

THE CHINA LANTERN

VOL. 3, NO. 9—APRIL 6, 1945

PRECENSORED FOR MAILING

FOR U. S. ARMED FORCES

3rd SURGES AHEAD



CROSSING THE MOSELLE—In sturdy assault boats, 3rd Army Yanks paddle across the Moselle River to join other U. S. forces at Coblenz. In the same type boats and in a bright moonlight setting, General Patton's troops made their way to the east bank of the Rhine without losing a man.

JAPAN BATTLE ABOUT TO BEGIN

WASHINGTON, April 5.—What might be called the "Ocean phase" of the war against Japan is virtually completed and a new and decisive stage of the Pacific war has been opened by the great daring and superb strategy of Admiral Nimitz.

The invasion of the Ryukyu Islands opens the battle for the "Fortress of Japan", for the remote mandated islands, pinpoints lost in the vast distances of the Pacific, have been captured or bypassed.

The conquest of Okinawa and the adjacent islands of the Ryukyu marks the most important strategic gain of the whole Pacific war up to this date. For the first time the American Air Force will have enough elbow room in the right place to really turn the power on Japan.

Ten thousand raids on Japan's industrial cities may be expected within six months. Ten for ten, the bombs dropped will damage Japan's vulnerable munition areas more than Germany's have been in the air blitz on Europe. At the same time Japan's looked empire will be isolated and gradually reconquered, and there will almost certainly be Allied landings on the Chius Coast.

'FRISCO CONFERENCE MAY BE ABANDONED

LONDON, April 5.—Not only the postponement of the San Francisco Conference, but even its abandonment is now being regarded as a distinct possibility.

Russia's sharp demand that the Lublin Administration should be invited to the Conference came as a bombshell to the Foreign Office in London and the State Department in Washington.

The British and American government refused this demand. The resultant deadlock appears to be a very serious one, especially in view of the sharp tone of the Russian announcement which definitely suggests that the Soviet government may itself refuse to attend unless Lublin is invited.

Reds Capture Bratislava; Push Into Vienna Outskirts

MOSCOW, April 5.—Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, and one of the most important strategic railway functions in Central Europe, has been captured, states Marshal Stalin in an Order of the Day.

Two Soviet spearheads, tipped with armored units which rank among the cream of Russian tank armies, are aimed at the heart of Vienna.

Four Wehrmacht units are racing through the streets of Vienna to join battle with the Russians almost at the gates of the city.

Soviet troops are now only five miles south-east of Vienna. Baden has been captured. In addition, the whole of Hungary has now been cleared of German forces. These successes are announced in Wednesday night's Soviet communiqué.

The communiqué also reports the capture yesterday of total of more than 13,000 German prisoners—north of Bratislava and in southwest Hungary and in Yugoslavia. War material seized included 142 planes.

Marshal Tolbukhin's troops have reached the Alps and the entrance to the 3,000 feet high Semmering Pass and hold 18 miles of the vital rail line to the German troops in northern Italy, which crosses the Pass southward to Graz, Trieste and Venice.

Soviet troops have crossed the river Layta and have cut railways

and highways leading from the captured town of Wiener Neustadt to Vienna.

If Marshal Tolbukhin's troops cannot be stemmed in the thickly populated area just south of the city, Russian troops will be breaking into Vienna in a matter of hours.

While Russian storm troops mass for a break into the city, heavy pressure is already being exerted towards the garrisons escape routes to the west.

The crumbling of barriers protecting Vienna, which occupies a position comparable to that of Munich in the west as one of the great bastions of Hitler's southern fortress, has been marked by frenzied German attempts to hold firm. But tanks the Germans now need so desperately are rusting around Budapest and the speed of the Soviet offensive may prevent reinforcements, even if they are available arriving in time.

The German troops trapped east of Danzig are making repeated attacks. Soviet troops, however, have repelled all the German attacks and inflicted heavy losses. The Soviet air force sank two German transports in the Gulf of Danzig.

Patton, Russians May Merge In Leipzig Area Within Week

LONDON, April 5.—Gen. Patton, now driving a powerful armored wedge through the center of Germany, may contact the Russians in the Leipzig area within a week and make the battle of Leipzig the end of the Third Reich.

Today Gen. Patton is about 75 miles from this third center while the Russians are about 125 miles away. It appears that Patton is deliberately sticking out his neck by advancing his armored division into a territory where the Germans still have the largest concentration.

Half of the German troops on

125 MILES TO BERLIN; 165 FROM RED LINES

WITH THE US THIRD ARMY, April 5.—Gen. Patton's Sixth Armored Division has advanced 22 miles and entered Muelhausen nearly 30 miles northwest of Erfurt.

On the southern sector, Patton's spearhead, which is driving through Thuringia towards Leipzig, has been broadened by an advance to a point 16-miles east on Schmalkalden, where resistance is reported to be slackening.

Third Army columns sweeping along the Frankfurt-Berlin highway have overrun Adlerhorst—Eagle's Nest—a subterranean hideout of 1,000 rooms where Hitler and Mussolini planned their early war campaigns.

Extra! RED-JAP PACT DENOUNCED

LONDON, April 5.—The Moscow radio tonight announced that the Soviet-Japanese neutrality pact has been denounced.

KING EXPLAINS ENEMY ERRORS

NEW YORK, April 5.—Fleet Adm. Ernest J. King, commander-in-chief of the US fleet and chief of naval operations, said in a speech here that Germany and Japan had blundered in paying too little attention to all elements of sea power.

"By placing their major confidence upon the airplane, the Nazis failed to thrust across the English channel. They massed tanks and infantry at the water's edge—and there they stopped. Their provisions for amphibious warfare, which we have so highly developed, were inadequate."

"Japan, too, blundered. Perhaps the weakest link in her naval armor was her inability to protect her merchant marine. In their lightning offensive of 1941-42, the Japanese sprawled their forces over an expanse greater than their merchant marine could effectively serve."

REPORT GERMANY READY TO SURRENDER

MADRID, April 5.—(UP).—According to reports reaching highly authoritative quarters, Germany's highest military officials have reached a final decision that Germany must capitulate.

According to the same sources, military commanders in the west have established contact through the Vatican with Gen. Eisenhower and are seeking an agreement over details of capitulation.

LONDON, April 5.—The Seventh US Army advancing up the Neckar river has reached Bockingen, on the west bank opposite Heilbron, and captured Mueckshu, 15 miles to the northeast.

While the Germans are fighting desperately to keep open an escape gap from Holland, where the Allies are racing for the Zuider Zee, British troops are pouring out of the big break-through in northern Germany and are in the outskirts of Minden, and important town 50 miles southwest of Bremen and have entered Muelhausen, 30 miles northwest of Erfurt.

The Eleventh Allied Armored Division which forced the Moser river, has stormed ahead to positions more than a seven miles northwest of Minden.

At the eastern end of the advance into Germany the Allies have expanded their bridgehead over the Dortmund-Ems canal where a major threat is developing to the important ports of Emden, Wilhelmshaven and Bremen.

Berlin reported that Canadian troops have crossed the Waal river south of Arnhem, after German rearguards had been withdrawn.

Gen. Dempsey's Sixth Airborne Division, bypassing Osnabrueck on the south, has reached the western outskirts of Minden, the western bastion guarding the road to Hanover, and linked up there with Gen. Simpson's Ninth US Army.

Field Marshal Montgomery's Forces today threaten the German North Sea ports while Gen. Patton's armored spearheads are fifty miles from the Czechoslovak border, just over 170 miles from the Russian lines.

The Canadians fighting in Zutphen on the northern corner of the Zuider Zee are rapidly closing the trap on the German Garrison in central Holland.

JAPAN'S CABINET QUILTS "EN BLOC"

LONDON, April 5.—The Japanese News Agency reports that the Japanese Cabinet under Gen. Koiso resigned today.

Later an official communiqué issued in Tokyo said: "In view of the gravity of the situation the Cabinet has decided to resign en bloc in order to open the way for a far more powerful administration."

Premier Koiso accordingly tendered collective resignation of his Cabinet to the Throne today.

The announcement of the resignation follows a Tokyo radio statement early this morning that an extraordinary cabinet meeting was held at the Japanese prime minister's official residence. The radio said that all the cabinet members headed by the prime minister were present and "current matters" were discussed. The Japanese prime minister then went to the Imperial Palace to submit a report.

Tremendous Booty Taken In Germany

LONDON, April 5.—Allied divisions are moving forward so fast in Germany that the Germaners have no chance carry out organized sabotage, with the result that the booty being captured by the Allies is enormous.

