

Sept. 14, 1944

COL. DUNCAN COMMANDANT

Page 2

TRAFFIC COPS IN THE CLOUDS

Page 6



New Commandant Is Veteran Of Two War Theaters

Col. Duncan Overseas With Famous Units

Served With 8th Air Force, 20th Bomber Command

Col. C. E. Duncan, a veteran of the present war in both the European and Far Eastern theaters, assumed duties this week as Station Commandant of Pyote Army Air Field.

He relieved Col. William W. Jones, who is awaiting orders to report to a new station on an undisclosed new assignment.

Col. Duncan, who marked his 27th year of Army service a month ago today, came here from the 20th Bomber Command, in which he had served since July, 1943, most of the time in China. After serving in the States as A-4 officer, he was made assistant Chief of Staff when the 20th went overseas.

"All the reports which I have had on Pyote Army Air Field are very favorable toward the field and its personnel," stated Col. Duncan as he took over the new command. "The training performed here in the past has been excellent, and I am looking forward to a continuation of the same high type of work while I am here."

The new commandant, although a native of Boulder, Colo., considers San Diego his home town.

When this country entered the first World War, Col. Duncan enlisted and was assigned to Officers Training School at Leon Springs, Texas. Just before completion of his course, he was transferred to the aviation branch and was sent to Austin for ground school. He graduated with one of the first classes on Sept. 1, 1917, and was sent overseas for additional training. He took his flying training at Foggia, Italy, and further training in France. Shortly before the Armistice was signed he was assigned to the 12th Observation Squadron. After the war's end he went to Germany and remained there in the Army of Occupation until July, 1919.

Col. Duncan served in Hawaii (Luke and Wheeler fields) in the early 20's and later was an instructor at Kelly and Brooks

Col. Jones Leaves Pyote AAF; Gives Good Wishes To Station

The following statement was given the Rattler this week by Col. William W. Jones, former Station Commandant who is leaving soon for an undisclosed new assignment:

To all personnel, Pyote AAF:

I am taking this opportunity to express to all members of this command my most sincere gratitude for your fine loyalty and hard work since my assignment to Pyote as Station Commandant. You should all understand that the enviable record held by Pyote AAF is a result of your own efforts and esprit de corps; I only had the privilege of guiding and channelizing those efforts.

I am indeed sorry to leave Pyote but a new assignment leading to overseas duty awaits me. It is my wish that you all continue your important work in war-winning under your new Commandant in the same splendid measure as in the past.

Yours for an all-out victory,

WILLIAM W. JONES,
Col., Air Corps.

Chemical Warfare Service Trains Entire Army In Defensive Tactics

From a humble start in 1917 as a protective corps for defense against chemical attack, the Chemical Warfare Service has become unique among the Arms and Services in its diversified activities. It is the only branch which combines all of the following functions: Research and development, production of materiel, instruction of personnel of its own as well as other branches, and combat operations. The activities of this Service may be divided between offense and defense; offensively, it produces and issues gas masks and other protective equipment. Smoke and incendiaries have already been used extensively by our enemies. When the Axis powers will resort to war gases is front page news right now. Should they do so, however, they will find our Army prepared to retaliate in kind.

Chemical warfare has come a long way since the first chlorine gas attack by the Germans on April 21, 1915, and the success secured by war gases in the first World War makes it highly likely that they will again be employed.

Fields in San Antonio, and at Rockwell Field in San Diego just before it was closed. He was stationed at March Field, Calif., from 1931 to 1935; attended Tactical School in 1936 and from 1936 to 1938 was at Mitchell Field. For the next three years he served in Washington in the office of the Chief of the Army Air Forces and later as Assistant Secretary of Air Staff.

In Jan., 1942, Col. Duncan went to England and was Chief of Staff for Gen. Ira Eaker in the 8th Bomber Command. Later when the first wing was organized under the 8th he was assigned to it.

The major function of the Chemical Warfare Service still remains the training of personnel in defense against chemical attack. The eight-hour course, as outlined by the Second Air Force, endeavors to give an overall basic knowledge in the fundamentals of protection against this weapon. It involves the study of identification, characteristics of chemical agents, first aid, protective equipment, ammunition and weapons, and decontamination.

