

## Forts Again Blast Airfields in France

## Reds in Rumania, Nazis Admit

### Soviets Take Nikolaev in Odessa Push

#### Key to Great Black Sea Port Falls; Berlin Tells Of Attacks Over Pruth

Nikolaev, last big Nazi bastion standing in the way of Odessa, on the Black Sea, fell to the Russians yesterday even as the Germans reported that Marshal Ivan Koniev's powerful Second Ukrainian Army group had crossed the Pruth River into Rumania and begun attacking the former Nazi general headquarters city of Jassy, six miles beyond the river.

A hundred miles to the north, Marshal Gregory Zhukov's First Army closed in less than three miles from the Bukovina capital of Cernauti and within striking distance of passes leading through the Carpathians to the Hungarian plain. One Soviet spearhead already is astride one road controlling the way into Hungary, Moscow said last night.

There was no confirmation from Moscow of the German report that Koniev's troops had swept across the Pruth, but for days newsmen in Moscow have expected that the Red Army would find the river no more of an obstacle, and probably less, than the Dniester which Koniev forced ten days ago. Artillery softening-up of the Pruth's west bank was reported by the Russians earlier yesterday.

#### Tells of Smashing Red Attack

Col. Ernst von Hammer, military commentator of German News Agency, told of the attack on Jassy, where the German general headquarters formerly was located, in just one sentence: "A Soviet attempt to storm the town of Jassy was broken by determined German and Rumanian resistance."

Previously he had reported that the Russians were "everywhere bringing up more and more reserves. Motorized infantry and tank units are flowing to the front from deep in the rear, and pressure is mounting, particularly between the Dniester and the Pruth."

#### Capture of Nikolaev, at the mouth of the Bug, brought one of the largest Black Sea ports back into Russian hands after 2½ years of Nazi occupation. Its seizure, after bitter house-to-house fighting, by the Third Ukrainian Army group under Gen. Rodion Malinovsky, put the Red Army within 75 miles of Odessa, the "pearl of the Black Sea."

An estimated 100,000 Germans were concentrated along the lower Bug in the area north of Odessa and Nikolaev. Whether they will try to hold back the Red wave from Odessa and attempt to escape into Rumania before Koniev's advance cuts their rail lines was a question.

#### New Thrust in Poland?

Axis sources meanwhile broadcast news of a new Soviet push northwest of Kovel, deep inside Poland, where they said the Nazis were menaced by a "new threat of encirclement."

Rumanian reports reaching the Turkish capital at Ankara told of a continual flow of German reinforcements eastward to meet the Russians.

"If the reinforcements are as heavy as reports here indicate," an Associated Press dispatch from Ankara said, "a reorganized and regrouped German army should be able to take the field and make a major counter-blow." Such an attack at this time, it added, would be typical of German military strategy.

Moscow reports last night indicated that the armies of Zhukov and Koniev were linking up for a combined assault on Cernauti, a big wheat and dairy center and rail junction. Zhukov's men last were reported on the outskirts of the city at Sudagara, three miles from the capital, (Continued on page 4)

### Hull Presents a Medal To Garand, MI Inventor

WASHINGTON, Mar. 28 (AP)—Medals of Merit awarded by President Roosevelt have been presented by Secretary of State Cordell Hull to John Garand, "father" of the U.S. Army's Garand rifle, and to Dr. Albert Hoyt Taloy, of the naval research laboratories in Washington, who helped to develop detection devices.

### 'Uncle Joe' Somewhere in Burma



Lt. Gen. Joseph Stilwell—known to men under his command as "Uncle Joe"—relaxes a moment during a visit to the front in North Burma. Second from left is Dara Sigh, Gen. Stilwell's Singapore-born bodyguard.

### Stilwell's Men Kill 250 Japs in Thrust to South Chinese Seize an Important Point in Advance On Myitkyina

NEW DELHI, Mar. 28—Lt. Gen. Joseph Stilwell's American and Chinese troops in northern Burma—estimated in a Jap report today as about three divisions—have killed another 250 Japanese in their drive south toward the enemy's northern outpost of Myitkyina to link up with Maj. Gen. Charles Wingate's airborne troops south of Myitkyina on the railway to Mandalay.

Yesterday's official communique said Chinese troops had seized an important point—known as Hkawnglawyang—on the upper Mogaung Valley road, about 40 miles northeast of Myitkyina. Another force under Stilwell's command was reported 30 miles from Myitkyina on the northwest earlier this week.

A Japanese High Command communique said that two "newly-equipped" divisions of the Chinese First Chungking Army, as well as two brigades of American troops, were in two areas north of Myitkyina, while Wingate's airborne forces had been met in battle near Katha, 35-40 miles directly south of Myitkyina. The report claimed Wingate's troops "had been surrounded."

In fighting along the Burma-India frontier yesterday, British troops with American air support repulsed several Japanese attacks along the Tiddim-Imphal road and all positions were held. Meanwhile, the Japs today claimed Jap elements had reached points less than 40 miles from Imphal, capital of Assam Province.

On the Mayu range, British and Gurkha troops have inflicted heavy Japanese casualties while repulsing abortive enemy counter-attacks west of the range.

### Planes Hit Ponape In Carolines Again

WASHINGTON, Mar. 28—Mitchell bombers, escorted by Corsairs, yesterday struck at Jap-occupied Ponape in the Caroline islands, shooting down at least four Jap Zeros while scoring many direct hits on targets on the island.

The Zeros were part of a flight of 15 enemy planes which engaged the Seventh Air Force fleet over the Pacific. Intense anti-aircraft fire was encountered. All American planes returned despite the heavy opposition.

### Rabaul Blasted Again

ALLIED HQ, Southwest Pacific, Mar. 28—U.S. bombers from the Solomons smashed 145 buildings in their latest raid on the Japanese base at Rabaul, New Britain, Gen. MacArthur's communique reported today.

### Blackout Lamps Ordered to Cut Army Accidents

Standard headlight lenses on U.S. Army vehicles in the United Kingdom are being blacked out as part of a program to reduce road accidents, ETOWSA headquarters announced yesterday.

Under new regulations, resulting from a conference between British and American officials, all U.S. Army vehicles must have one British or American blackout driving lamp mounted on the left fender.

The regulations provide that a second blackout driving lamp will be mounted on the right fender, but until sufficient lamps are available, a rectangular aperture, two inches by three-eighths of an inch, will be permitted in the right headlight only. Vehicles equipped with two approved blackout driving lamps will have both standard headlights completely painted with opaque paint.

Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord, Theater Provost Marshal, has directed military police to enforce the new regulations strictly.

### Ports on Pacific Supplying Soviet

WASHINGTON, Mar. 28—Ports on the U.S. Pacific coast will be "fully occupied" in April and May loading ships with Lend-Lease cargoes for Russia, Rear Adm. Emory S. Land, chairman of the War Shipping Administration, announced today.

Heretofore little publicity has been given to the shipment of war supplies from the West Coast, via the north Pacific, to Russian ports in the Far East, from which they are transported across Siberia.

It was said in authoritative quarters that Japan probably would not attack Russian ships through fear of provoking a war.

## All Nation Eyes Oklahoma Vote As the 4th-Term Issue Crops Up

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Mar. 28—An eleventh-hour injection of the fourth-term issue into Oklahoma's Second Congressional District special election focused the attention of political leaders throughout the nation on today's voting, with both major parties viewing the contest as a significant test of strength.