There are great German factories, stores, and warehouses in working order, some of them loaded with supplies, stocked warehouses and crated machinery.

Most of the Germans in the areas that have been overrun seem delighted that the war is over and are prepared to obey docilely any orders they are given.

Germany's defenses appear to be completely uncoordinated and there does not seem to be any Nazi headquarters behind their lines in which reports of Allied movements are going. The Wehrmacht's staff officers are fleeing east ahead of their troops.

To add to the general confusion, some German troops are trying to escape by disguising themselves as women. At the same time, German command elements try to get through to Allied command posts to arrange for the mass evacuation of their families long before the Allies reach their lines, so as to escape the terrorism of the Wehrmacht and the Gestapo.

Nazi Army Morale All Shot To . . .

STOCKHOLM, April 5.—German newspapers and radio reports make it clear that total demoralization is spreading across Germany from west to east. Although all possible propaganda devices are being used in a last effort to spur on the people, the Germans do not seem able to raise anything comparable to the "Battle of Britain" spirit.

The great mass of the Germans now seem not to care what happens either to the Nazis or the Army.

Allied panzer groups are travelling around in small detachments to the next in groups of from 30 to 50 vehicles, much as they please. In many cases the Germans seem surprised by the sight of the tanks.

To counter this panic the German radio is broadcasting short reports of the situation in the west every half hour.

The situation in the whole area for a hundred miles east of the Rhine on all sides of the unobscured Ruhr is becoming hourly more unbelievable, says a special correspondent with the Ninth Army.

Allied soldiers, convoys of German troops, German civilians and slave workers are all mixed up in confusion. Field commanders say that there is no longer any semblance of resistance ahead, and the roads are in first-class condition.

RANDALL RAIDERS GETS 3 JAPS IN 7 SECONDS

HAI, WEST CHINA RAIDERS.—The longevity of the average Jap pilot when Lt. Leonard H. Reeves of Lancaster, Tex., pilot of the yellow Scorpion fighter squadron, is within trigger-pulling vicinity is just barely a matter of seconds.

Returning from a recent mission with the Scorpions' hottest Squadron of Brig. Gen. Russell E. Randall's west China raiders, Lt. Reeves reported a field-day bag of three enemy planes. Corp. Albert R. Darnold, armament crew chief, Bakersfield, Cal., was on hand near the refueling pit when Reeves taxied in. He hopped on the wings to check the guns and was amazed to discover that only 50 rounds had been fired from each gun.

Later, S/Sgt. Bernard A. Symonico, Pittsburg, Pa., the Scorpions' armament flight chief, computed that Lt. Reeves had accounted for the three Jap planes in only seven seconds. "That," said Sgt. Symonico, "is what I call giving the people their defense bond's worth of Tojo bait."

GOERING DEAD SAYS CAPTURED PRINCE

LONDON, April 5.—The Prince of Aachen, the first German prince to fall into Allied hands, told a correspondent in his castle at Badrichen, near Hamm, that he had heard a report from private sources that Hermann Goering was dead, but that he could not get it confirmed.

The Prince believed that when the news came that Goering was dead, it was a surprise and he was preparing to escape.

CHUNGKING WARNS OFF FORTUNE TELLERS

CHUNGKING (By Air Mail).—The Chinese Government has again ordered fortune-tellers and the makers of various kinds of "sacred" paper, to stop their business. The sacred paper is used by the fortune-tellers in writing out their prophecies.

A spokesman of the Government's social affairs bureau said that there are some 500 fortune-tellers and 3,000 makers of sacred paper in Chungking.

"Such people may cause trouble when they only means of making a living is cut off and so we have to act cautiously when dealing with them," he added.

Navigator Saves CACW Bomb Crew

AN ADVANCED AIR BASE, CHINA.—Split-second thinking and instant action by the navigator when the pilot of a single-control Chinese-American Wing bomber was instantly killed by enemy ground fire, recently saved the rest of the crew from almost certain death.

While making a pass over a train, the pilot was killed when a bullet pierced his brain. Lt. Robert W. Blake, Lubbock, Tex. who has only been on duty in China two months and was on one of his first combat missions, took control and quickly pulled the plane out of the dive. Assisted by the other members of the crew, Blake removed the body of the flyer from the pilot's seat in order to fly the ship in.

Fighting in bad weather, Lt. Blake took a heading for his home base. In the meantime, preparations were made to attempt to drop the pilot's body by chute over the field. This effort failed at first as the crew could not get the hatch open. When they finally succeeded the bomber was approximately 10 miles from the base.

The body of the pilot was dropped and then Lt. Blake and his companions bailed out of the plane. The bomber crashed and was destroyed by flames. The crew landed safely, suffering only minor bruises, and soon reached their home base.

Dokinawa Walk-over Surprises Marines

NEW YORK, April 5.—Japan has presented America with the biggest surprise of the war by her failure to oppose the Okinawa landings.

American marines, who landed under cover of the heaviest naval bombardment in history, expected that this would be the fiercest fight that they had yet faced, but virtually nothing happened although the island held over 80,000 Japanese and was known to bristle with defenses, and above all, is Japan's back door.

US commanders were asking if the Japanese had withdrawn their main forces because their expectation at two Japs had made them decide to make the Japanese homeland itself their 'Fortress Europa'.

GERMANS BLEW UP THE GRAF ZEPPELIN

WITH THE US 8TH ARMY.—The Germans have destroyed the Graf Zeppelin, the famous transatlantic airship, known to thousands for its pre-war flights.

After Gen. Patton's troops captured Germany's second largest airport—the former home of Zeppelins—outside Frankfurt, a former assistant engineer on the airship said that when the war began the Luftwaffe decided that Zeppelins were impracticable.

"So we blew up the Graf Zeppelin in its hangar," he said, "and melted down its metal frame work."

LUMBER STOCKS DECLINE

WASHINGTON — (AP)—United States lumber stocks at saw mills and concentration yards declined 20.2 per cent in 1944, the War Production Board says. Hardwoods totalled 1,070,305,000 board feet, a reduction of 20.8 per cent, at the end of the year. Softwoods at 2,578,695,000 board feet were down 20.2 per cent.

CACW FLYERS DECORATED DURING FIELD REVIEW

AN ADVANCED AIR BASE, CHINA.—Headquarters personnel of the Fourteenth Air Force's Chinese-American Composite Wing participated recently in a field review at which three officers and one enlisted man were decorated by Brig. Gen. Winslow C. Morse, commanding general of the wing.

Col. T. Alan Bennett, deputy wing commander, received two decorations—the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. The Air Medal was presented Maj. Monclure N. Lyon Jr., Purcellville, Va.; Capt. Leo C. Baker of Indianapolis, Ind.; and S/Sgt. Lester L. Fulmer.

Col. Bennett, Winter Park, Fla., and former commanding officer of the "A's Assassins" Fighter Group, received the DFC for participating in 36 combat missions and 102 hours of flight in tactical and transport-type aircraft. He was awarded the Air Medal for having completed more than 100 hours of combat flight in medium bombers.

Flight instructor Col. Bennett, a member of the Army Air Force for nearly 13 years, has flown more than 3,000 hours in all types of aircraft.

Maj. Lyon, Capt. Baker and S/Sgt. Fulmer were awarded the Air Medal for having flown more than 100 combat hours in the medium bombers of the "Lucky Lady" squadron.

With all officers and enlisted men of the CACW headquarters participating in the review, the citations accompanying the awards were read by Lt.-Col. William B. McGehee, wing adjutant.

BLONDE AND BEAUTIFUL Janice Carter, a sucker for advertising, applies a few dabs of suntan lotion, in just the right shade. The straw bonnet in the lower left suggest an idea swiped from China.



WHAT NOW? Young Nazi captured in frontline trench enroute to Krefeld, turns to befuddled looking fellow German prisoner for advice.

Broadway Slump Worst In 10 Years

By Jack O'Brian, Drama Editor

NEW YORK (AP)—Broadway is in a slump, probably its lowest in ten years. First of all it's the curfew. Night club business is off 25 to 50 per cent. Legitimate shows are doing considerably less business, with only three or four top hits selling out every performance. Even the little saloons and restaurants are feeling a considerable drop in business.

The brownout, too, comes in for a share of the blame. Broadway experts say it has a negative psychological effect on the ebullient spirits which normally would effervesce all over the area, with resultant big spending.

The next explanation is income tax which, night club owners, producers and ticket agency men say, is keeping folks at home, both in an attempt to figure out the forms and the more important job of finding the money to pay Uncle Sam.