Detection and identification are the first responsibilities of the soldier. He is taught to recognize chemical agents by their physical characteristics of odor, color, or physical state. He must also be aware of the physical effects of these agents, and know how long they last in the field under all types of conditions. This includes a knowledge of its persistency, the effect produced on the body by contact with the agent, and the protective measures required. Much of this understanding is gained by use of the sniff set and field identification tests, together with the employment of the vari-

'B' Allotments Cancelled; New Ones To Be Made

All Class B (War Bond) Allotments in force prior to Sept. 1st are now automatically cancelled.

New allotments are to be made to replace them. The new procedure provides the bonds will be written by the Finance Officer on the base and will be mailed to the address as stated on the allotment form.

ous chemical detector devices.

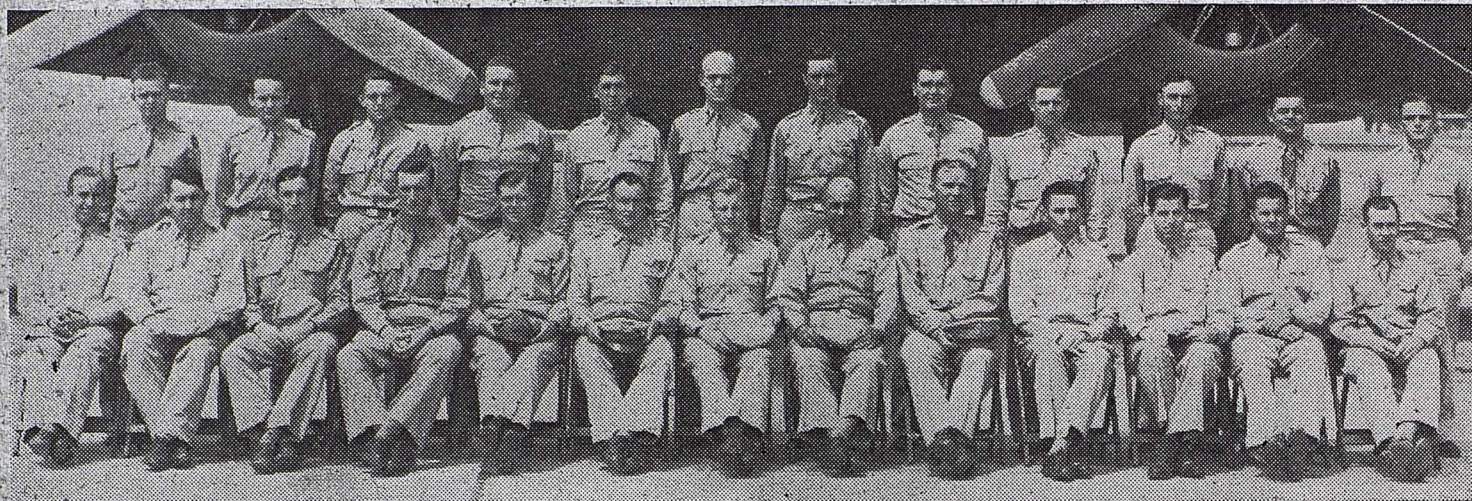
The gas mask is the foremost part of our protective equipment, and the frequent gas mask drills are given to insure proficiency in putting on the mask and for thorough knowledge of its protection and use. Through this frequent practice, the individual should be able to perform normal combat duties with minimum decrease in efficiency while wearing the gas mask. The gas chamber exercise, too, is given frequently to insure that gas discipline is kept up to its highest level, and that the individual will not be at a loss in case of a chemical attack.

Protective equipment is covered further in the use of shoe impregnate, M4 Protective Ointment, impermeable and permeable clothing, and the use and construction of gas-proof shelters. A short resume on the use of chemical ammunition and weapons is also given so that a knowledge of how they are used may be of help in taking protective measures. Incendiaries and smokes have already played a major role in this war, and demonstrations are given to stress the relative importance of these weapons in war.

Decontamination is covered in the eight-hour course, but a more extensive training is given to component parts of each section on the field through a special six-hour decontamination course. Here, all processes of removing or destroying contamination by chemical agents are introduced, and the reasons for using the various materials. Those that complete the course are thoroughly versed in how, when, and where, decontamination is employed, and are trained to work as a team to secure quick results. (See pictures on Page 5).

Chemical Warfare training must be continuous to be effective. New developments, changes and procedures, are being constantly inaugurated. It is the aim of the Chemical Warfare Service to keep all individuals on the alert for the introduction of chemicals in this war.

Consult the Station Voting Officer, Capt. Charles J. Harnett, Extension 168, Station Personal Affairs Officer, about voting regulations in your state. The Personal Affairs Section is located in building No. T-640, directly behind the Station Library.