"If the Republicans wish to make the fourth term (for President Roosevelt) the campaign issue," Sen. Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky.), the Senate majority leader, said, "the Democrats are prepared to meet it." An election-eve debate between Barkley and Sen. Ed H. Moore (R-Okla.), the Tulsa oil millionaire who has been leading the Republican campaign, all but

## Luftwaffe Nests Hit After 'Invasion Spies' Range Over Britain

### Nazis Seize Furniture, Say It's a French Gift

German evacuation of the civilian population of Dunkirk and Calais was reported yesterday in a message received in London by the French Committee of National Liberation, according to the Associated Press.

The message said inhabitants were allowed to take only a small amount of luggage. As soon as they left, it added, occupying troops removed their furniture and household effects and loaded them aboard trucks which carried big signs, reading, "Gifts of the French People for Bombed-out Germany."

## Invasion Soon, German Press Warns Public

### Allies Will Hit Hard, Papers Say, and Won't Give Up, Even With Setbacks

By Robert Sturdevant  
Associated Press War Correspondent

STOCKHOLM, Mar. 28—The German Press beat the invasion drums with fresh vigor today as propagandists sought to prepare the people for the coming struggle, which they declared could be expected at any time.

A front-page article in the Berliner Nachtausgabe said: "The final steps for an attack on the continent are being prepared in England. The coming weeks will make England the scene of enormous military operations."

The newspaper declared that it was imperative for the English and Americans to hurry up the invasion "in order not to miss the bus."

As evidence of the imminence of the attack on the continent, the Nachtausgabe cited Monday's intense Allied air attacks along the French "invasion coast." At the same time, the Germans are countering with attacks on British supply ports, the paper explained, adding that the force of Luftwaffe bombers which raided Bristol Monday night was much larger than usual.

The Voelkischer Beobachter, following Goebbels' usual line, declared that the British and Americans must invade, otherwise the war might end with Josef Stalin as the sole conqueror of Europe. The paper said, "The Western powers will hit Europe with all they've got, and they will not give up, even if at the beginning there are setbacks."

Linked up with all the invasion comment, however, was an undertone of deep apprehension about events on the Eastern Front.

The most revealing of all the comments was a Berlin dispatch of the German-controlled Scandinavian Telegraph Bureau quoting a German front correspondent, who described the retreat on the Southern Front in Russia as "terrible for our troops."

## 2,100 Enemy Planes KO'd in 8 Weeks, Doolittle Says

As the German press sounded fresh warnings that an Allied invasion was imminent and the Luftwaffe sent over Britain a comparatively strong force of planes, apparently for reconnaissance, American heavy bombers struck their third successive blow yesterday at the bases in northern France from which the Luftwaffe defends Europe.

Four heavily-escorted forces of Flying Fortresses, totaling between 250 and 500 bombers struck airfields at Chartres, Chateaudun, Reims and Dijon, the latter at least 400 miles from British bases. Two bombers and three fighters are missing.

The attack, 22nd of the month for the heavies, followed by about 12 hours a German air thrust against Britain by 100 to 200 planes, possibly for reconnaissance of Allied invasion preparations in the British Isles. In one of the most widespread attacks since the blitz, costing at least 11 planes, the Luftwaffe scattered its strength over the west of England, South Wales and districts in the south and southeast.

German newspapers, meanwhile, intensified their campaign of warning that an Allied invasion was imminent.

In addition to the B17s, Thunderbolt fighter-bombers of the Ninth Air Force and RAF and Allied Bostons and Mitchells of the Second Tactical Air Force attacked military objectives in northern France.

As on Monday, when nine French air-dromes were attacked by strong forces of heavies and mediums, the Luftwaffe seemed to be leaving the defense to thinly scattered batteries of anti-aircraft guns.

Despite clear weather, the attacking forces met no enemy fighter opposition and bombed "with good results."

Swooping down from their escort jobs, American fighters shot up at least 30 German planes of all types on the ground. Twenty-four of them were destroyed by one group of P51s, commanded by Lt. Col. Gerald J. Dix, of Sutherland, Ind. One pilot, Maj. Edward W. (Jonesy) Szaniawski, of Scarsdale, N.Y., got four alone.

### Rip Dispersal Areas

In three days of repeated assault against the so-called "invasion coast" of France, the bombers have ranged over the continent almost to the Spanish border, plummeting hundreds and hundreds of tons of bombs on German airfields. Escorting them have been Thunderbolt, Mustang and Lightning pilots who not only have been guarding the bombers but seeking out German aircraft on the ground. On Monday alone, American fighters destroyed 42 enemy planes, shooting up most of them as they stood on dispersal areas.

Meanwhile, in a radio speech to the United States last night, Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle disclosed that 2,100 German fighter planes, vitally needed for defense against possible Allied landings, had been destroyed by planes of the Eighth and Ninth Air Forces in the last eight weeks. This work, the Eighth Air Force chief said, had been done by "an invading force" of some 170,000 U.S. airmen.

Fortress crewmen who returned from yesterday's attacks on Chartres and (Continued on page 4)

## Labor Draft 'Little Less Than Tragic'—McNutt

WASHINGTON, Mar. 28 (AP)—Opposing enactment of a national-service law, Paul McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, told the House Military Affairs Committee today that it would be "little less than tragic" to replace voluntary co-operation with "military or bureaucratic processes."

McNutt described the manpower situation as "relatively good," and said he saw no need of a labor draft of any kind at present.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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President's Proclamation

"Whereas America's valiant soldiers have been welded by the fire of battle into a mighty Army of Liberation and whereas the men and women of the American Army, of different races and creeds but one in their love of freedom and their devotion to the goals for which the United Nations are striving, must face during the coming year a burning test of their courage, their resourcefulness, and their physical prowess—And whereas the Congress, by Senate concurrent, Resolution 5, 75th Congress, agreed to by the House of Representatives March 16, 1937, has recognized April 6 of each year as Army Day and has requested that the President issue a Proclamation annually with respect to that day, now, therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the U.S.A., do hereby proclaim Thursday, April 6, 1944, as Army Day, and do invite the Governors of the various states to issue Proclamations calling for the appropriate observance of that day. And I urge the civilians of the nation to reconsecrate themselves on that day to the task of producing in fullest measure and with the greatest possible speed the weapons and ammunition and the materials and supplies required to equip our Army and to sustain it unto final victory."

Feuds in Japan

Inter-service hostility in Japan is said to have been one of the underlying causes for the recent change in the Japanese High Command. This inter-service rivalry has been traditional, and frequently in the past has given rise to incidents of political significance. For example, in 1936 the Navy was prepared to chastise Japanese army extremists responsible for the revolt of February 26, in which Admiral Saito and other high naval chiefs were killed. Warships steamed into Tokyo Bay with guns trained on public buildings occupied by the Army mutineers. Army and Navy cliques in Japan have always been identified with divergent political programs. From the beginning of the thirties the Army was committed to an aggressive policy with regard to China, and pressed the Manchurian claims. The Navy supported the Minseito policy of gradual expansion in the South Seas to be accompanied by a program of gradual naval expansion. In other words the Navy backed meridional expansion while the Army adhered to the line of "continental" expansion. There is reason to believe that the present war put an end to much of the rivalry that existed between the two services in the past, and that co-ordination of Command ruled out structural causes of friction. But although Army-Navy feuds have momentarily ceased to have primary importance in directing Nipponese war policy, it is interesting to note that a flare up came with the first serious setback suffered by Japanese forces in the Pacific. It may well be, therefore, that as Japanese services suffer further defeats they will tend to turn against each other more definitely. In the near future this may again constitute a factor in the military situation.