Another is that war casualties bring tragedy close to home with a resultant avoidance of celebrations. Prolonged cold weather, the annual Lenten droop in entertainment, and complaint that entertainment costs too much have been other factors in the slump.

USAAF Vets Being Employed By ATSC

DAYTON, OHIO (ANS)—Every veteran discharged from the Army Air Forces can have a job, if he wants it, with the Army Technical Service Command under a plan announced this week at Wright Field by Lt. Gen. William S. Knudsen, director.

The Command has more than 6,000 types of jobs in 137 installations, Col. Ralph Nemo, chief of personnel and base services of veterans said. As long as vacancies exist the veterans will be given jobs in capacities which will utilize their skills and experience.

Some veterans, under the plan, will be eligible for specialized training. He will be entitled to the same privileges as any Federal employee, and will hold veterans preference rating of ten points in any examination for an ATSC job.

SUPER PLANE TO TAKE HITLER TO TOKYO?

LONDON, April 5.—Stories of a super aircraft, built specially to carry Hitler from Germany to Japan are quoted by a writer in a London paper who says that the information has reached a London businessman who has close associations in Sweden.

The super plane is said to have been built in the Messerschmidt works and to be stationed now on the Lech tableland, conveniently close to Berchtesgaden.

One of the pilots is named Boise and he is reported already to have made test flights between Berlin and Tokyo. The distance is about 5,000 miles which is well within the range of a big aircraft fitted with extra tanks, especially if it has been specially designed for long flights.

Ike No. 1 American On Military Gov't

WASHINGTON (ANS)—Gen. Eisenhower will be the number one American on the military government to run postwar Germany, the Whitehouse revealed last week in announcing Maj. Gen. Lucius D. Clay has been named Eisenhower's deputy to handle civil affairs when the Nazis are defeated. Clay will take over "when Eisenhower, as Supreme Commander, assumes control under arrangement agreed upon for the occupation of Germany."

Eisenhower's designation confirmed to a degree the speculation that the administration of Germany would be handled by a commission with headquarters in Berlin. Clay's precise duties were not revealed by the Whitehouse said Roosevelt believes him particularly qualified to handle the job "developing the organization of occupied Germany and administering it." Clay, attached to the Army's procurement section, is generally credited with instigating many of War Mobilizer Byrne's recent decrees to make the home front more war-conscious.

Clay, 46, a graduate of West Point, is from Marietta, Ga.

Record Number Of US Full Generals

WASHINGTON (ANS)—The Army now has the greatest number of full generals in United States History. The Senate last week confirmed nominations of nine, raising to 11 the number of four-star generals now on active duty.

Four of the new generals hold the permanent rank of major-general in the regular army. They are, Brehon E. Somervell, Army Service Forces commander, Joseph T. McNarney, Deputy Allied Commander in the Mediterranean, Omar N. Bradley, commander, Twelfth Army Group in Europe, Walter Krueger, Sixth Army in the Southwest Pacific and Carl Spaatz, commander United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe.

Others who hold the permanent rank as brigadier generals are George C. Kenny, commander Far East Air Forces, Mark W. Clark, commander, Fifteenth Army Group in Italy, Jacob L. Devers, commander, Sixth Army Group in Europe and Thomas T. Handy, deputy chief of staff, Generals of the Army Marshall, Eisenhower, MacArthur and Arnold hold five-star rank.

WEEKLY REVIEW THE CHINA LANTERN OF THE WAR

Veering closer to Berlin, First and Third Army tanks drove 20 miles last Friday across the Eder River, 183 miles south west of the German capital, as rising American columns to the north moved on German troops in the Ruhr.

Five Allied armies were slashing so swiftly through collapsed resistance that reports trailed far behind and a news blackout shrouded details. However, the Ninth was reported to be racing across the northern fringe of the Ruhr between a junction with north bound armored columns of the First Army. The First entered Pritlar, 16 miles from Kassel, and the Third was in the vicinity of Tyersa, 15 miles to the south which the First had already reached. Hedelberg fell to the Seventh Army, which pressed east along the Neckar River valley which goes behind the Black Forest toward the Bavarian Alps.

NAZI DEFENSE BROKEN

A captured high-ranking German officer told his Third Army captors on Friday, "There is not any organized line of defense between you and Berlin and there is not any organized system of government left in Germany."

American armor pushed to within 170 miles of Berlin at two points on Saturday in the vanguard of an avalanche of 5,000 tanks which surged swiftly through Germany. A security silence continued to mask the extent of gains made by the five Allied armies.

The Ruhr basin was severed from Germany Saturday after a 30 mile smash by the Ninth Army. American tanks moved on to the Ruhr through the Reich, 170 miles from Berlin and 130 miles from Munich,

- 'NO ORGANIZED NAZI DEFENSE TO BERLIN'
FIRST, NINTH ARMIES IN JUNCTURE
100,000 GERMANS TRAPPED IN RUHR
RUSSIANS MOVE INTO AUSTRIA
POWERFUL BRITISH SHIPS IN PACIFIC
LEGASPI, SULU ARCHIPELAGO INVAD-ED

day, while other Allied armies mopped up anywhere up to 100,000 Germans trapped in the encircled Ruhr. SHAEF said that all of the German army Group B containing the last tank army opposing the Allied

The First and Ninth tightened the Ruhr trap on 110,000 Nazis trying for a break through Tuesday.

The Russians declared Wednesday that all Hungary had been freed of the Germans and Baden, less than ten miles from Vienna, captured. Moscow confirmed the German reports that Soviet troops crossed the Yugoslav frontier from Hungary and at least nine localities in Yugoslavia were captured. The Second Ukrainian Army took Bratislava capital of Slovakia thus laying open approaches to Vienna from the east.

ENTER VIENNA OUTSKIRTS Other Red Army forces already were surging through the administrative district of greater Vienna and were within six miles of the city proper.

UNCHECKED OFFENSIVE The Third Army fought on a 100-mile front toward Jena, capturing Kassel, Gotha and Suhl in an unchecked offensive Wednesday to cut Germany in two and join the Russians 160-miles to the east.

The British offensive seized Osnabrueck and fought six miles north toward the North Sea and were 55-miles from Bremen, still operating under a partial security news blackout.

As street fighting erupted in Wuerzburg, Heilbronn, Hamm and Zutphen, the Ninth Army menaced Hannover and fought inside the rail yards at Hamm.

The First Army tightened its hold on the Ruhr from the south and the southeast, capturing Siegen and advancing north to the vicinity of Kiefeld.

26,000 PRISONERS IN DAY The First and Ninth linked again at Westerleden, near Lippstadt, where both joined Sunday on the eastern side of the Ruhr pocket.

Seventh Army was within 34-miles of Nuernberg on Wednesday and flanking the Black Forest.

Five of the nine Allied armies reported 26,000 prisoners taken during the day on Wednesday.

The British reached the Ems river, Wednesday, 48 miles from the north sea in a drive to trap 90,000 Germans in Holland.

The US Third fought down the last 48 miles toward Czechoslovakia and for Gotha, 140 miles southwest of Berlin.

The Ninth Army reached the Weser river at Bad Ceynhausen taking Selzufen, Drenhje and Hollinde and fought into Detmould, southwest of Hannover.

The Russian Front

Russian troops moved into Austria 52 miles south of Vienna Saturday and, farther to the north-east stepped off the assault toward Bratislava. Another Soviet offensive menaced Vienna from the northeast rolling toward the Moravian gap. On the southern end of the Hungary front, Soviet troops Saturday smashed to within 134 miles of the Italian frontier.

The previous fall of Danzig freed an army of 50 Russian divisions for the coming battle of Berlin.

Russian tanks, also on Saturday, rolled 22 miles across southwestern Hungary to reach the Austrian border at a new point, 39 miles east of Graz and 117 miles from Italy. Marshal Stalin announced Sunday that the Third Ukrainian army stormed into Austria on a 23 mile front and was at that time 33 miles due south of Vienna. Soviet troops overran more than 70 Austrian towns while advancing on Weiner Neustadt, important aircraft factory city.

While Russian troops battled three miles east of Weiner Neustadt in Austria Monday, other Soviet columns smashed to within 20 miles of Vienna against the Germans in the Bratislava gap, between captured Sopron, and Weiner Neustadt, and were four miles from the vital railway linking Vienna with northern Italy.

30,000 NAZIS SURRENDER East of Bratislava the Second Ukrainian army moved down the Karpaty mountains west of Trnava. Within 12 miles of the capital of the puppet state of Slovakia, more than 30,000 Nazi prisoners surrendered in a 24 hour period Monday as the Third Ukrainian army advanced along the eastern front.