TRAINING STAFF . . . Members of the staff of Major L. W. Johnson, Director of Training (middle officer, front row), are pictured here. Seated front row, left to right: Capt. R. K. Watts, Flight Control; Major L. D. Riordan, CO of Sec. III; Major D. W. Eakin, Acting CO of Sec II; Major J. H. Schweitzer, CO of Sec. I; Major J. Barneson, President of Standardization Board; Major R. T. Hernlund, Director of Flying; Major Johnson; Lt. Col. John B. Nelson, Director of Technical Training; Major C. A. Pitts, CO of Combat Crew Detachment; Major H. E. Bergschneider, Secretary of Training; Capt. M. J. Regan, Flying Surgeon; Major G. W. Martin, Assistant Director of Training; Capt. W. I. Condy, Assistant Director of Flying. Standing, back row, left to right:

Lt. N. N. Groshong Jr., Assistant Director of Technical Training; Lt. T. E. Spellman, Staff Communications Officer; Lt. R. S. Hull, Radar Officer; Lt. A. Lipsker, Staff Photo Officer; Capt. J. P. White, Search and Rescue Officer; W-O O. D. Councilman, Assistant Secretary of Training; Capt. E. Martin, Director of Gunnery; Capt. W. D. Morris, Staff Bombardier; Major E. R. Yerington, Staff Navigator; Lt. R. T. Powell, Training Aids Officer; Major W. H. Bruce, Staff Combat Intelligence; and Capt. W. Olson, Staff CFC Officer. These officers are responsible for the state of training of all combat crew personnel leaving this station. In the past the departments headed by these men have been commended very highly for their work.

Public Relations Officer Knows Japs: They Ousted Him From China

It has been announced by the Commanding Officer of the Pyote Army Air Field that Lt. Allan P. Charak has assumed the duties of Public Relations Officer for the field.

Lt. Charak relieves Capt. Thomas F. McLaughlin, who has been transferred to 2nd Air Force Headquarters to work with the Superbomber football team this season.

In addition to nearly three years of Army public relations, Lt. Charak has nine years of newspaper background as a reporter and photographer, two years of which he spent with Reuters (British) news agency in Abyssinia and China. He covered the Italian-Abyssinian campaign up until Haile Selassie abdicated his throne, then traveled half-way around the world to cover historical news events in Manchukuo, Korea and Greater China.

While in the Orient, Lt. Charak had a first hand look at World War II in the making, having had a number of brushes with the Japanese military in regard to photo and news policy. He was ousted, virtually at bayonet point, from Harbin after doing a series of pictures which were considered to be "detrimental to Nipponese interests in China."

As a civilian, Lt. Charak worked with New York and Chicago organizations. In his position as Public Relations Officer, he is

deeply interested in the promotion of harmonious relationship between civilians and the military, and adding to the prestige of the Pyote Army Air Field.

Touch Football Opens Sept. 25

Six-man touch football leagues for both enlisted men and officers will get under way the week of September 25, it was announced recently by the Physical Training Department.

Two eight- or ten-team circuits will be organized with either individual departments or sections furnishing teams. A six-team league for officers is likewise being formed.

Team rosters, with a captain or manager as well as phone number, must be submitted to the PT office not later than September 25. Each team will carry a squad of at least ten and no more than 15 men with no new additions to be made after October 10.

All games will be played at the Group Athletic Area from 1600 to 1700 during the regular scheduled PT hour. Each game will consist of four 12-minute periods with six-man touch football rules prevailing.

Several departments have entered teams already.

'Right Man In Right Job' Goal Of Classification

Classification and assignment in the Army are predicated upon the recognition of the fact that all soldiers are not entirely alike, that they vary considerably from one another in experience, training, personal interests, and ability. Classification takes these differences into account in an effort to place men in the Military Occupational Specialty where the Army will obtain the greatest effectiveness from their services. It is sometimes necessary to place military demands above the desires and interests of an individual. However, the Army likes to put every man in the job in which he is most interested.

The Second Air Force has adopted the policy of awarding additional MOS numbers to enlisted men. For example, a man's primary MOS may be Airplane Maintenance Technician (750), and he can retain the additional MOS of Airplane and Engine Mechanic (747), or Hydraulic Specialist (528). Thus his primary MOS represents the highest degree of skill and his services should be utilized in this

capacity.

Every soldier should know his (MOS) and the scope of the duties involved. A man can increase his knowledge by studying technical orders, publications, and bulletins. On-the-job training is invaluable, but this alone will not give the soldier the broad scope of knowledge which may be required of him at some later date.

