air raid on a U.S. base on Espiritu Santo island and five American aerial attacks on Jap bases were reported today.

Avenger torpedo planes and Dauntless dive-bombers with fighter escort Monday attacked Jap positions at Munda starting several fires in the target area.

Tuesday a U.S. search plane operating near Choisul island in the Solomons scored bomb hits on an enemy barge loaded with Jap soldiers.

The same day Airacobras, Corsairs and Lightnings strafed enemy positions at Rekata on the northern shore of Santa Isabel island.

Last night Liberator heavy bombers bombed enemy positions in the New Georgia group. All the U.S. planes returned.

# Russia - - -

(Continued from page 1)

however, and helping to maintain the general advance over the whole front.

The local populations of the liberated towns and villages, miners, farmers, metalworkers, are blocking in to join the swelling ranks of the Russian forces. Meanwhile, immediately behind the front reconstruction work on wrecked mines and plants is proceeding at top speed.

At the same time, resistance in the Kuban area is stiffening with the arrival of fresh infantry and air-reinforcements.

Gen. Maslennikov, commanding the Russian armies in the northern Caucasus front, has sent a letter to Stalin saying: "The enemy is resisting fiercely and is anxious to regain the Taman Peninsula at any price so that it can be used as a springboard for future operations. We solemnly declare before the whole Soviet people that we will not permit the enemy to cling to the Taman and in the near future will clear the entire Kuban country of the Nazi yoke."

Meanwhile, Gen. Golikov is developing his offensive north of Kursk towards Orel, where no thaw conditions yet prevail.

### Variety at Washington Club

A variety show headed by Thea Dessi, soprano, is scheduled for 8 o'clock tonight at the American Red Cross Washington Club.

### Blondie

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



# Injured Once by Flak; Next it's the Bunk

A U.S. BOMBER STATION, Feb. 24—S/Sgt. Lincoln T. O'Connell, 23-year-old holder of the Purple Heart, was recently released from the hospital after recovering from flak wounds received in combat at 21,000 feet. He took that as a matter of course.

Now he's back in the hospital again and the former Bronx resident is plenty burned up.

He fell off his bunk trying to replace a light bulb and hurt his left shoulder.

# USO Troupers Survive Crash

Four of the six identified survivors of the crash of the Yankee Clipper in the Tagus River at Lisbon Monday night were members of the first USO entertainment unit to be sent to the ETO, it was learned yesterday. Two other members of the team were aboard.

Twenty-three persons are believed to have perished in the mysterious accident to the big flying-boat.

Passenger lists still were being checked yesterday, and the identities of all those who lost their lives had not been definitely established.

Among the survivors, though, were known to be Jane Froman, New York radio star; Gypsy Markhoff, accordion player; Jean Murial Rognan, New York dancer; and Elsa Harris Silver, of New York, who sang under the name of "Yvette." Not listed as among the survivors were Tamara Swann and Roy Rognan, both of New York, believed to have been members of the troupe.

# Hans Crescent Schedules 'Johnny Doughboy' Show

Dancing to Cpl. Bernard's swing band is scheduled for 7.30 tonight at the American Red Cross Hans Crescent club. Tomorrow night there will be games and informal singing at 8 PM, followed by the "Johnny Doughboy Reporting" broadcast and dancing in the ballroom at 10 PM.

Saturday night brings a dance with the Army swing band at 7.30. A CEMA concert from 12 to 1, followed by a tea dance at 3 PM Sunday afternoon winds up the week's program.

# Square Dancing Tonight, Concert Sunday at Mostyn

American Red Cross Mostyn Club's program for the remainder of the week includes a square dance tonight at 8.30 o'clock, dancing classes at 9 PM tomorrow.

Lt. Ben Oakley's orchestra will play for the Saturday night dance from 8 to 11. On Sunday there will be a tea dance from 3.30 to 6 PM, followed at 8 PM by a CEMA concert.

# Cavalry Rides Hard in Peeps

## Reconnaissance Unit Uses Gas for Oats, Still Is Hell-for-Leather

(Continued from page 1)

But when it moves—it moves! That every piece of territory that could conceal any enemy is explored. When they come on a blind spot the whole unit halts and takes cover. Foot scouts go forward covered by machine-guns. Not until that blind spot is scoured and a signal sent back does the unit move forward.

But when it moves—it moves! Those boys throw their cars around like a New York taxi driver on St. Patrick's night. Putting a peep round a corner on two wheels is kids' stuff to a recon driver. It is firmly held that rivers, rocks and mountain slopes are meant for pleasure driving.

Each man in the outfit knows the other fellow's job. They all drive, handle rifles, machine-guns and the heavier equipment. And every man is fighting fit. Afternoons are devoted to field exercises over rough country and they play basketball for relaxation afterward. They do callisthenics three mornings a week and have organized sport on Sundays. And, like every other soldier over here, they want to fight—soon.

"We think we are good," said Major Lee, "but we don't start talking until we have done some doing. We have been training for two years and think we know our job."

### 'Captured' Airfields

The men think so, too. The major has made a reputation for unorthodoxy in this part of Somewhere in England. Although not, as already pointed out, primarily a fighting outfit, they have taken part in several maneuvers. One RAF airfield that had resisted all attacks in many maneuvers found itself at the mercy of the recon boys after only 22 minutes "combat."