Pacific

A powerful military task force joined the mighty American naval assault on the Ryukyu island approach to the Japanese homeland

last week-end. The British Force included the battleship King George V and carrier Illustrious which are attached to Adm. Sprance's Fifth US Fleet. This is the first of the Royal Navy to strike an offensive blow so close to Japan.

An American landing force estimated at up to 100,000 men dug in late Sunday for their first night ashore on Okinawa Island in the central Ryukyu. Beachheads were seized by combined Army and Marine units of the new Tenth Army. Against what was described as unbelievably light resistance the beachhead was extended to nine miles long and three miles deep. Only light mortar and artillery fire met the invaders the following morning.

100,000 JAP DEAD

American troops clearing out Japanese on the Philippines on a dozen fronts counted a total 100,000 enemy dead early this week bringing the total for the campaign to 307,000 against American total losses of 20,000 dead, wounded and missing. Gen. MacArthur's headquarters announced Sunday that mechanized troops had captured Bacolod, provincial capital of Negros Island near the central Philippines on Friday. The Japanese garrison there fled without offering serious resistance and were pursued northward by tanks and tank destroyers. Bacolod, center of the pre-war industry, was reported 85 percent undamaged.

The American Thirty-third Division advanced to within five miles of Baguio, Philippine summer capital high in the Benguet mountains of northern Luzon. It was announced Sunday. Three spearheads were closing in on Baguio, one approached from the west and occupied the town of Galliano, the second column, five miles to the north was driving down the road from Laguanian; and the third was five miles from Baguio's city limits on the southeast.

SULU INVAD-ED

New American landing this week were on Legaspi in the Philippines, on the southeastern tail of Luzon. The landing was made Sunday with "little loss." The southern tip of the Sulu Archipelago was reported as being invaded by MacArthur on Tuesday. The seizure of Tawi "seriously jeopardizes the enemy's main position in the Sulu Archipelago," the communique said.



as the Fifteenth Army joined the battle at an undisclosed sector.

ARMY LOSES CONTROL

At this point Gen. Eisenhower, in a broadcast, called on the German army to surrender declaring that its commanders had lost all control over many units and Hitler's government had lost its powers over wide areas of the Reich.

The Canadian First Army on the north-west was 10 miles beyond the Rhine Saturday driving into Holland, liberating a dozen Dutch towns as it closed on Arnheim.

SHAEF partly lifted its security news-blackout Sunday night to disclose that American First and Ninth spearheads had come together at Lippstadt, 17 miles west of Paderborn, in Germany, closing the trap on perhaps as 500,000 enemy troops in the Ruhr.

The Third Army's 4th Armored Division rolled ahead on the super-highway connecting Frankfurt with Berlin and by Sunday night was just south of Nesselroden, 137 miles from the German capital. Meanwhile British forces in the north, spanning out in ten huge columns, were striking toward the North Sea.

100,000 NAZIS TRAPPED

The Third Army, 208 miles from the Russians, drove into Fulda and Kassel, 165 miles from Berlin, Mon-

armies in the west was caught in the Ruhr trap closed Sunday by the First and Ninth.

A security blackout veiled advances of the British Second Army toward north German ports. German Army Group H were reported to be pulling out of Holland because of the threat of a drive north of Elsen.

SEVERE OPPOSITION FOR THIRD

American Third Army units near Kassel, 40 miles below Paderborn, encountered severest opposition since crossing the Rhine river and the Germans were reported rushing reinforcements of armor and infantry to the east bank of the Fulda river for an attempted stand against the American Fourth and Sixth Armored Divisions which were deployed along a 30-mile front stretching south to Hersfeld.

The British Second Army had encircled Mauterach Monday and driving 50 miles beyond as the First and Ninth despite stiffening German resistance scored new gains.

The Third Army dashed 19 miles to the outskirts of Gotha, 140 miles from Berlin, Tuesday and moved to within 65 miles of Czechoslovakia. Sixty miles behind a fluid front. The Third Army fought a house to house battle before capturing Kassel,



2 Texas Gls Design China Base Crash Crew Equipment

AIR BASE, APO 627, CHINA: Getting there "firstest with the mostest" is the motto of S/Sgt. Andrew T. Lane, Texarkana, Tex., and Pfc. Roy E. Woody, Dallas, Tex., co-designers of a highly successful type of equipment used by 14th Air Force airplane crash crews.

Starting several months ago with only one vehicle and little equipment, these two Texas soldiers got their heads together and worked out the problem of faster and better rescue and fire fighting work at the scene of an aircraft accident.

They got a jeep, a weapons carrier and a 2 1/2-ton truck. On the jeep they put a two-way radio, a first aid kit, including stretcher and blankets, and fire-fighting gear. The weapons carrier was equipped with heavier fire-fighting material and tools for breaking into a ship where crewmen might be trapped. A water tank of large capacity and a pump engine were installed on the truck. All three vehicles were equipped with powerful searchlights for night work. With their commanding officer, Lt. Gordon E. Hair, Wichita,



S/Sgt. Andrew T. Lane, left, and Pfc. Roy E. Woody in the radio equipped jeep.

Kans, they comprised a crew for 24-hour duty. The men have been trained to handle the equipment quickly and well. They know every type of airplane that might come in at their base.

Should an airplane crash at this base the crash crew on duty can be at the scene of the accident and in action within three minutes, so well is their equipment designed and the training carried out.

Sgt. Lane and Pfc. Woody, using the knowledge gained from better than a year's experience at rescue work on this base, had a two-fold purpose in mind when they installed the two-way radio system.

First, if an airplane came down with mechanical trouble, it would have to be "talked in." The crash crew, working from its post well down the runway, can see the ship coming and radio instructions through the tower to the pilot. This "talk-in" has kept many an accident from being serious.

Secondly, the crash may have happened away from the base. As soon as word comes in that such an accident has happened, a reconnaissance airplane takes off to search for it. At the same time the crash crew starts out in their trucks. When the searching plane finds the wreck the pilot radios to the crash truck and guides it to the scene. If more help should be needed the rescue team is able to radio back to base, asking for whatever is wanted. Time and lives are saved this way.

Speed in action has given the crash crew the name of "The Green Hornets."

Eyes Of World On San Francisco

Because the destiny of the world will be moulded at the forthcoming San Francisco Conference, scheduled to begin on April 25, the 'China Lantern' will devote considerable space to complete coverage of the conference as well as to pertinent background material. The analyses in this issue were written by competent students of world politics.—The Editor.

Roosevelt Hopeful That US Senate Will Support Conference Recommendations

By GRAHAM HOVEY

WASHINGTON, April 5 (AP).—With the whole world standing by, Pres. Roosevelt, reporting to Congress on the Yalta conference, said: "The charter we draw at San Francisco) has to be and should be approved by the Senate of the United States under the constitution . . . "I think the other nations all know it, now . . . "We hope that the Senate will approve what is set forth as the Charter of the United Nations . . ." Those were the words the world probably would remember longest; words Franklin Roosevelt probably felt as deeply as any he ever had uttered.

In his mind at that moment he must have been offering up a little prayer—a prayer in which the nations allied with America would join—that the legislators who sat in front of him would not undo his work for collective security as they had that of Woodrow Wilson a quarter of a century earlier.

When the full story of the war is written, it might show that doubt over what course the Senate would take had influenced Russia or Britain or France to make certain moves in Europe which brought forth widespread criticism from Americans who did not understand.

WILL THE SENATE SUPPORT UNITED NATIONS CHARTER?

Well, how about it? Would the Senate support the United Nations charter? No one could say for sure. The best guess seemed to be that it would.

In a magazine article, world-minded Sen. Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota divided the Senate this way:

Likely to support the treaty: 45 Senators

Likely to oppose any treaty to the limit: 10 Senators

Likely to be reservationists: 22 Senators

Unknown: 19 Senators.

If all Senators were present it would take 64 votes to make the United States a member of the world security organization. Thirty-three votes—more than one-third—could defeat the proposal.

PROSPECTS BRIGHTER

Ball listed four reasons why prospects for Senate approval this time were brighter than they were in the great fight over the League of Nations.

1. Eleven of the 14 Senators elected for the first time last Nov. would strongly support an international organization; in 1918 most new Senators opposed the League.

2. A greater public awareness of the issues and the fact that the Pacific War would still be in progress when the question came before the Senate might thwart the delaying strategy so effective in the League fight.

3. World-minded Senators row have a strong majority on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee which must handle the United Nations bill; last time Chairman Henry Cabot Lodge, Mass.—R., and Wilson enemy, had a majority of that committee on his side.