Lt. Arch K. Giffin is Station Classification Officer and Lt. Alfred Della Paolera is Assistant Classification Officer.

Capt. Yerington Upped To Major

Captain Edward R. Yerington, Staff Navigator, has been promoted to the rank of major.

Major Yerington, a former member of the 19th Bomb Group, served in the Southwest Pacific during the early days of the war. He holds the Silver Star with Oak Leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, and the Presidential Unit Citation with three clusters.

STOP ACCIDENTS

Do not have electric extension cords across aisles or passageways, as they are hazards. Move the electrical equipment closer to the outlet.

Voting Is The Privilege And Duty Of Every Citizen.

Mirthful Musi-Comedy, 'What's Buzzin', Coming Here Sept. 18

"What's Buzzin'," a kit of ace entertainment, is coming to this field Monday, Sept. 18, from USO Camp Shows. Watch your bulletin board for an announcement on the time of presentation; the show is free to khaki-clads.

This musi-comedy revue is way up high on the fun score, with a whole lot of everything—musicians, singers, dancers, specialty artists . . . and girls.

Benny Ross, the male half of the Ross and Stone act, is emcee for the evening. Ross is a comic impersonator whose routine includes take-offs on George Jessel, Harry Richman, Al Jolson, and others. Foil for the gags is Maxine Stone, who also does an intricate acrobatic dance routine.

A leading specialty act, Don Francisco and Co.—"The Aristocrats of the Wires"—headlines the show. Don and Mary Francisco have been all over the world, and have presented their act before the King and Queen of England at a command performance. The breath-taking act has been televised both by NBC and by BBC in London. The wires for Monday night's performance will be seven and a half feet off the ground; when Don works outside the wires are 20 feet high.

The "Delightful Deceptions" of Plato and Jewel have a hard-to-figure magic act that is sprinkled with comedy patter.

The "Three Wyse Girls" will make their appearance. These three 19-year olds have lots of looks and some good ideas about dancing.

Roberta Ramon will dance on her toes to the music of Strauss.

Cactus Capers Wins Applause Of GI Audience

GI comments labeled "Cactus Capers" one of the best variety shows to play Pyote in many a moon. And four capacity houses were "swept" in and out of the theater last Monday to see another "all-Pyote" stage show.

Built along the lines of the old vaudeville days, the bill featured "Wee Bonnie Rudolph", wherein 1st Sgt. "Chuck" Rudolph swoon-crowned "Oh, Johnny", plus songs by Bobby and Theresa Tubbs, John Batte, and the male quartet with Batte, Dave Palmer, Clyde Hecox, and "Corky" Van Husen, and some sharp and solid arrangements by George Annis, directing the orchestra.

For comedy, there was Wallace "Goo-Goo" Gregory and Ed Koops as stagehands, Charlotte Ash as Mrs. Wonderbottom, Theresa Tubbs and John Batte playing boy-meets-girl in "The Nice Quiet Type", and Koops, John Parrish,

Monahans USO

Thursday—

Chili Party.

Protestant Discussion Group.

Friday—

Spanish Class.

Informal Activities.

Saturday—

Streets of Paris.

Free use of swimming pool for all GIs and their wives.

Sunday—

6:30 p.m. Buffet Supper.

7:30 p.m. Song Fest.

8:30 p.m. Movie.

Monday—

7:30 pm. Song Fest.

8:30 p.m. Movie.

Tuesday—

Dance Class.

Phychoanalysis Night.

American Legion Meeting.

Wednesday—

Better Halves Club Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.

Catholic Discussion Group.

Photography Class.

Rudolph, and Don Morris portraying the dire possibilities if "Men Played Cards As Women Do".

Glynnie Parrish and Wanda Thomas decorated the entire show by demonstrating what the well-dressed GIs dream will wear.

But the hit of the show was Sgt. Jack Dalbey, a guest attraction from the Carlsbad Air Base, who combined some neat magic and some clever patter to keep the audience rolling in the aisles.

Directed by Monte Ash, "Cactus Capers" demonstrated that local talent can and do put on a terrific show, as those who attended can testify.

Superbombers

vs.

NTAC Aggies

October 21

Odessa, Texas



SHE'LL BE HERE . . . Next Monday night, fellows. This is Roberta Ramon, a famous dancer who is appearing with the USO Camp Show, "Step Lively," coming here Sept. 18. She was formerly a member of the world famous Corps de Ballet of the Radio City Music Hall. Roberta has appeared as a featured dance soloist in the Broadway musical revue, "All In Fun," and many famous clubs including Leon and Eddie's, Mon Patee, Benny Davis' Frolics and the Park Central, to name a few around the Big Town.