The New Jeep

A new and super jeep that can carry ten men in full battle dress and do "everything but fly" has just been demonstrated to the public for the first time. Developed by the Coast Guard as a "big brother" of the familiar Army model, the new vehicle is nothing more than an elongated jeep equipped with specially designed wheels and oversize tires to provide extra traction in sand, and fitted with extra seats for additional men. The new model is about 12 feet long—three feet longer than the regular jeep—and weighs about 2,900 pounds. Its extra length was obtained by cutting the standard jeep in half and adding three feet to the center. The horsepower is the same as the smaller car, but because of its additional weight and length the Coast Guard new military gas buggy can whip along a level road as fast as 85 miles an hour. The old jeep and the new model have one thing in common: passengers still bounce three to four feet in the air when cutting ruts on a rough road. The Coast Guard has been using its new jeep—nicknamed the Invader—to post guards along the sandy sea coasts.

Hash Marks

Street Scene. A colonel with a sense of humor was strolling along the other day humming his version of a popular song, "— a journey to a Star CAN be very far."

Sage comment. A lieutenant on leave remarked, "After battling to get a room in London over the weekend I can see why we're having trouble driving the Germans out their hotel foxholes in Cassino."

Democracy at Work. It happened at an Eighth Air Force composite command station somewhere in N. Ireland. An



NCO promotion examination asked for the first stanza of the "Star Spangled Banner." A Pfc from North Carolina scribbled in desperation, "Will the first stanza of 'Dixie' give me half credit?" According to the latest reports the board's ruling on this query has not been announced; but the former Pfc is a Cpl.

A sad, sad man is a certain colonel who just returned from the States to the ETO. He says a restaurant in New York offered him 14 varieties of ice cream—but no pineapple sherbet! Ain't that awful!

A barnacle-studded old salt, retiring after 30 years in the Navy, decided that the best way to pass his fading years was to buy a saloon in New York. He bought an old tavern and began to redecorate it. After a week had passed, residents of the area gathered outside and knocked on the door. "When are you going to open up?" shouted their spokesman. "We'd like to patronize your place." "Open up!" the old sailor hollered. "I'll never open up. I bought this place for myself!"

Red Faces Department. An MP we know overstayed a 24-hour pass, but he had a good excuse. Seems he put his handcuffs on to show his girl how they worked and then couldn't get them off. After a lengthy search a locksmith was found who could set him free.

Add this to your list of "man bites dog" stories. It's vouched for by the GIs of an infantry outfit over here who



claim that one of their buddies, Sherwood Henry, was strolling along minding his own business when a dog dashed up and sank its molars in Henry's wrist. And the dog refused to let go—until Henry leaned down and nibbled on the pup's ear. (Pardon us while we go out and bite a first sergeant.)

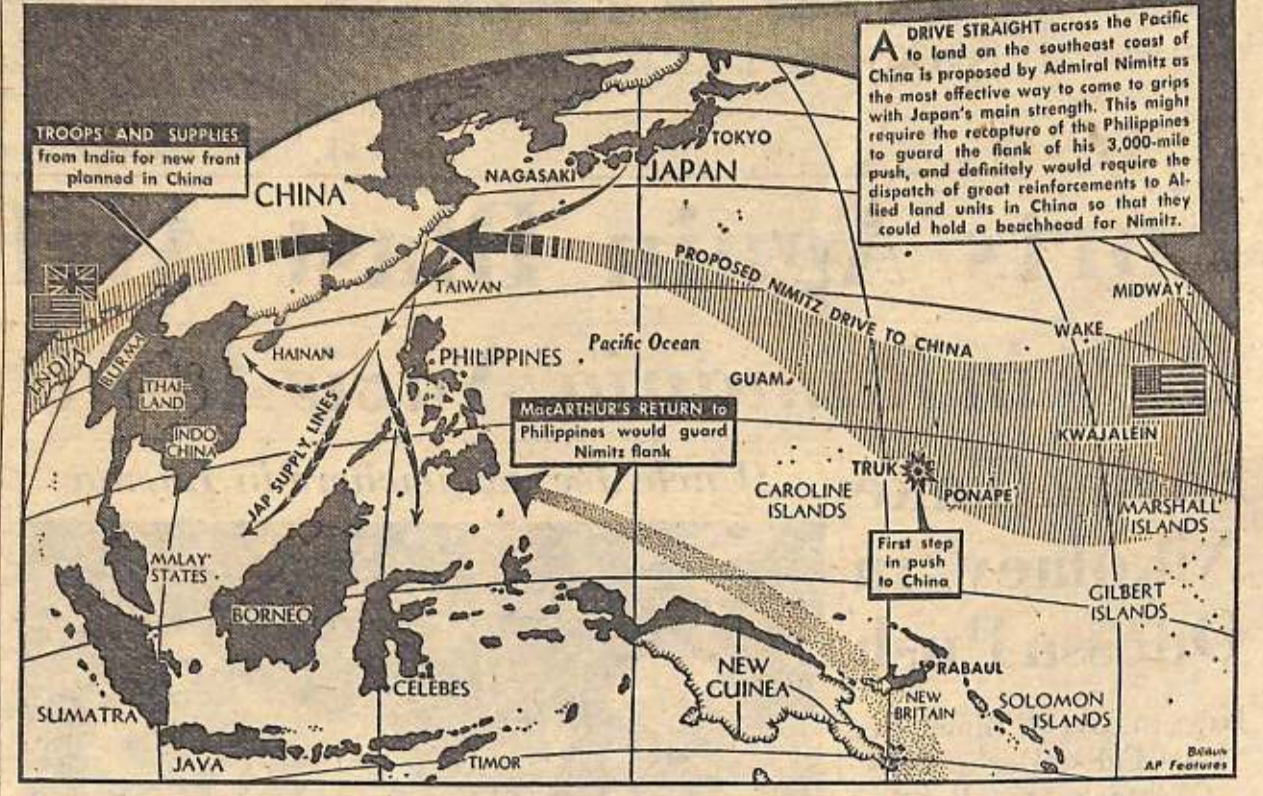
Overheard at the Px. "Who? Him? Oh, he's a gentleman—but only by Act of Congress."

PRIVATE BREGER



"Sergeant, that man looks too cheerful! Find something for him to do!"

End of Jap War Lies in Land Battles



A DRIVE STRAIGHT across the Pacific to land on the southeast coast of China is proposed by Admiral Nimitz as the most effective way to come to grips with Japan's main strength. This might require the recapture of the Philippines to guard the flank of his 3,000-mile push, and definitely would require the dispatch of great reinforcements to Allied land units in China so that they could hold a beachhead for Nimitz.

Recent Allied Stabs Point Up Intent to Smash Army

By The Associated Press. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific area, admitting that "Japan cannot be defeated by sea alone," says we will get troops into China and cut off the enemy to the south. This implies a mighty drive straight across the ocean to put ashore an army which can come to grips with the main weight of enemy power on land.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, commander-in-chief in the southwest Pacific, deprecating island-hopping, calls for a slugging match with the Japanese soldier. Lieut. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, chief of staff of Allied armies in China, will march down to the southeast China shore to meet his American friends, he declares, as soon as he receives a vast increase in supplies. The Japanese, consequently, can be studying what's coming to them in the words of the Americans who will dish it out.