4. Support for the security organization this time is bipartisan with some of its most ardent supporters sitting on the Republican side of the aisle; last time strong league advocates with one exception, were Democrats.

The "Great Debate" this time probably would be just as bitter and intense, if not so protracted, as last time.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

For Americans and interested citizens of Allied countries, there were certain things to keep in mind as the "Great debate" progresses; certain factors which would enable one to judge the situation more accurately at any given moment.

Some examples: If Montana Democrat Wheeler attacked the United Nations charter, it should not be taken too seriously. True, Wheeler's vote would count in the tally as much as that of any other Senator. Yet, with no real Senate following, Wheeler probably could deliver no vote except his own, no matter how bitterly he orated.

Other senators almost certain to be bitter-enders in the fight against the United Nations Charter were Republicans Shipstead of Minn., Brooks of Ill., Milliken of Colo., and Langer of N.D.; Democrat McCarran of Nev., and Progressive La Follette of Wis., whose father belonged to the "little band of wilful men" which led the Senate against the League of Nations.

None of the six could strongly influence any vote by his own.

On the other side, an impassioned Senate speech in favor of Dumbarton Oaks by some staunch Roosevelt supporter like Pennsylvania's Guffey, Florida's Pepper, or But Wheeler's Montana colleague, Jim Murray, would indicate that the fight for the United Nations Charter was going well.

All three would "go along" with Roosevelt, but would have little influence on any wavering senators. Who then, could provide an in-



"We hope the Senate will approve. . . ."

dications of the direction in which the "Big debate" was going?

WHEN TO WATCH

The men in the middle ground First of all, Michigan's Vandenberg, the big-democratic Republican, a pre-war isolationist belatedly converted to the collective security idea, has been named by Pres. Roosevelt as a delegate to San Francisco.

If he returned from that conference ready to go down the line for the United Nations Charter, the President's position would be high impregnable. The United States would go along.

But if Vandenberg returned a "reservationist", if he expressed doubts and proposed amendments it would be a real sign that the charter treaty faced rough sledding.

Vandenberg has a real following, chiefly among the Republicans who evolution from isolationism had paralleled his, who would look to him for guidance.

Another man to watch would be Ohio's Taft, also influential on the Republican side. Indications of willingness to support the United Nations from such former reservationists or isolationists as Republicans Caper of Kansas, Aiken of Vermont, Tobey of New Hampshire or Democrats Welsh of Massachusetts, Chavez of New Mexico, Fyrd of Virginia and Tydings of Maryland, would be important omens for the internationalist side.

Those were some of the portents for the "Great debate," which would culminate in one of the most important Senate roll calls in United States history; a roll call the whole world would watch.

US ASKS 'BIG 5' MEETING BEFORE SAN FRANCISCO

WASHINGTON (ANS) :— The United States has suggested a "Big Five" meeting before the San Francisco Conference to work out an agreement on mandates. The meeting, according to the Associated Press, has been proposed for Washington two weeks before the delegates confer on the international organization planned at Dumbarton Oaks.

The United States, Britain, Russia, France and China would participate.

The US advocates an international system under which the nation holding mandates over territories would be required to permit development of self-government leading towards independence the news service said.

The US may find itself opposed by France and Britain with Russia in the American corner and the Chinese an unknown quantity. If the meeting is not possible the question will be discussed through channels.

Neutrals Won't Be Present In San Francisco April 25

By CARL SORESI

WASHINGTON, April 5:— (AP)—come important countries—the neutrals in this war—will not be present when the United Nations convene in San Francisco April 25.

Already they are asking "Where do we fit?" in the proposed world security organization.

They also couple their question with a caution drawn from the defunct League of Nations. "Don't leave us out in the cold."

The uninvited neutrals, principally Sweden, Switzerland, Eire, Spain and Portugal, pose a major problem for the conference.

At the conference the victorious belligerents are expected by some to rule neutrality out of international law. The bankrupt League organization to prevent war.

probably will be disbanded as an One neutral diplomat told me that chiefly on the issue of the League's failures the neutrals expect to be able to justify their position in this war and in that way make good their bids for participation in the maintenance of world peace.

Ministers of the neutrals insist that the exigencies of history, and not their countries' independent will caused their present neutrality.

They point out that neutrality and the League, as Woodrow Wilson saw it, should have become mutually exclusive. But since the League failed to prohibit the status of neutrality, let alone prevent war, neutrality retained an important place in international law.

When Japan struck at China in 1937, none of the powers in the League did anything but make verbal denunciations.

In 1935, when Germany began building armaments, big power diplomats ignored it. Hitler's occupation of the Rhineland a year later "paralyzed" the world. Until Poland was attacked, it remained paralyzed throughout the entire Axis holiday of aggression.

As a consequence, small nation diplomats began thumbing rapidly through the codes of neutrality.

1. "The United Nations have repeatedly overcome other difficulties and dangers "far more serious in the past three years."

2. "The vital interests of the United States and of each of the Allies is bound up in maintaining and cementing in the peace our wartime partnership."

3. "The extent of our agreement is far wider and more fundamental than the extent of our differences."

The difficulties to which he referred involve the failure to form a Polish government of unity, Russia's request for separate representation for two autonomous republics on the world assembly, Russia's request that Lublin Poles be invited to the San Francisco Conference.

Despite these, Stettinius said, "We are going ahead with plans for the Conference and are resolved to make it a success. It must be."

Mountain Home, Ida. (CNS)—Slot machines in the officers club at the Mountain Home Air Base are topped by this sign: "In case of air raid, stand near these machines. They haven't been hit yet."

"Temporary Difficulties" Hovers Over Conference

CHICAGO (ANS):—The United States is engaged in "very active efforts" to resolve the recent "temporary difficulties" among the "Big Three," Secretary Stettinius said.

He assured Americans that: 1. "The United Nations have repeatedly overcome other difficulties and dangers "far more serious in the past three years."

2. "The vital interests of the United States and of each of the Allies is bound up in maintaining and cementing in the peace our wartime partnership."

3. "The extent of our agreement is far wider and more fundamental than the extent of our differences."

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Mountain Home, Ida. (CNS)—Slot machines in the officers club at the Mountain Home Air Base are topped by this sign: "In case of air raid, stand near these machines. They haven't been hit yet."

They, too, have a Stake in the Conference . . .



FREED FROM SLAVERY—Liberated by infantrymen of the 2nd Division, U.S. 1st Army, workers who were forced to hard labor for Nazis, crowd into an American Army truck. Russian, Polish, and Ukrainian men are starting the journey home to help reconstruct their own war-ravished lands.

In The Eyes Of The Chinese, GIs Are World's Romantics

EDITORS NOTE.—The following translation was written by a Chinese journalist and appeared originally in a Chinese newspaper.

"Ting Hao," which means "Very good," is to-day a common greeting the Chinese people yell at every passing American soldier. The Yanks cannot walk down a street in Chungking without being wailed in by a surging melody of "Ting Hao" from admiring and smiling faces.

To the average Chinese the presence of American soldiers means added strength to fight the Japs. A local merchant has echoed the opinion of the Chinese people when he said, "Now that American soldiers are here, we can be sure that America will fight closer with us to push the Japs out of our occupied areas. We shall very soon return to our native towns."

Aside from military consideration, the popularity of the American here is due to their own nature. Those of Chinese who know American boys well all agree that "they are frank, lively and, like our people, are devoted to homes and fond of children."

Mrs. Let Wen-pai, 34, wife of a government clerk, thinks that "American soldiers are the most sympathetic people I have ever met." Last January she was about to give birth to a baby. As she was too poor to hire a servant she still went out to buy food every day. One day she was struggling her way along a crowded street, an American jeep overtook her. The American driver picked her up and escorted her to her home, a very uncommon thing for a car owner to do in China.

Last summer, a conflagration broke out in a slum district, near the Yangtze river, Chungking. As the wind was strong and the fire grew, the fire swallowed up scores of sheds within almost half an hour. The crying of women and children could be heard miles away. An American soldier rushed to the scene. He set to help the firemen to put out the fire. As a result, however, he was overcome by the smoke and was the first one to be taken to the hospital.

Helping the under-privileged is a well-known characteristic of American soldiers in China. They are one quiet and tall American from California. He says, "I always like to share whatever I have with others. Perhaps the next guy is more in need of it than I myself."

Another thing the Chinese people like about Yanks is their outspokenness. Almost within five minutes of meeting a stranger, an American will instantly pour out everything from his heart. He tells about his home, his mother or wife or his daily problems.

When an American has a request or a complaint to make he speaks it out without hesitation. The Chinese people are more hesitant in their utterances. They usually talk about a thing in a round about way.