Service Club

Thurs.—EM Wives Luncheon, 12-1 p.m.; Variety Show, 9 p.m.

Fri.—Dance, 9-12.

Sat.—Open.

Sun.—Musical, 8:30 p.m.

Mon.—Open. (USO Camp Show, "What's Buzzin'," on base).

Tues.—Sewing, 10 a.m. to 5; GI Movies, 8:30 p.m.

Wed.—Symphonic Hour, 8:15 p.m.; GI Movies, 8:30 p.m.

Theater Schedule

Thurs.—JANIE with Joyce Reynolds and Ann Harding. Also Army-Navy Screen Magazine, and Paramount News.

Fri. and Sat.—IMPATIENT YEARS with Jean Arthur and Chas. Coburn. Also Bob Wills and Texas Playboys, and Pop-eye cartoon.

Sun. and Mon.—IN SOCIETY, with Abbott and Costello. Also "Songs of Colleges," comedy, and Paramount News.

Tues.—SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, with Roy Rodgers and Dale Evans. Also "Pick A Peck O' Plumbers," "Ski Chase," "Berdy and the Beast".

Wed. and Thurs.—WING AND A PRAYER, with Don Ameche and Dana Andrews. Also "Beach Nuts" and Paramount News.



KOOPS' KORNERS

Last week's KORNER was everything but drawn and quartered, due to the shortage of space in that issue of the Rattler, and so we would like to say a few things we had no room for in the last issue.

In response to numerous questions about the swimming pool for the EM, and a round of startling misinformation concerning same—we would like to get a few facts on the record and clear up a couple of matters you might have been wondering about.

Officially, the pool costs \$9,800. That is the estimate which was turned in to 2AF Headquarters, together with details concerning the pool, both of which were approved.

One of the biggest contributions to the pool was the cash cleared by the GI-show, "Off Limits," which cleared a little over \$2,000, all of which went into the coffer.

The EM on the field dug deep down into their pockets for about \$1,500. Two good friends of the GIs on this station (and they prefer to remain anonymous) donated \$500 apiece.

Lt. Col. Cocke—Director of Station Services—and the man who is handling the finances, took a trip to Houston that turned out profitably. Two of Col. Cocke's friends of that city wrote checks for \$500 each. And members of the Kiwanis Club of Houston made up a kitty of \$650 for the pool. All adding up to a total of \$6,250, or about two-thirds of the dough required.

An expected donation of cement material for the pool failed to materialize due to business policies of the companies concerned.

So—on such a budget, it just ain't possible to buy both the materials and the manpower to swing the shovels. And frankly, I've heard from authoritative sources that the work done on this pool is of high calibre, because the skilled jobs have been handled by GIs who know their field.

It's hoped that sufficient manpower can be gotten for the job to finish this pool in time to use it while the weather will still permit this year.

I'm in receipt of a letter from Lt. Blackburn, and he makes a lot of sense. He writes about the guys and gals who point a little fun at Texas and, make a few cracks about the joint.

I guess we all realize that no matter where you're stationed in this man's army—you're not going to like it. I've seen camp papers from every state in the union—Wisconsin among them—and most of them have some cracks in about the State they're stationed in. It all adds up to "I wanna go home!"—and who can blame 'em for that?

There are probably a stack of Texans stationed in some of our home states that don't like them. And that's just one of those things. We can understand their attitude too.

I've made quite a few remarks in the KORNER concerning Texas, and all of them were supposed to be humorous, and surely none of them were given out with any malice. And inasmuch as the Rattler editor is a Lone Star boy himself, and he okayed the yarns involved, I don't think I stepped on too many toes; and I hope that the rest of them took it with the same sense of humor.

And, Lt. Blackburn, we appreciate your letter, too. Pyote surely isn't the paradise of the world—but it could be a lot worse.

Again thanks, for the letter, and the full column.