Staggering Logistics. It is a grand strategic concept on a scale so immense that half of the battle in this half-of-the-world struggle will be logistics. By comparison, Hitler, who never got more than 1,300 miles from his borders, is waging a piker's war. The Marshalls are about 2,400 miles from Hawaii, which is about the same distance from California, and the Chinese mainland is about 3,200 miles beyond the Marshalls; add to that the fact that Stilwell must move supplies from a Calcutta base still 2,000 miles away. The yellow man may be little but he's a long way off and spread over extraordinary distances. We must travel days to reach a battlefield where the great issue may be decided in minutes. The statements of these three leaders suggest that we are abandoning Mahan and Nelson. In other words, there is no

particular virtue in sea victory alone. Our enemy's strength is on the land, and that's where we must get at him. As a matter of fact, this is the Japanese theory. They use their fleet as a sort of ferry service. They agree with Hitler, who came close to smashing the sea power of Great Britain by using his land power to overrun Europe. Adm. Nimitz's air attacks on Truk are the first step in the proposed drive out of the Marshalls-Gilberts area. They came much earlier than even optimists had hoped. This powerful Caroline islands base was first reconnoitered by Australian fliers last December, and the recent assaults followed a daring visit by a pair of Marine Liberators on Feb. 4. They reported military, naval and aircraft installations of great extent.

Must Supply Stilwell. A preliminary task would be to supply Stilwell. Moves already made include the construction of monster cargo planes that can cross the Himalayas, and work on the Ledo road through the almost impassable mountains of northern Burma. Nimitz's plan seems most audacious and his telling of it most surprising. Of course he may be saying one thing and plotting another... the Japanese can worry about that. But if he means what he says, he contemplates a tremendous thrust with an invincible naval force slightly west of northwest straight out from the Marshalls. He would pass among the Carolines, Marianas and Philippines, scooping them up or letting them lie, neutralized, on his flanks as he thought best; the development of the powerful assault on Truk may indicate his intentions. The equatorial current would speed him almost directly to his objective: some spot on the 850-mile, rounding chin of China where it sticks out against the East and South China seas and the Strait of

Taiwan (Formosa). It is guarded by a fringe of islands, the Nansei group and Taiwan. Though there are not many rail lines between Hong Kong and Shanghai, the enemy is entrenched on that low shore only at a few strongpoints like Amoy and Foochow.

Divide and Conquer. Nimitz's drive would be the same sort of divide-and-conquer maneuver which characterized Hitler's diplomacy and also his warfare, as for example, the push through France from Sedan to Abbeville. The American fleet would cut Japan proper from her supplies in the Netherlands Indies, and we could dispose of one half and then the other at our leisure.

Beyond Truk in the Carolines Nimitz may run into the main enemy fleet, of which we have heard so much and seen so little. The Japanese may feel that if they tackle Nimitz before he is reinforced by British sea power, they can win. On the other hand, they are brutally realistic; they expend men rather than men-o'-war. It's rifle fire they use, as on Luzon, instead of naval fire. It may be rifles they'll use to try to bar us from China, and they may keep pulling their fleet back until the ultimate battle off the shores of Japan itself. Their fleet is built for distance, as is ours, and could force a battle in the general area of Taiwan. Stilwell would guard Nimitz from shore-based enemy planes. But the distances are enormous, approximately as follows: Taiwan to Nagasaki, or the nearby sea base at Sasebo, 775 miles; Manila to Nagasaki, 1,350; Borneo to Nagasaki, 2,000. The tough stretch for Nimitz would be the 1,800-mile jump from the Marianas on. MacArthur might be ready at that stage of the game, however, to attack in the Philippines and bolster the fleet's southern flank.

Notes from the Air Force

THE crewmen of the B24, Carol-n-Chick, are pretty hard to talk to about what a Liberator can do. They're figuring on maybe joining a fighter group. Caught in a maze of contrails as he stooped the B24 along in the tail end Charlie position, 1/Lt. William B. Brown, Spokane, Wash., pilot, suddenly found the ship turned up on its tail when prop wash ruined the air flow. Then it went on its right side, its left, each way once again, the swing increasing with each twist. Finally the Lib was heaved onto its back and went into a deadly spin at 20,000 feet. Plunging earthward, the Lib tossed its crew around and at one time S/Sgt. Russell Flamion, Derby, Ind., waist gunner, was hanging half out the waist window. Brown and the co-pilot, Lt. Kenneth Barnett, of Inglewood, Cal., finally pulled Carol-n-Chick out at 10,000 feet, bombed their target with two P51s as escorts and came home to find they'd already been listed as missing. Confidence of the chute packers and riggers at one strategic air depot in their work is reflected in their offer to "jump any chute we pack." COL. William B. David, Fortress group commander and former University of Georgia football star, has been awarded the Silver Star and an Oak Leaf Cluster to the DFC. The Silver Star was awarded for gallantry during an attack on Bordeaux early in January when David pulled Little Willie out of an 11,000-foot dive with the cockpit in flames, evaded enemy fighters and returned to England in spite of injuries.

This Is The Army

THERE have been a lot of furloughs taken by a lot of Joes in a lot of places but the furlough of Pvt. Harold Leaf, an artilleryman from Handover, Ill., takes the cake—or the doughnut, at least. Leaf went to the Red Cross club in an English town to meet his brother, who is with an Air Force unit. Leaf liked the coffee and doughnuts the club was serving and before long he made connections with the ARC gals who ran the clubmobile to the various airfields in the vicinity. The cannoner offered his services for the duration of his furlough and was accepted as a seven-day odd-job man with the doughnut dispenser. "Best furlough I ever had," Leaf said, expressing regret that he had to go back to the army routine as he busied himself round the clubmobile "Missouri" at a Mustang base on the last day of his voluntary KPship. As proof that Leaf isn't the only horse for work in the Army, Ernest Whaley, a Pennsylvania private in the south of England, has been dragging around a milk cart on each of his seven days' leave so that his girl friend, Lillian Ashworth, can finish her milk route in a hurry. "I finish my route in no time with Ernie," Lillian says, "and that suits us both because we've more time to ourselves." CPL. Robert L. Stepp, of Black Mountain, N.C., and Pvt. Zollie Gray, of Waco, Tex., have been building airfields in the ETO with a Negro Aviation Engineer Battalion and wondered what it would be like to take off in a plane from one. A Fortress pilot accommodated them with a flight over the Channel.



ATLANTA, Mar. 28—Jim Bagby, who won 17 games for the Cleveland Indians but has been feuding with Manager Lou Boudreau for several months, was sworn into the Maritime Service yesterday. Officials said the fiery right-hander will be called within three weeks, going either to Sheepshead Bay, N.Y., or St. Petersburg, Fla., for boot training.

HOLLYWOOD, Cal., Mar. 28—Red Ruffing, former pitching mainstay of the New York Yankees, and Harry Danning, ex-giant catcher, combined to give the Sixth Ferrying Group baseball team a 16-4 victory over Hollywood, of the Pacific Coast League, here yesterday. Ruffing handed out the Stars with six hits and one run in five innings, while Danning collected four hits and drove in four runs. Charlie Root, Jim Sharp and Alex Weldon hurled three innings each for the Stars, allowing 19 hits.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Mar. 28—Today was a "red letter day" for the New York Yankees, although rain sent the players indoors. It was the first day in several weeks in which no player was drafted by Uncle Sam, nor was anybody reported on the ailing list.