One college girl says, "The main difference between American and Chinese is this, they say two and two makes four whereas we say eight divided by two is four."

Americans are gayer and more active than other nationalities. Unlike Englishmen and Russians, who are more formal, dignified and quieter, American boys are forever doing things, happy and talkative.

One Chinese policeman remarks, "When Americans are seen on the streets, they are either chewing gum, or laughing with one another, evidently enjoying a joke."

CHUNGKING LANDOWNERS MUST BUILD HOUSES

CHUNGKING (By Air Mail):—In an effort to relieve the housing shortage here, the city government has ordered the owners of vacant lots to build houses within three months or else they will be forced to sell their land. The new houses thus built will be tax-free for six months. Landowners who need financial assistance may obtain it from any of the four national banks.

Once I saw three of them trying to tiptoe-dance on the pavement. I cannot understand why they are so happy all the time.

If they ride in jeeps, the Americans sit in different fanciful postures. Some of them may sit inside the vehicle with their legs dangling outside the car. As they roll along they often sing loudly and amuse the people who stop to look at them.

American boys are particularly fond of Chinese children. Ten minutes after entering a Chinese home they are likely to be fondling the Chinese kids, or exchanging "Hao Pu Hao," which means "good or not good."

In the eyes of the Chinese people, American soldiers are the most romantic people in the world. Almost in every room of their hostels there are pin-up girls on the walls. And the thing they most frequently talked about is girls. For a Chinese to talk about girls or to think aloud of them is vulgar.

The reactions of Chinese girls toward American soldiers vary. Some of them think that American boys use too much flattery. One Chinese girl remarked, "They tell every one of us that you are the most beautiful woman I ever saw," or "look at your cute little face," these words sound good. But to think of it, not every one of us is the most beautiful woman he ever met."

Other girls think that American boys are too bold. In China a girl prefers to be formally introduced and she would never dream of being whistled at by a stranger and called by her first name within a short period of acquaintance. As most Chinese girls are shy, they are usually frightened whenever an American soldier wants to hold her hand or arm. One Chinese girl says, "personally I am grateful that they have come a long way to fight with us against our common enemy. But so far as the relation between men and women is concerned, I do hope that they will learn and respect the convention and customs here."

The Wolf

by Sansone

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"Unless the rules have changed, he plays a pretty rough game of checkers!"

China's Gold-Plated Spuds

(ANS)—The porter's eyes bulged when Dr. Theodore P. Dykstra, headed for China in mid-September of 1942, dumped six huge bags of potatoes onto the Pullman floor.

"They tell me there's no baggage car on this train," Dykstra explained. "I guess you'll have to find an upper berth for the potatoes—they weigh only 155 pounds."

On Durban, South Africa, in an area infested with submarines, the ship carrying Dykstra blew a boiler. Dykstra immediately warned the captain that if they took to lifeboats, his potatoes would have to have the seat of one man.

Dykstra's six sacks contained 54 varieties grown in 28 states, which were to be tested for adaptability in different sections of China. A potato specialist with the US Department of Agriculture, Dykstra was on his way (1) to increase China's yield per plant; (2) to increase the area of Chinese land devoted to potatoes and (3) to increase consumption. The story of Dr. Dykstra and his "gold-plated" potatoes was related recently by Mary Hornaday in the Christian Science Monitor.

"The world thinks of the Chinese chiefly as rice eaters," Miss Hornaday's article said. ".....In the northern provinces, more potatoes are eaten than rice. In Sinkiang, potatoes are the staff of life for 70 percent of the population. If the Chinese depended less on rice and more on potatoes, there would be fewer famines, because potatoes can send their roots down to water considerably below the level reached by shallow feeders of the rice plant."

Travelling with three Chinese agricultural experts, Dykstra began a survey of all the leading potato growing sections of China, and left samples for experimental planting. In some places they needed the special permission of Chinese war lords to enter, but bound as they were on a mission so nonpolitical and fundamental, they were welcomed everywhere. When roads ran out, they covered the countryside afoot.

Dykstra remained in China long enough to see two crops harvested, and discovered that an early seasonal variety developed at the University of Minnesota promised to be China's most useful species for warm areas, where two crops a year can be raised. For the northwest provinces, he introduced Sebago, a more recently developed variety resistant to blight. Then Dykstra came home for more potatoes and his next shipment, weighing 554 pounds, flew over the Hump along with critical military equipment, paper dollars and other "lifeline" supplies.

Nyack, N. Y. (CNS)—Author Ben Hecht was walking by friend Charles MacArthur's house when he spotted a light gleaming in the cellar. As MacArthur is now an Army colonel, stationed overseas, Hecht called a cop and they investigated. They discovered a bunch of local residents guzzling the MacArthur gin in the wine cellar. "Won't you join us?" the tipplers invited. "No thanks. Won't you join us?" replied the cop, leading the group to the local jail.

Dishwashing Gadget New GI Invention

132ND AAF BASE UNIT CHINA—The "turn-around" line for the 132nd's mess hall dishes and tableware has been cut considerably by the recent invention of an ingenious dishwashing machine here. While statistics control has, as yet, no figures, there is the word of Lt. Roland K. Lee, mess officer, that the device is a highly efficient time saver.

Besides solving the problem of a shortage of tableware, the machine also insures a thorough sterilization, Lt. Lee said.

The principal unit of the machine is a converted gasoline drum in which a U-shaped pipe has been constructed. The pipe is connected to a heating element made of a 10-gallon drum containing gasoline. The device was built by the unit's engineering department under the supervision of Capt. Joe W. Cotton, director of engineering and aircraft maintenance.

Special metal containers then were made with which to dip the dishes and trays into the boiling water. The water, although boiling, is further fortified with a germicidal solution to make the sterilization doubly certain, Lt. Lee explained.

Prior to the invention of the gasoline burning heaters, water had to be boiled slowly on charcoal stoves.

The dishwashing device is fired up shortly before meal time and is ready before the first men have eaten.

Although 77 octane gasoline is now being used as fuel, it also is possible to use oil. The fuel container holds enough fuel to run the unit for eight to ten hours, according to the mess officer.

The heating units have proved so successful with the dish washing machine, that they have been installed in hot water systems for the washroom and the dispensary.

Stafford Springs, Conn (CNS)—When the pastor of the Federated Church of Stafford Springs was taken ill with a cold, the church was without a preacher. But the State Police stepped in and saved the day by sending State Trooper Albert Kimball around to preach the sermon. Kimball, in uniform, stepped behind the pulpit and delivered a sermon described by parishioners as "vigorous." Topic of his sermon: "Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWER



Colonel's Rank To 'Hatchets' Leader

AN ADVANCED AIR BASE, CHINA.—The promotion of John A. Dunning San Antonio, Tex. commanding officer of the "Flying Hatchet" fighter group of the Chinese-American Composite Wing, to the rank of colonel, was announced this week from the headquarters of the 14th Air Force.

Maj. Dunning, a veteran of many combat missions against the Japanese in China, is one of the outstanding fighter pilots in the China Theater. He is a veteran of seven years regular Army service, having enlisted in the Air Corps in March, 1938.

Serving in various capacities in the United States, including duty poston as flight instructor, he came overseas in October, 1943. For his outstanding work in the China Theater he has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal, and in addition holds Oak Leaf Clusters to both the DFC and the Air Medal.

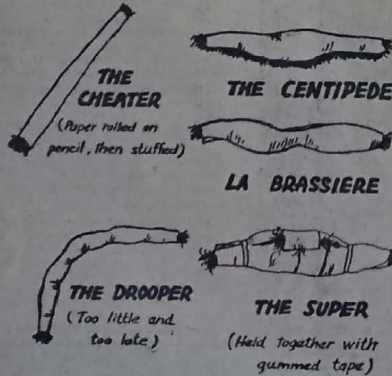


UP FRONT WITH MAULDIN



"Git yer mind outta th' gutter."

SO YOU'RE DYING FOR A SMOKE!
HAVE YOU TRIED ROLLING
YOUR OWN?



Crew Chiefs Are Backbone Of "Scorpions" Jap Blasting

HQ. WEST CHINA RAIDERS:—"Sweet, just plain sweat," said S/Sgt John G. Gambino, Texas City, Texas. "That's the best word I can think of to describe the life of a crew chief."

"That's right," said Wayne O. Tuckness, a fellow Texan from Amarillo, and another crew chief in the Yellow Scorpions fighter squadron. "When you're not sweating the engines, keeping them perking, you're sweating out your pilot who's just taken off for a mission."