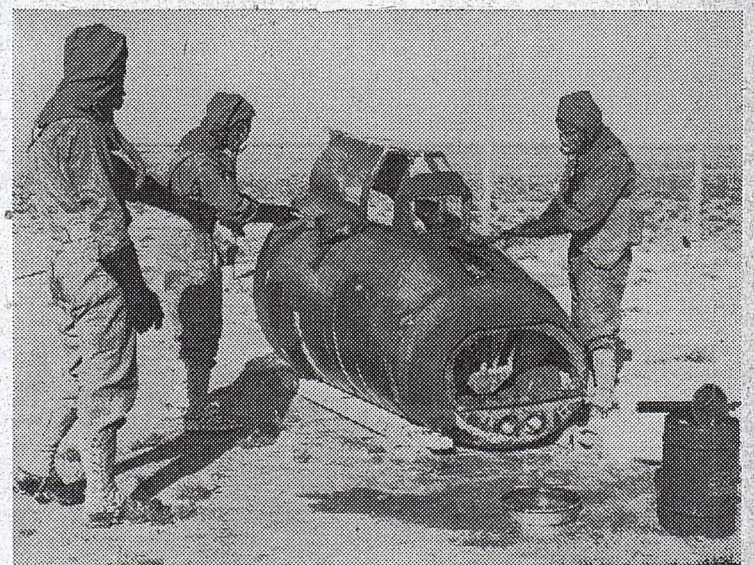
DECONTAMINATION . . .



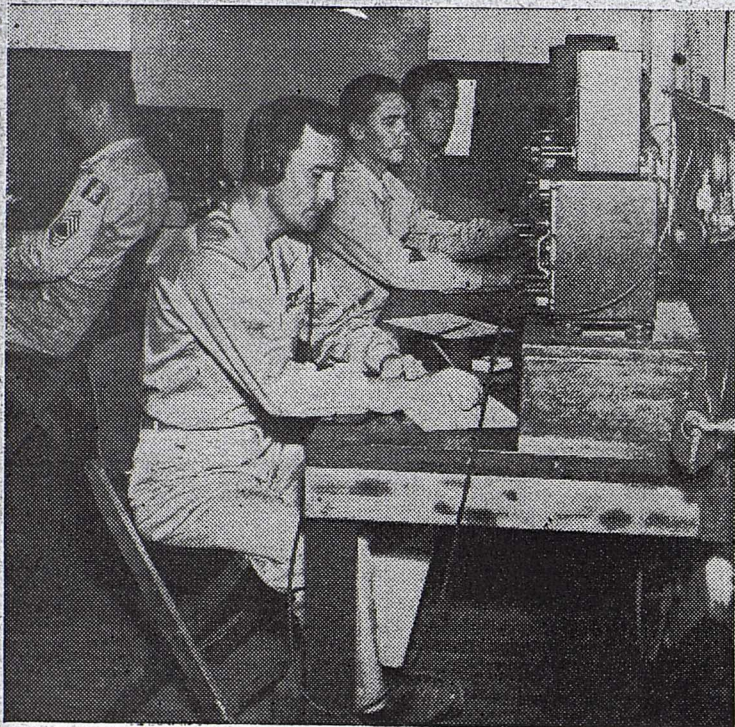
. . . That's Chemical Warfare's word for a process which is equalled in its distastefulness only by its importance to soldiers. There's nothing fancy and nothing exciting about it but combat troops must study the subject thoroughly, for on their proper precautionary measures some day may depend their lives. These pictures were taken at a recent demonstration of decontaminating areas which have been gassed. The gasses used were real; the men were as careful as if they had been in a combat area. In the above picture, two "nozzlemen" direct a stream from their mobile decontaminating apparatus at a building wall which has been heavily contaminated.



Here a model decontamination squad is hard at work in making a contaminated bomb crater area safe for use.



This is a part of an airplane fuselage which has been gassed, and is now being decontaminated before it can safely be used. Left to right: Cpl. Sidney Aronowitz, S-Sgt. Sidney Blumenthal and Pvt. Venson M. Toy.



Here is the Flight Control Ground Radio Station. In charge of the station is M-Sgt. R. C. Brown (left). Others (l to r) taking CW messages are: T-Sgt. F. X. Caulfield, a shift chief; Pvt. Norman Nash, and Pvt. William Valdez, operators.

Flight Control Has Big Job Of Handling Local, Transient Traffic

It looks easy. Easy as falling off a log backwards, you might say. An airfield sends up a bunch of planes—maybe a half dozen, maybe two dozen, maybe more. They must take off within a few minutes of each other, and must land in the same short time.

Their flights must be arranged so that they will leave and return to the field in an orderly, pre-arranged manner so as to facilitate training schedules. And while its own planes are flying, the field must be prepared to accommodate any Army traffic in the vicinity.