An American Ordnance outfit, proud of its defenses, was lured away from its lines and returned to camp to find the major sitting on their lovely big guns.

The secret of the efficiency is probably the insistence on awareness and covering up the man in front.

"We never let a man feel he is on his own," said the major. "Whenever a man goes out searching he knows his buddies are right behind him. No blind spot is ever left."

A couple of T/5s, Edward Fitzgerald, of Hoboken, and Peter Meehan, Harrison, N.J., claim they are the hardest working men in the outfit. They're motorcyclists, and whenever the outfit covers one mile, they do two or three—looping backward and forward between the advance units and the command post.

Most nonchalant soldier in the bunch is S/Sgt. Henry Hill, Major Lee's radio man, who leans one arm on the windshield of a speeding peep and talks, of all things, about how good the steam heat is back home in Bernardsville, N.J. The peep, meantime, is careening cross-country, climbing "impossible" slopes, dodging trees and skidding out of the brussels sprouts and back into the road again.

by Chic Young

# Headquarters Unit Observes ETO Birthday

## Gen. Andrews, Col. Barth Guests at Reunion Of 42 Officers

One year ago today the U.S. Army's headquarters in the European Theater of Operations was established with the final assembly of Task Force 9025A in Britain.

Tonight the first anniversary of that event will be commemorated by 42 officers of the original force when they gather to salute those who are serving in other theaters and one who has been killed in action.

Guests of honor are Lt. Gen. Frank M. Andrews, Commanding General, ETO and his chief of staff, Col. C. H. Barth. Principal address will be delivered by Brig. Gen. Ray W. Barker, who was the commanding officer of the task force while it was stationed at an embarkation center in America.

### Hand-picked Force

The original task force was made up of 75 officers and 550 enlisted men, hand-picked from every square division in the U.S. Army while they were in the process of being triangularized. Of that group 42 officers are left in ETO headquarters, three have returned for service in the States, one has been killed in action and the rest are serving in North Africa.

The officer killed in action was 2nd Lt. Paul W. Bateman, who lost his life with the Air Force in North Africa.

The committee in charge of tonight's commemorative dinner and entertainment is headed by 1st Lts. Clark Craig, of Minneapolis, Minn., and Thomas J. Bell, of Harrisburg, Pa. Col. L. S. Morrill, of Chicago, is historian of Task Force 9025A.

# Tunisia - - -

(Continued from page 1)

ing, pursued by British and American forces which inflicted "heavy casualties."

With the coming of daylight Maj. Gen. Carl Spaatz threw almost every American and British plane on the front against Rommel's battered forces, turning the road from Thala into the Kasserine Pass towards Feriana into a hell of bursting bombs and cannon fire.

Pilots of both the American and Royal Air Forces reported great damage on the retreating Axis troops. Apparently in an attempt to create a diversion, the Germans threw battalions of troops into an attack west of the Ousseltia Valley, but fresh Allied forces drove them back with loss.

### Forts Attack Troops

Even Flying Fortresses, usually only used for the heavy bombardment of airfields and ports, joined in the attacks on Rommel's columns, splashing tons of bombs along the roads where he was trying to withdraw.

At last this force of Germans was making a stand about three miles from the mouth of the Kasserine Pass, but it appeared that their big effort to smash the Allied flank had been blocked with the heaviest losses they had yet suffered in this campaign, since the original fighting in November.

The Germans were apparently keeping their tanks near the mouth of the pass to cover their retreat against the onrushing Americans and British armored forces.

Flying Fortresses, Marauders, Mitchells and A20 Bostons all joined in devastating attacks on the Kasserine, Sbeitla and Feriana areas.

At the same time, Hurri-bombers of the RAF smashed down at the Thala area.

Escorting Lightnings, Airacobras and American Spitfires raked troop-crowded trucks with cannon and machine-gun fire, and, after destroying the trucks, returned again to blast the Axis soldiers trying to hide in ditches on the side of the road.

Four formations of American bombers attacked in the Sbeitla and Kasserine areas.

### Forts Hit Trucks

Flying Fortresses came first, laying out neat strings of bombs along roadsides from the pass to Kasserine, riddling crowds of German transport with bomb splinters and blowing trucks to bits.

Marauders, with Lightning escort, swept low into the pass, scoring hits on a German post and transport.

Meanwhile Mitchells, with American Spitfire cover, attacked heavy transport columns in the Sbeitla area.

Later, Bostons, with Spitfire escort, joined the air combat with another bombing raid southeast of Kasserine. Bursts were seen on trucks and tanks.

Four Me109s attacked the Bostons, but the Spitfire escort shot down one and damaged the three others.

Once out of the battle area, Germans were pursued by the Allied air forces, with Airacobras and Spitfires shooting up German vehicles on the Feriana road. Another German plane was destroyed in the Thala area.

### Clark, Patton at Rabat

Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark and Maj. Gen. George C. Patton arrived yesterday at Rabat, according to a report from Morocco radio. The generals were met by French Gen. Nogues at the residency and later by the Sultan at the Imperial Palace.