BALTIMORE, Md., Mar. 28—Manager Joe Cronin's decision to shift training sites from Medford, Mass., to Baltimore, paid dividends here yesterday when the Boston Red Sox enjoyed their first outdoor workout in a week. The pitchers had plenty of bunt fielding practice, and Joe Bowman, expected to handle most of the club's relief pitching chores, arrived in camp.

FRENCH LICK, Ind., Mar. 28—Manager Jimmy Dykes will send his three leading pitchers—Thornton Lee, Bill Dietrich and Orval Grove—against the Chicago Cubs here tomorrow, when the White Sox make their '44 bow against their cross-town neighbors. The little round bossman of the Chisox said he would throw his strongest lineup into every game against the Cubs. Meanwhile, Jimmy Wilson, Cub pilot, announced that Hank Wyse, Bill Fleming and Johnny Miklos will hurl against Cincinnati tomorrow, but he didn't name his pitchers for the Sox opener.



Jimmy Dykes

MUNCIE, Ind., Mar. 28—Wally Hebert, southpaw who won ten and lost 11 last year, today advised the Pittsburgh Pirates he will be inactive this season, choosing to remain at his Lake Charles, La., war job.

FREDERICK, Md., Mar. 28—Connie Mack cracked down on the department of his Philadelphia A's today, instituting a rigid set of training rules. Henceforth, there'll be no drinking, nickel and dime poker only, and prompt attendance at meals. Stiff fines await transgressors, Mack warned.

COLLEGE PARK, Md., Mar. 28—Fermin Guerra, Cuban catcher, will be chief understudy to veteran Rick Ferrell when the Washington Senators open their pennant drive. Guerra has had plenty of experience handling knuckle ball pitchers, of whom the Nats have three.

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Mar. 28—Phil Weintraub returned to the Giants' training camp today after the Army turned him down in Chicago, but Mel Ott, manager of the New Yorkers, wasn't around to greet his prospective first baseman. Ott was in bed, fighting the flu.

### Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, 37, Upper Brook St., London, W.1. Telephone, ETOUSA, Ext. 2131. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, direct all correspondence c/o Help Wanted.

APOs Wanted  
Pvt. John C. BALLI, Pickens, W. Va.; Cpl. Douglas BERNARD, Augusta, Ga.; Lt. Doris BRICKWINKLE, Evansville, Ind.; Sgt. John CORNELIUS, Atlantic City, N.J.; Cpl. HENRY COTTRELL, Miami, Fla.; Cpl. William L. JOHN WING, Sulphur, La.; Lt. Archie McGRAY, St. Paul, Minn.; Pvt. Angelo MOREY, Syracuse, N.Y.; Lt. Allan M. PEARL, Fort Myers, Fla.; Sgt. Pvt. Bruce C. PEARL, Fort Myers, Fla.; Sgt. Lloyd ROLLINS, Provo, Utah; Pfc Andrew Lewis TRAYLOR, Commerce, Tex.; Lt. Lillian WEINSTEIN, ANC, New Orleans; Lt. Pvt. Howard WESTCOTT, Uca, N.Y.; Lt. Orman WILLIE, Sturgis, S.D.

Boston U. Grads  
BOSTON University graduates in the ETO please send name, year of graduation, departments and APO number to Marjorie Williams, American Red Cross, APO 887.

### Baseball's Best by Decades

## Mack Picks All-Stars Before 1900

(First of a series of five articles on all-star teams for each decade.)

By Chip Royal

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 28—Connie Mack probably has seen more major league players than any other living baseball man. But, when it comes to selecting all-star teams, the great manager of the Athletics has always avoided the issue—up to now.

"You can't just pick out a man and say he is the best in 50 years," smiles Connie. "It isn't fair to all the others. I think all-star teams should be selected every decade."

Okay, Mr. Mack, you name the best men you saw before 1900 and let Honus Wagner take it from 1900-10; Tris Speaker, 1910-20; Bill McKechnie, 1920-30, and Joe McCarthy from 1930 to Pearl Harbor.

"Well," answers Connie, "I'll start with Buck Ewing of the New York Giants and Charley Bennett of the old Detroit Nationals, two of the greatest catchers who ever lived."

"For pitchers, you can't beat Cy Young, Cleveland's immortal ace; John Clarkson of the Chicago White Stockings and Tim Keefe of the Giants."

#### Tenney on First Base

"My first baseman would have to be Fred Tenney of the Boston Nationals, who started in as a left-handed catcher. He was more up to date in his time than any man I ever saw."

"Nap Lajoie of Cleveland never had an equal at second base. Herman Long of the Boston club on short, and his teammate of those three-time world champions, Billy Nash, at third, complete my infield."

"There was no livelier, wide-awake and



Connie Mack

aggressive infielder than Hughie Jennings of Detroit, and he would make a perfect utility man.

"In the outfield, my first choice would be Hughie Duffy, whose batting record of .438 in 1894 never has been beaten. On either side of the magnificent Boston centerfielder I would like to have Ed Delehanty, that great clouter of the Phils, and his fellow outfielder Sam Thompson."

"Sliding Billy Hamilton, also of the Phils, one of the greatest base runners we have known, is my utility outfielder."

Now, let's review Mr. Mack's "team." Baseball record books say:

"Buck Ewing was the greatest all-round player that ever put on a mask. As a

handler of pitchers, a hitter, base runner and run getter, there were few better men in the country.

"Charley Bennett was a veritable stone-wall behind the bat. He could throw to second like a rifle shot. He was a heavy batsman and he led the old League behind the plate for ten years.

"No pitcher has equalled Cy Young in long years of service and steady, faithful work. He twirled three no-hit games. His 511 games won out of 874 still stands as a baseball record.

"John Clarkson was possessed of great strength in his pitching arm and had the best command of the ball as any man who toed a mound. He won 53, 36, 38, 33 and 49 games in five consecutive seasons, a record.

"Tim Keefe was one of the great pitchers of the New York Giants. His record of allowing only three hits in a double-header has never been equalled. He also won 19 straight in one season, a feat equalled only by Rube Marquard.

#### Hitting Tops

"The national game has had few better first basemen than Fred Tenney. No man has anything on him when it comes to quick thinking and quick action. His wizardry around the bag was uncanny, and his hitting was tops.

"Great, grand, superb and a lot of other superlatives have been tossed at Nap Lajoie, but he was even better than any word can describe. He hit better than .370 for ten consecutive years."

And so it goes right down Connie's list—Long, Nash, Jennings, Duffy, Delehanty, Thompson and Hamilton. They were the greats of their days. Some of them left records that will take a long time to erase from the books. Truly an all-star team par excellence.

## Utah Quintet to Tackle Redmen Win or Lose in NCAA Final

NEW YORK, Mar. 28—Regardless of the outcome of tonight's NCAA finale between Dartmouth and Utah, the Utes will return to Madison Square Garden to tackle St. John's of Brooklyn, Invitational cage tourney champion for the second consecutive year, Thursday night as color-bearer of the NCAA.

This unusual situation is more unusual than ever because the youthful, rangy Utah quintet was dumped from the Invitational meet by Kentucky in the first round and stepped into the western NCAA whirl only after an auto crash forced Arkansas to withdraw.

However, Stanley Woodward, chairman of the Red Cross sports committee sponsoring Thursday's game, said today Navy regulations preclude Dartmouth's appearance, even if the Indians win tonight.