This is the job of Flight Control, a little-known and highly important set-up at any army air field. At Pyote Army Air Field Capt. Ralph K. Watts is the officer in charge.

Major responsibility of Flight Control is to facilitate all local and transient Army flights, thus increasing the number of completed missions, with the greatest safety possible. Their 24-hour schedule also calls for the following chores: Plotting flights from take-off to landing, giving advisory service to in-flight aircraft on weather changes and unforeseen hazards, answering of specific requests for information or suggestions concerning missions being flown, speeding up of maintenance and liaison activities, training of both pilots and radio operators in actual combat radio procedures, controlling of all traffic over the Pyote AAF bomb ranges, and furnishing "homing" bearings to lost aircraft.

The ground-to-plane communication handled in Flight Control is divided into two sections—voice

and continuous wave. (Known to the fraternity as CW or "code"). Voice, as it signifies, is carried on by direct telephone or teletalk connects between the Flight Control room and all other radio facilities on the base and planes within range. On tactical training missions the Flight Control Officer or authorized representative receives all pertinent information concerning the flight before the plane takes off.

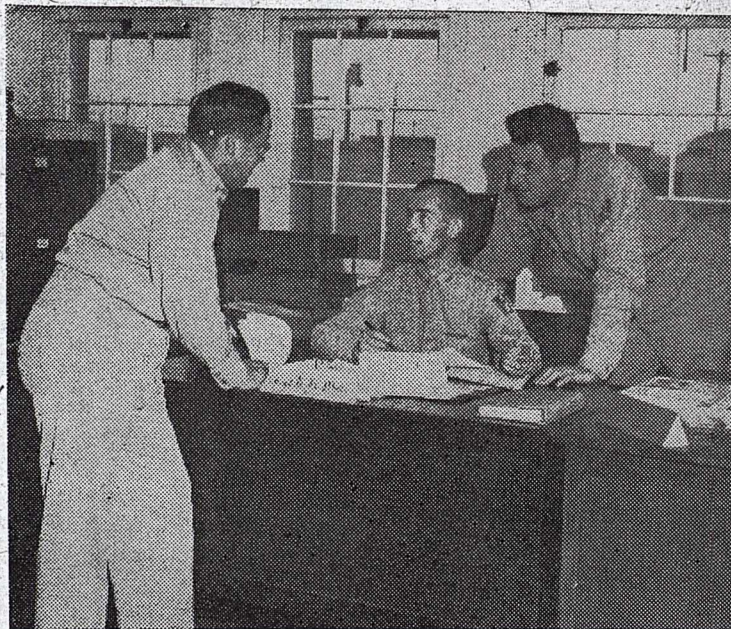
When these planes are in flight, the control room is plotting their positions at all times on a large scale metallic map. How is this done? For example—all planes are required to send in hourly position reports and their location is then plotted on the control map. If the aircraft is out of the range of voice control, contact is then established between the plane and ground by CW communication.

In the "code" room, a large receiver or directional finding instrument is constantly manned to await for signals from aircraft re-

(Continued On Page 9)



Plotting the flights of planes in the air are these two Wacs who work in the Flight Control Office: Pvt. Ceil Seeman (left) and Pvt. Nancy Tileston. Both are Flight Control clerks.



At work here are (l to r): Lt. B. W. Weisman, Flight Control Communications Officer; Capt. R. K. Watts, Flight Control Officer; and Lt. V. R. Watons, Flight Control Administrative Officer.

THE COVER

Plotting the approach of an inbound plane is but one of the many duties of the Flight Control Office. Sgt. Alexander O'Neil phones dispatcher informing him of landing, S-Sgt. Bill Rigely, NCO in charge, watches approach of the ship, as Pvt. Esther Freedman keeps in voice-contact with the pilot. Flight Control maintains the precise task of keeping contact with all ships in air, and the local office has been commended for its excellent record.

EDITORIAL

Demobilization Plan

The long-awaited plan of the army for partial demobilization from its present peak strength following the collapse of Germany has been announced.

Before the plan was completed, the War Department went to the men themselves and tried to find out their sentiments regarding the separation of men from the service. Both in this country and overseas, enlisted men were interviewed. Ninety per cent of the men interviewed said they thought that men who have been overseas and men with dependent children should have priority of separation. As finally worked out, the plan to be used by the War Department is based on these principles.