"Sweat" may be a fair description of the crew chiefs' lot in the "gasoline alley" of the Yellow Scorpions, but it doesn't begin to tell the story of their superb maintenance record.

Since the Scorpions began their sensational Nip-eliminating tour of CBI-land they have blasted the Japanese to the extent of 44 planes destroyed in aerial combat and another 133 blown up on the ground. During their first three months of China operations with the Raiders, of Brig.-Gen. Russell E. Randall, they severely crippled Jap transportation in occupied China by destroying approximately 350 locomotives. In addition to this they were inflicting continual and inestimable damage on Jap supply lines, warehouses and troop concentrations.

"Our record wouldn't have been possible if the planes weren't always tip-top," admitted Maj. J. J. England, commanding officer and top ranking pilot of the Yellow Scorpions.

"The crew chiefs are in the rear of the formation when the Air Medals and Distinguished Flying Crosses are handed out, but they really should be up front with the rest of us. Their handiwork often is the factor that provides the clincher in our encounters with the Japs."

Back in India, the Scorpion squadron's maintenance achievement of keeping more than 90 percent of the planes "in commission" at all times was a direct commission as second lieutenant for Line Chief James A. O'Brien, Riverside, Cal.

Now assistant engineering officer, Lt. O'Brien revealed that the squadron's maintenance record has been kept at approximately the same 90 percent level throughout China operations. Considering the fact that spare parts for airplanes like all other China-bound supplies are severely rationed and slow to arrive, the crew chiefs' accomplishments seem little short of miraculous.

M. Sgt. Dean A. Busbee, Circleville, Ohio, who succeeded O'Brien as line chief, explained, however, that the Scorpions mechanics have circumvented the supply problem with a neat trick.

"Our system is to use one plane as a sort of stock room," Sgt. Busbee said. "If one of our planes is hauled into the ground for major repairs it becomes available to the crew chiefs for spare parts. In this way we seldom have more than one plane 'out' at any one time."

The part-borrowing technique, incidentally, is a practice that's never popular with the crew chief whose plane happens to be the "store room" of the moment. Each mechanic is anxious to have his own plane, available on the flight line as much as possible. A delay in the hangar waiting for replacement of borrowed parts means that for several days there won't be any Jap flags added to the fuselage of the plane.

If a plane is wheeled into the hangar for a minor repair job the crew chief makes it a point to be nearby in order to remind his pals that his plane isn't "it" for the day. "Any time my baby goes into the hangar for a minor job I'm on guard duty thereabouts," S. Sgt. Ernest L. MacClane, Charlottesville, Va., said. "And I usually am able to prevent anybody from getting any borrowing ideas."

The working day of the crew chief in the Scorpions' squadron is usually a dawn to dark routine of working and sweating, but all of the men admit that the hardest part of their job comes when the planes take off for a mission over Jap-land. "Every time my plane leaves I develop a case of nerves," S/Sgt. Daniel W. Kemmerling, Pine Grove, Pa. confided. "It's a big weight on my mind to know that the life of the pilot depends on my job."

HITLER HEADS LIST OF WAR CRIMINALS

LONDON (ANS)—Hitler heads the roster of war criminals the chiefs of state will have no immunity from prosecution, the United Nations War Crimes Commission said in announcing the drafting of five lists of Axis leaders who will be tried. Only Hitler's name was made public.

Other names were withheld to prevent forewarning suspects and avert possible reprisals against helpless persons still under enemy control. Two lists of German criminals, one of Japanese, one Italian, and a fifth comprised of Albanians, Bulgarians, Hungarians, Italians and Romanians have been prepared.



Q. I am awaiting my discharge from the service. While in the Army, my commercial insurance was paid by the Veterans' Administration. How long do I have to pay back the premiums they covered for me?

A. You have 2 years from date of discharge in which to bring your payments up to date.

Q. Can a veteran get a government-guaranteed loan under the GI Bill of Rights to build a home, and after completion rent it out as an investment?

A. The provisions of the GI Bill require that the primary use of the building be the occupation of it by the veteran as his home. It may be built to accommodate up to 4 family units, but in order to obtain approval of his loan the veteran must declare it to be his intention to occupy one of the units.

RATIONING PROBLEMS BESET CHINA COLONEL

The manpower shortage and the rationing system in the States are making things pretty tough for Lt.-Col. Walter H. "Cappy" Wells, G-2 at Hq. SOS in Kunming.

He was recently informed in a letter from the Rockefeller Center Luncheon Club, in Radio City, New York, that in the future, "no luncheon party shall be held in the Rainbow Room, or Grill, which is attended by more than 12 persons."

But that's not the worst of it. They informed him that the situation as to foods requiring "red points" was such that it was necessary to discontinue serving butter, not all parties which included more than four non-member guests would be obliged to limit their selection to items other than those requiring red points.

The final blow was the attention called to Article IX of the By-laws which provides, "no member shall have as a guest more than twice in the same calendar month a person whose residence or principal office is within the limits of the City of New York."

All these things are creating quite a problem for the entertainment of "Cappy's" guests here in China.

LINES ON CHINA by Van Heuklyn



- CURVED BRIDGE -
THE SERPENTINE LINE ENVELOPED WITHIN
THE STRUCTURE AFFECTS CHEERFULNESS.

HOWARD VAN HEUKLYN ILLUSTRATOR

G. I. Shakespeare In China

Vantage Points

I seldom see a hill but what I yearn
To climb it, even to the topmost crest.

It's not alone because I want to learn

What's on the other side. The age-old quest

For vantage-points is never satisfied.

Up there, the wind will sweep my cares away;

Up there, the world will beckon, free and wide;

Up there I will be, for a moment, gay;

But then, you know, I will not want to stay.

—Corp. R. W. Lovett.

Kennebunkport, Me. (CNS) — Booth Tarkington, Kennebunkport resident and author of "Penrod" and "Seventeen," has taken up cudgels against a mural on the local post office walls which depicts "a number of fat, scantily clad women, disporting themselves on a beach." "They're mermaids," the mural artist declared. "They're ugly," said Tarkington. Result: The US Senate has moved for a new mural, depicting historically the seafaring and shipbuilding activities of this community with nary a mermaid in sight.

Kansas City (CNS)—Manpower shortage note: Kansas City officials harassed by a lack of workmen, have hired 3 monkeys to clean the flues in the Jackson County jail.

New Stainless Steel Stockings After War

NEW YORK (by air mail)—A post-war stocking material more revolutionary than nylon was dangled before the astonished eyes of hosiery manufacturers recently by the president of the American Iron and Steel Institute who suggested the possibility of giving women stockings made of stainless steel.

That the suggestion is no mere dream is evinced by the facts showing the flexibility of fine steel filaments. Steel threads nineteen ten-thousandths of an inch in diameter are already being spun for war purposes and it is claimed that these threads could easily be knitted into shimmering metal stockings for the post-war woman.

While steel threads of this thickness are not quite "sheer" to the extent that the discriminating stocking buyer might desire, they are thinner than the threads at present used in "service weight" hosiery. They are also sufficiently flexible to be knitted on standard stocking knitting machines and there is every reason to believe that the knitted threads will wash and dry very quickly. Steel stockings will not "run" and easily as do textile fibers.

Stocking makers asked the steel expert whether metal stockings would be cold for wearing in wintry weather. They were assured that the metal threads would absorb body heat and retain it more successfully than silk or nylon.