Utah, one of the few all-civilian cage powers in the country, isn't conceded too much hope against Dartmouth, which wrapped up the Ivy League pennant for the seventh straight season and then sailed through the eastern NCAA field with ease. If Dartmouth wins tonight, it will be the Indians' first NCAA title in four successive tries.

## Os Tower Chosen By Court Mentors For Cage Award

NEW YORK, Mar. 28—Coach Oswald Tower of Andover College, yesterday was voted the award for the most meritorious service to basketball during 1943-44 at the annual meeting of the American Association of Basketball Coaches in the Biltmore Hotel here.

Tower, a member of the rules committee for the past 35 years, is the association's oldest member in point of service. Ed Hickock of Springfield (Mass.) College was elected president of the group, succeeding Ed Kelleher of West Point.

Meanwhile, recommendations for rule changes will be made known tomorrow. The committee is considering unlimited substitution, increase in personal fouls from four to five, and some rules curbing the "goal tending" of tall players.

## Joe Maruszewski Defeats Ex-Ryder Cup Player

SUNNINGDALE, Mar. 28—Pvt. Joe Maruszewski, former Hollywood Country Club pro from Dearborn, Mich., who yesterday tied the course record at Marlow, defeated Tommy McConnell, 1938 Ryder Cup star, two and one over the local course this morning.

## Li'l Abner



## Chi Glovemen Triumph, 9-7

### Notch Tenth Victory Over New York Ring Aggregation

NEW YORK, Mar. 28—Amateur glovers representing Chicago punched their way to a 9-7 triumph over a New York team in the inter-city Golden Gloves boxing matches here last night in Madison Square Garden before 18,630 fans.

The Windy City fighters had to go to the last bout on the card to register their victory. Pvt. Ragon Kinney, of the USAAF, outpointing Jerry Jackson, Bronx boilermaker, in the heavyweight finale. The series now stands at ten wins for the Chicagoans, four for New York, with three ties.

The western team took six championship bouts and three alternate bouts, and there wasn't an actual knockout on the entire card, although Wendell Wilson, of New York, TKOed Coast Guardsman Harry Sparrow in the 147-pound alternate scrap. The referee stopped the one-sided contest in 1:31 of the third round.

In other bouts:  
Cecil Schoonmaker, New York, 112, outpointed Tommy Tate, South Bend, Ind., 112.  
Clayton Johnson, Sioux City, Iowa, 118, outpointed Pvt. John Rosato, Philadelphia, 116.  
Major Jones, Kansas City, 124, outpointed Frank Perone, New York, 125.  
Buddy Holderfield, Scott, Ark., 133, outpointed Max Grothe, New York, 134.  
Pvt. Johnny Wilson, Brooklyn, 146, outpointed Cpl. Levi Southall, Kansas City, 143.  
Cpl. Dick Young, Asheville, N.C., 158, outpointed Pvt. Hy Bronstein, New York, 155.  
Ray Standifer, Kansas City, 173, outpointed CPO Herb Kroeten, Minneapolis, 169. Kroeten represented New York.

## Four Games With Majors On West Point Schedule

WEST POINT, Mar. 28—The Army Cadets will play a 20-game baseball schedule this summer, including four games against major league clubs, Col. Lawrence "Biff" Jones, graduate athletic manager, announced today.

The Cadets play the Brooklyn Dodgers tomorrow and again Apr. 12; the New York Giants Apr. 19 and the Yankees May 10.

## Ike Williams TKOs Peralta

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 28—Referee Benny Leonard awarded a TKO verdict to Ike Williams in the ninth round of his scheduled ten-rounder against Joey Peralta, Tamaqua, Pa., lightweight, at the Arena here last night. It was Williams' third straight win since Bob Montgomery kayoed the Trenton, N.J., slugger two months ago. Williams weighed 134.

## ETO Champion Dick Menchaca Loses by TKO

### Schneider Finishes Champ In First; Witt Sets Rainbow Record

Rainbow Corner fans who have followed the rise of Dick Menchaca to the top of the ETO lightweight fistic heap saw their favorite fail to finish his first scrap in nine starts as he suffered a startling TKO defeat at the hands of Pvt. Harry Schneider, 140-pound Pittsburgher, in the highlight of last night's ten-bout bill.

Menchaca, 137-pound Texan from Port Arthur, started out fast in the first stanza, clipping his taller opponent with a left to the head and then a right which set Schneider down for a two-count at 15 seconds of the round.

After an exchange in mid-ring, during which both landed to the stomach, Schneider came through with a hard left and a right to the head. Menchaca threw it off, then walked right into the same thing, this time going down.

Menchaca Claims Foul  
The count reached eight when Dick managed to stagger up, but Schneider tore into him again, pounding to the head and body. In the melee, Menchaca broke away, claiming a foul. It was disallowed and Schneider was awarded a TKO.

The Menchaca-Schneider tussle was one of four tilts which failed to go the limit. In the only straight kayo, Pvt. George Witt, 131-pound Brooklyn sharpshooter, racked up the fastest finish in Corner history as he put away Pvt. Walton Marriott, of Versailles, Mo., 135, in 20 seconds of the first.

Witt drew his man to him at the opening bell, sidestepped, then rushed Marriott, landing a left and right to the head. Marriott hit the canvas on his back and was out for two minutes after the count. He was carried from the ring.

Garrett Stops Arbuclle  
It took ETO welterweight champion Pvt. Bill Garrett all of two and a half rounds to notch a TKO over stubborn Pvt. Art Arbuclle, 147-pounder from Indianapolis, the end coming at 1:32 of the third.



Enjoying a six-pound weight lift, Garrett set out for the kill in the first, but his clubbing seemed to have little effect. Arbuclle stood up under the pounding of the Pittsburgh Negro in the first, then resorted to hanging on and holding through the second, occasionally getting in a shot during the infighting.

Repetition of this in the third, with Arbuclle failing to throw any leather, forced Referee Lt. Maury Schwartz to call a halt.

Droll Clowns, But Wins  
Pvt. Benny Droll, 162-pounder from Peoria, Ill., put on his usual show and added a number of hard punches to decision Pvt. Henry Miller, 161-pound Philadelphia.

Benny started the opening stanza with his customary clowning, stopped long enough to down Miller for the two-count at one minute of the round, then went back to his clowning. The second round was plenty fast with both boys throwing heavy leather, while Benny dropped Miller at 1:30 of a slow third.

Pfc "King Tut" Tabor, Oakland, Cal., 161-pounder, stretched his ETO streak to nine straight as he outpointed highly regarded Cpl. Lafayette Drummond, of St. Louis, 155, in a hard-punching long-distance affair.

## Dobbins Wins by TKO

Pvt. Lawrence Dobbins, 154-pounder from Cleveland, opened a deep cut over Cpl. John Kaczynski's eye and was awarded a TKO over the 150-pound Pittsburgher in 41 seconds of the first round.

Johnny Jones, 170-pound Muskogee, Okla., sergeant, drew a close decision over Pvt. Thomas Walbert, of Cumberland, Md. Jones, enjoying a five-pound weight advantage, had things his own way in the initial stanza. He suffered a bad second, at the end of which he was hurt and tired, but came back in the third to stack up enough points to win.