HOLLYWOOD —and— BROADWAY

(ANS)—The Peabody Awards for outstanding radio performances—which compare with the Academy Awards in movies—honored Raymond Gram Swing, for news commentary; Fred Allen and "The Cavalcade of America," for dramatic entertainment; "The Telephone Hour," for music; radio station WLW in Cincinnati, for outstanding news reporting; "Human Adventure," for education program; Los Angeles radio station KFI's "Philharmonic Young Artists' Series," for the best program for youth; and New York's radio station WNYC, for best public service by a local station of 1000 watts or less. Movie new-comer Cornel Wilde, who scored so successfully in his first screen role—that of the pianist Chopin in "A Song to Remember"—is slated for the lead in Columbia's new technicolor production "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest" Actress Constance Talmadge was recently attacked by a swordfish at Havana. Fortunately, she escaped with minor leg injuries. "Lady Says Yes," which has been playing at Manhattan's Broadhurst Theater since early January, is scheduled to close its run shortly. The play was badly received by the critics and is said to have played almost three months only because of the drawing power of its star, pinup girl Carole Landis. Our movie heroes aren't the accomplished swordsmen they're made out to be in those swashbuckling roles. Before they could wield expertly before the cameras, Randolph Scott and Gilbert Roland had to take fencing lessons from the world champion, Fred Cavens. Bill Downs, one of CBS's top war correspondents is due for a unique experience when Berlin is captured by the Allies. Downs will be parachuted into Berlin from a bomber to make the first American broadcast from the German capital. He and other network correspondents recently drew lots in Paris for the parachute entrance into Berlin. Other broadcasters will be flown in from Paris. Incidentally, should American troops reach Berlin ahead of the Russians, Downs will be able to use the 60-watt transmitter which is advancing in a 17-truck convoy near the front lines. Edward G. Robinson, Joan Bennett and Dan Duryea, who were the principal characters in the hit movie, "The Woman at the Window," are to be teamed together again in a new film, "Scarlet Street," an adaptation of a French play. The new screening in a psychological drama as was "The Woman at the Window" and will be laid in Greenwich Village. Gene Lockhart, whose first Broadway play in eight years, "Happily Ever After," closes shortly after an unsuccessful run of 12 performances, will not be idle for long. He has already been engaged for the leading role in a new stage production, "Devils Galore," which goes into rehearsal immediately and is scheduled to open in New York in May. Edward Everett Horton and actress Bille Burke are being paired for a new radio show to begin in mid-April. Clark Gable's first motion picture in almost four years will be "The Strange Adventure," in which Greer Garson will be co-stared. Thomas Mitchell will be seen in the leading supporting role. The movie is based on the best-selling novel of a few years ago, "The Amintored," by Claude Brion Davis. It's a story of the merchant marine before the war. Songwriter Nat Burton, who wrote the lyrics for "The White Cliffs of Dover," "Don't Ever Change," and many other popular songs, died recently in Hollywood. The circus is due to start its Spring tour in New York shortly after the first of April. Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey will set up their big top in Madison Square Garden for the longest run in their history—47 days. Probably the most outstanding innovation this year is the music, which was written especially for the circus by Deems Taylor. Dave Fleischer, producer of the animated movie cartoon, "Popeye," recently married his secretary, Mae Schwartz, in Los Angeles. Frederick L. Collins, noted crime authority who oversees the CBS programs, "The FBI in Peace and War," voices a warning that Nazi war criminals may resort to plastic surgery in attempts to escape identification—and Allied justice.



FORMER OWNER WON'T LIKE THIS—Swastika provides setting for Jewish services in Rheudt Castle, former residence of Dr. Joseph Paul Goebbels in Muenchen-Gladbach. Pic. Abraham Mirmelstein, Newport News, Va., Capt. Manuel M. Pollakoff, and Cpl. Martin Willen conduct rites.

THE CHINA LANTERN COMIC PAGE

Moon Mullins

By Williard

Moon Mullins comic strip panels 1-15. Moon Mullins is talking to a woman about getting a job and a radio.

Blondie

By Chick Young

Blondie comic strip panels 1-15. Blondie is talking to a man about a relative and a car.

Private Bregor Abroad By Dave Bregor

Private Bregor Abroad comic strip panel 1. Bregor is at a post office.

MOPSY by GLADYS PARKER

Mopsy comic strip panel 1. Mopsy is on a plane.

These cartoons are printed through the courtesy of the following organizations: "Blondie," "Private Bregor Abroad," "King Features," "Terry and The Pirates," "Moon Mullins," and "Male Call," News Syndicate and distributed by Camp News Service. "Dick Tracy," News Tribune Syndicate.

Terry And The Pirates

By Milton Caniff

Terry And The Pirates comic strip panels 1-15. Terry is on a ship with his crew.

Dick Tracy

By Chester Gould

Dick Tracy comic strip panels 1-15. Dick Tracy is talking to a woman.

Male Call

By Milton Caniff creator of Terry and The Pirates

Male Call comic strip panel 1. A man is on a phone.

She Looks Different Without Bangs

She Looks Different Without Bangs comic strip panel 1. A woman is looking in a mirror.

WORLD EVENTS IN PICTURES



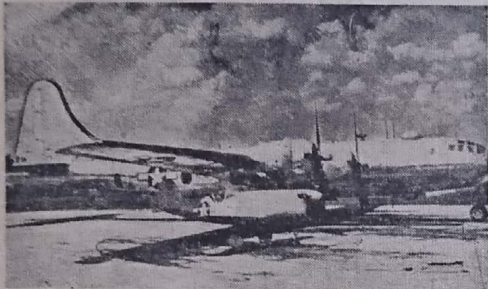
OOZE ON WHEELS — Streamlined cargo-carrier used to transport supplies to a propeller maintenance station operated by, left to right, Pfc. Wesley C. Snyder, Hazleton, Pa.; T Sgt. Harold E. Wisco, Platteville, Wis., and Pvt. William R. Thomason, Spartanburg, S.C. The four-wheeled 'you name it' was built by the trio from obsolete and salvaged parts.



STANDOUT for all-American style is little given by Fashion Academy to actress Jane Wyatt in New York. Here she chooses huge pink roses swathed with tulle as hat and shoulder combination to high-light blue moire suit.



CHINESE COMBAT COMMAND — All means of transportation — pack animal, jeep and liaison plane — have been used by Capt. Samuel O. Norreale, of Rochester, N.Y., Army chaplain, in visiting American liaison teams of the Chinese Combat Command in the field. Here the chaplain picks his way over a mountain trail enroute from one isolated American outpost to another. "Chapel services have been held in all sorts of places," Capt. Morreale observes. "In tents, on mountain tops; in dugouts, in ancient Chinese temples and on one occasion a religious service was held in the Geisha girl quarters of an abandoned Japanese encampment."



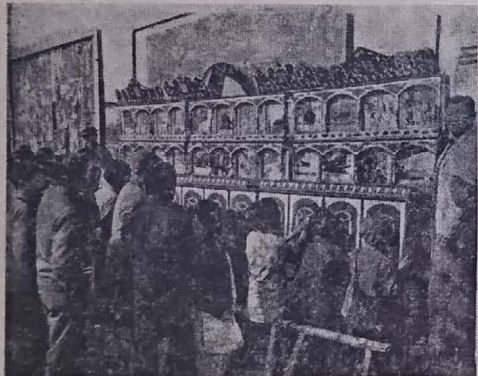
NEWEST US ARMY FIGHTER nestles under the wing of a mighty Superfortress. The XP-77 newest as well as smallest experimental fighter plane is of all wood construction and single-place. It is built by Bell Aircraft Corporation, who also build B-29's, and has great speed and maneuverability.



SMILES which belong only to real buddies are worn by Corp. Melvin C. Jaco, a duty NCO in a service group located at an advanced Fourteenth Air Force base in Western China, and his protégé, "Fung Yu," youthful Chinese orphan. When he found the tot, whose nickname means "My Friend," foraging for food and discarded clothing, Corp. Jaco, who hails from Alton, Ill., promptly took action which included housing, food, a miniature GI uniform and plans for future schooling with funds supplied by the soldier and his buddies.



LITTLE SISTERS—Winners of Little Sister beauty contest sponsored by New York Boy's Club are from left, Joyce Quaglia, Elviara Corella, prettiest blond and brunette; Phyllis Santarelli, Boy's Club queen; Elaine Yonta, nicest smile, and Dorothy Yonta, best eyes. Dolls were prizes.



POOR MAN'S MOVIE in China, a variation of the old US 'peep show.' While the 'audience' peers through the holes, the attendant, extreme left, pulls the bottom row of pictures through while the man at the right pilots the top row and shifts the pictures to the bottom. Or does it all sound confused? A stereoscopic device gives depth to the pictures.



CORPSMEN AT A US NAVY FLEET HOSPITAL in the Pacific prepare to redress the injured arm of Pfc. Milton Orman, who reclines on a specially constructed fracture table so that his wounds can be dressed without his moving. He received preliminary treatment before being transferred to a hospital ship from which he was returned to the United States and he is now convalescing at a Navy hospital. Ninety seven out of every one hundred Americans wounded in battle recover due to prompt and skillful surgery, new drugs, extensive use of blood plasma and whole blood and a fast and efficient system of evacuating the wounded.



INDIAN STYLE—Mrs. Jesse B. Hubbard of Washington, D.C., doesn't worry about the whereabouts of 6-months-old son, Robert Oliver, when she goes shopping. She rigs a papoose carrier on her back and off she goes with both hands free. Baby with finger in mouth is picture of contentment.



THE OLD AND THE NEW—Displacing 1915 model high-pressure tire, Luella Hammond (top) poses in old-time costume. In contrast is huge bomber tire (below) that frames Joyce Forbes. New type tire is made with nylon cord and metal cups, and weighs 276 pounds.