In other bouts:  
Pvt. Jerry Pecoraro, New York, 128, outpointed Pvt. John Barzee, New York, 123.  
Pvt. Tony Pontarella, New York, 170, outpointed Sgt. Robert Grant, Jeffersonville, Ind., 179.  
Cpl. Keith Voorhees, Ventura, Cal., 138, outpointed Pvt. Clement Marrone, Cleveland, 141.

## By Al Capp



# Willkie Seeking Isolationist Vote In the Midwest

### Political Observers Say He May Be Gambling His Political Future

By Paul Scott Rankine

Reuter Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Mar. 28—Wendell Willkie's dramatic Presidential campaign tour in the heart of Wisconsin reached its climax in his Milwaukee speech when he made a strong bid for support from voters considered strongly isolationist.

Political observers believe that the Republican leader may be gambling his political future in a plea for liberal internationalism.

Willkie is campaigning for the reelection of delegates from Wisconsin pledged to support him for nomination as Presidential candidate in the Republican convention in June.

The nation-wide attention being paid to this contest in which Willkie has thrown into the arena such questions as America's post-war foreign policy upon which other potential Presidential candidates have maintained comparative silence.

Political observers, believing this primary election the most important to the Republican party and to the part to be played by the U.S. in the post-war world, are asking these questions.

1—Have the opinions of former Republican isolationists changed materially since the U.S. entered the war?

2—Can Willkie make a sufficient comeback in the Middle West to assure him enough support to win the Republican nomination in June?

3—How strong is the political appeal of Willkie's rivals—Gov. Thomas Dewey, of New York, and Harold Staasen, former governor of Minnesota.

In his speech in Milwaukee Willkie said the principles of the Atlantic Charter and United Nations' theory are being violated in the Polish boundary question, Vichy and Yugoslavian policies and the policy towards the Italian Fascists.

"Are we going to recognize a lot of puppet kings and Fascists or are we going to deal with democratic elements?" he asked. He said peoples in the Far East are concerned as to whether the Atlantic Charter would also be applied to the Pacific.

## Raids - - - -

(Continued from page 1)

Chateaudun expressed amazement at the lack of opposition in the Paris area, which was wildly defended by the Luftwaffe last fall.

Chartres is a fighter training base, Chateaudun a bomber base, Reims a Junkers repair works and airfield and Dijon a two-engine fighter field.

Chartres and Chateaudun both are large operational fighter bases, covering flying routes into southern Germany. A deluge of bombs left the fields covered with wreckage, and burning planes and buildings sent up columns of black smoke.

The German air thrust at Britain early yesterday morning followed intensified press warnings of imminent invasion, possibly prompted by British military steps taken in the last few days. These included the designating of a ten-mile deep strip all along the southern coast and halfway up the east coast as a restricted area to civilians, and a call for voluntary service of the yachtsmen and small-boat owners who participated in Dunkirk.

Berlin radio, claiming Bristol was hit by an unusually strong force of heavy bombers, said yesterday that thousands of a new type of incendiary bomb, as well as large numbers of high explosives, were dropped.

Pointing the theory that the Germans were attempting to learn details of Allied troop and invasion shipping concentrations were the routes taken by the raiders. At many points the coast was crossed in areas to be restricted Apr. 1.

## AFN Radio Program

On Your Dial

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

Wednesday, Mar. 29

- 1100—News Headlines and Spotlight on Eddie Howard.
- 1115—Personal Album with Martha Tilton.
- 1130—Music in Three-Quarter Time.
- 1150—French Lesson.
- 1200—World News (BBC).
- 1205—Barracks Bag.
- 1300—World News (BBC).
- 1310—Gerald and his Orchestra.
- 1330—Rhapsody in Khaki (Repeat).
- 1400—Visiting Hour.
- 1430—Sound Off.
- 1445—Melody Roundup.
- 1450—News Headlines.
- 1500—Music While You Work.
- 1530—Off the Record.
- 1630—Jack Leon.
- 1655—Quiet Moment.
- 1700—Yank Swing Session and Program Resume.
- 1730—Love Ranger—Hi-O-Silver Away.
- 1800—World News (BBC).
- 1810—GI Supper Club.
- 1850—Army Talks.
- 1900—Seven O'Clock Sports.
- 1905—Music We Love.
- 1910—McGe and Molly.
- 2000—News from Home—Nightly roundup of news from the U.S.A.
- 2010—Fred Waring Program.
- 2025—Human Interest in Books.
- 2030—Kay Kyser's College of Musical Knowledge.
- 2100—World News (BBC).
- 2100—Bob Hope Show—with Frances Langford, Vera Vague and Jerry Colonna.
- 2120—Novatime and Adrian Rollini Trio.
- 2140—What's New.
- 2300—What Stand with Frankie Masters.
- 2225—One Night Stand.
- 2255—Final Edition.
- Off until 1100 hours, Thursday.
- 2300—Sign Mar. 30.

## Gets an Extra 25 Hours to Do It

# Johnson Refuses to Quit, Hopes To Eclipse Rickenbacker's 26

Capt. Bob Johnson, 24-year-old leading American fighter ace in the ETO with 22 German planes to his credit, has completed his tour of combat flying hours and is entitled to a rest. But he has obtained permission to fly 25 additional hours (equivalent to seven or eight missions) in an attempt to better the American record of 26 kills.

The mark was set by Eddie Rickenbacker in World War I and has been tied by two fliers in the Pacific theater in this war—Marine Maj. Joe Foss, who was sent back to the U.S.A. to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, and Maj. Greg Boyington, who was shot down the day he got No. 26.

"Five more planes would suit me fine," Johnson grinned, "but after 25 more flying hours, whether I get them or not, I'd like to go back to the States for a visit to my wife, whom I haven't seen for a year and a half."

Several fighter pilots raised their totals to within catching distance of the Lawton, Okla., ace when Eighth and Ninth Air Force pilots destroyed 38 German planes for the loss of 15 over France Monday.

Capt. Duane S. Beeson, of Boise, Idaho, and Capt. Don S. Gentile, of

Washington, D.C., were among the group.

Johnson's record is 22 German planes destroyed and 15 others damaged.

Johnson, who was shot down in a dogfight with a Bf-109 over France last week, was rescued by a British pilot.

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## To Seek Divorce



HOLLYWOOD, Mar. 28—Academy Award Winner Joan Fontaine is going to sue for a divorce—probably on the grounds of cruelty—from her actor-husband, Brian Aherne, it was learned here today. Miss Fontaine, sister of actress Olivia De Havilland, has the lead female role in the film Jane Eyre. Brian Aherne, 42, recently played in My Sister Eileen.

## Luftwaffe Lost 2,100 in 8 Wks.

More than 2,100 German airplanes have been destroyed in the last eight weeks by an "invading force" of 170,000 American fliers of the Eighth and Ninth Air Forces, Lt. Gen. James A. Doolittle, commanding the Eighth Air Force, said in a broadcast to the National Press Club of Washington last night.

Gen. Doolittle disclosed that since Feb. 1, 26,000 tons of bombs have been dropped on targets in Germany, with an additional 11,000 tons on targets in occupied countries.

"Tonnage figures alone, however, may be misleading," the general said. "The important question is: What did those bombs hit? In that connection, I can report that since Feb. 20, 16 major factories producing aircraft or aircraft equipment have been hit. Eight targets have been either destroyed or so severely damaged that production has ceased entirely or is greatly curtailed."

The goal of strategic bombing is the destruction of Germany's vital war industry, Gen. Doolittle said, in emphasizing the fact that mechanized warfare was essentially a matter of production.

"Our immediate goal is the destruction or the neutralization of the German Air Force, the one factor which might have defeated our purpose had it been permitted to develop and expand according to known German plans," Doolittle said.

"In most of our recent operations, the German fighters have shown little inclination to come up and fight, an indication that their losses are now exceeding their replacements, and that they are conserving their forces."

Gen. Doolittle's figures of German aircraft destroyed include those planes, not heretofore reported, which photo interpretation officers know to have been destroyed when German aircraft factories, hangars and storehouses were bombed.

His figure on the "invading force" included only those airmen who have been over Germany in the last two months.

## Promising Young Pilot Lost With Ace's Plane

AN EIGHTH ARMY FIGHTER BASE, Mar. 28—The "world's hottest fighter plane," the P47 belonging to Capt. Bob Johnson, leading ETO ace, has been lost, and with it the promising 19-year-old pilot to whom Johnson loaned it for a Berlin escort job.

The Thunderbolt, which Johnson had named Lucky, was loaned to a friend who had destroyed three Germans in nine tries and, in Johnson's opinion, was "the most promising fighter pilot we ever had." He ran into trouble and went down in the Channel.

"Lucky was the fastest on the field and everyone liked to fly it," the ace said. Johnson now has a new Thunderbolt, Lucky II.

Piqua, Ohio, two Mustang pilots, each were credited with two German planes, bringing their totals to 19 each. Zenke group mates of Bob Johnson held their lead, however, when Maj. Walker Mahurin boosted his kill record to 21 and Lt. Col. Francis Gabreski, of Oil City, Pa., destroyed two for a total of 20.

One group of Eighth Air Force Mustangs claimed the destruction of 26 German planes, 23 on the ground and three in the air. The P51 group led by Maj. James A. Clark Jr., of Westbury, L.I., N.Y., wiped one French airfield clear of German planes. Pilots identified Ju52s, Ju88s, Me210s, 110s and 410s, He177s, a Do217 and a French-built training plane on the field when they started in and they left none of them.

Maj. Clark, himself, destroyed two. 2/Lt. Gerald E. Montgomery, of Littlefield, Tex., scored the day's only triple.

Hunt Missing Radium

BUFFALO, N.Y., Mar. 28—Police are hunting an inch-long capsule of radium sulphate valued at \$15,000, and capable of causing fatal burns to a person carrying it. The capsule, used to detect flaws in metal, is missing from the vault of the Bison Casting Co.

## U.S. Soldiers Show the Queen How They Handle V-Mail Flood

The Queen, in the course of a tour of the British General Postoffice yesterday, smiled a "hello" at the eight EMs and a second looey who handle all the incoming V-mail for this theater.

While the men, with their British civilian helpers, worked on the machines that speed the letters through, Col. James M. Francy, deputy chief of staff, G1, of Philadelphia, and Maj. Dean Avise, of Chicago, of the Post Division, explained to the Queen the working of the complicated American machines that fold and envelop the mail. The outfit handles many thousands of V-mails a day, never holding mail in the office overnight.

This small unit receives the photographed letters from the Kodak Co. already sorted into units, and the men, all former civilian postoffice workers, with the help of British workers and American

machines prepare the mail for unit delivery.

2/Lt. Jerome Jasko, of the Bronx, N.Y., with six years' experience in New York postoffices, is in charge. The senior non-com, M/Sgt. Earl Griffin, of Griffin, Ga., is an old-time postoffice worker; T/5 Cecil Starr formerly was foreman of the city division in Houston, Tex., before he delivered himself a letter from the President. T/5 Bruce Ray, of Paris, Tex., was a rural carrier.

A demonstration of how the enveloping machine works was given for the Queen by S/Sgt. Paul H. Shaak, of Sheridan, Pa., former postmaster there. Others present were:

T/5s David Trotter, of the Bronx, N.Y.; Francis J. Keeffe, of Boston; Clare D. Watts, of Pittsburgh; Pfc Joseph L. Amara, of Stonington, Conn., and 1/Lt. Cecil E. Mason, of Hampton, S.C., who set up the section six months ago and now is postal officer for APO 887.

## NEWS FROM HOME

# 21 Die, 22 Hurt In Hotel Fire in San Francisco

## Arson Suspected as Blaze Sweeps Building in Industrial District

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 28—Eighteen men and three women perished early today when a fire that Chief Albert J. Sullivan described as "undoubtedly of incendiary origin" swept the three-story, 70-room New Amsterdam Hotel in the city's industrial district.

Twenty-two others were injured, many of them when they jumped from windows before four fire brigades brought the blaze under control.

Sullivan, announcing that police were searching for a suspected arsonist, said "the fire broke out too quickly and swept through the hotel too quickly to be of ordinary origin."

Three other fires of unknown origin were reported within a quarter-mile radius earlier in the night. Eleven other similar blazes broke out at near-by Oakland last week.

Officials feared the hotel toll would be increased when firemen completed a search of the building. Approximately 100 persons resided there.

Names of the charred dead were not immediately determined.

Rejections Disputed

BOISE, Idaho, Mar. 28—Brig. Gen. M. C. McConnell, state director of selective service, conducted a test to prove what he claimed was a tendency on the part of the Spokane (Wash.) induction center to reject too many men. He said 22 out of 30 who were rejected at Spokane for psycho-neurosis were accepted at the induction center here. Ten northern Idaho counties normally sent their registrants to Spokane.

WAC Back

FORT STEVENS, Ore., Mar. 28—WAC Pvt. Marjorie Dorothy Olds, of Dayton, Ohio, has chalked up another honor. In addition to being the youngest WAC to serve overseas and former private telephone operator for Gen. Eisenhower, Pvt. Olds now is the first overseas WAC to return to the States. She is stationed here, and has been in the service 19 months.

Solitude Breeds No Fans

HOLLYWOOD, Mar. 28—Greta Garbo, who decided after years of torrid celluloid love-making with John Gilbert that she wanted "to be alone," has changed her mind after three years and wants to come back to the screen. Producer Lester Cowan announced she would appear in a picture based on exploits of the Norwegian merchant marine.

Child's Body Found in Swamp

LAWRENCE, Mass., Mar. 28—Hundreds of police and volunteers, aided by two Army planes, conducted a 26-hour search for five-year-old Jackie Schiavone, whose body was found in a swamp about five miles from his home. A medical examiner said death was due to accidental drowning.

Utilities Tycoon Arrested

CHICAGO, Mar. 28 (Reuter)—Secret Service agents yesterday arrested Milton Lambert, president of the General Gas and Electric Co., on a charge of selling counterfeit coupons for 85,000 gallons of gasoline.

Magnesium Plant Hit by Fire

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 28—A \$200,000 unit of a magnesium casting factory here was destroyed by fire. Six men were injured.

Mine Blast Fatal to 16

CLARKSBURG, W. Va., Mar. 28—The death toll from an explosion in a mine of the Katherine Coal Co. has been officially listed at 16.

Blonde Is Given Life Term For Poisoning Her Spouse

WAYNESBURG, Pa., Mar. 28—Mrs. Nancy Jeannette Holt, a pretty 29-year-old blonde from Frederick, Okla., showed no emotion when she was sentenced to life imprisonment for the poison-slaying of her 33-year-old husband, Jesse Holt. Judge Waychoff told her that only her sex saved her from the electric chair.

## Terry and the Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



## By Milton Caniff