Following the defeat of Germany, an "Adjusted Service Rating Card" will be issued to all enlisted personnel. On this card will be scored the following four factors which will determine priority of separation:

1. Service credit—Based upon the total number of months of Army service since Sept. 16, 1940.
2. Overseas credit—Based upon the number of months served overseas.
3. Combat credit—Based upon the first and each additional award to the individual of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Purple Heart, and Bronze Service Stars (battle participation stars).
4. Parenthood credit—Based upon number of children; credit given for each dependent child under 18 years old up to a limit of three children.

The plan is slated to work like this:

Certain units will be designated "surplus" when they are no longer needed. Then from all other units in that theater, men who are decided to be "surplus" will be transferred into this unit, and it will be shipped home. Just because you happen to be in a surplus unit doesn't mean you'll go home; all men, in whatever units they may be serving, are rated according to the priority credit scores. The other three units will continue on active duty. If they are shipped to a new theater, their cards will be kept and the men will go into new surplus units as fast as they are formed.

In active theaters, such as the Southwest Pacific, there will be no surplus units, but individuals may be declared surplus and MAY be sent home. A man's chances of going home are subject to two very important qualifications: (1) A replacement of the same type must be available, and (2) The military situation must permit.

Military necessity is the final guiding principle. The War Department states: "In all cases, however, the demands of military necessity and the needs of the war against Japan must first be met. Regardless of a man's priority standing, certain types of personnel can never become surplus as long as the war against Japan continues."

THE RATTLER

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The Wolf

by Sansone



What Kind Of Fighter Is The Jap?

By Camp Newspaper Service

Millions of words of analysis have been written about the Japanese soldier since our war with his nation began. Yet today, despite all these words, he remains an enigma even to those American soldiers who have met him in combat. No one can quite figure him out.

Just what is he like, this bandy-legged, myopic little man who sells his life so cheaply? How does he fight? What tricks does he play in the jungle? What makes him act the way he does?

Here are some answers to these questions from infantrymen who have fought the Jap and licked him—at Munda, Kwajalein, Attu.

A rifleman: "He has no guts, but he is treacherous as hell. He won't face an American soldier with an M1 rifle, but he'll burrow himself into a hole and stay there a month, sniping at you until you pick him off or dig him out. Then he'll blow himself up with a hand grenade before he'll give up."

An I and R scout: "I met him at Kwajalein. He's a dangerous little monkey, but, shot for shot, GI Joe has got it all over him in nerve, guts and common sense. When the Jap's leaders are gone so is his initiative and he'll crawl into a hole and just wait there for you to close in and get him. He'll try to get you first, however."

A reconnaissance sergeant: "He's kind of stupid, a poor shot, and no match for a Yank, physically, mentally or psychologically. But because he's such a determined, fanatic little ape, you've got to watch him every minute. At Munda, the bayonet fights were few and far between, but when we had them, our soldiers proved to be much the superior."

Rifle squad leader: "I found in the fighting on Kwajalein that the individual Jap soldier is not a good fighting man, especially when he is caught by surprise and doesn't have a chance to get organized."

A platoon guide: "He is a fanatic who will fight to his death and is therefore not to be taken lightly. However, fanaticism is a poor substitute for courage and clear-headed thinking. In many instances Japs attacking our positions made suicidal charges that doomed them from the beginning."

A rifleman: "He's a tricky little weed. I have known him to kill a GI, then take the GI's clothing and sneak into our lines. You can always spot a Jap, however, even in Yank clothing. The way he walks with short, choppy steps and a sort of shuffle always give him dead away."

RUSSIA (CNS)—Undisputed Allied ace of aces in World War II is Lt. Col. Alexander Pokryshkin, of the Soviet Air Force, who has downed 59 enemy planes.

"A" Men

HERE 'N THERE IN A . . . Pvt. Jesus Silvas has received his honorable discharge from the ranks of Pyote and is on his merry way home . . . Sgt. Harry Hopkins has been transferred into our midst. Welcome, Harry . . . Congratulations to Pfc. Robert Barton who became a papa recently . . . Back in S-1, this time trying his luck at the Stat Board, is agile Cpl. Murray Greenfield . . . Ask Sgt. Fred Smith what he has against PT these days . . . Pfc. Dick Freeman is on DS to Patterson Field, Ohio, for a short spell . . . T-Sgt. Joe Toper is back at Pyote with his wife . . . Pfc. Jasper Ruffalo has been discharged and also heads for home . . . Newcomer to Headquarters menagerie (located between Station Files and the Adjutant's Office) is Pfc. Walter Holm . . . Pvt. Johnnie Jacobs is doing a hot job on the haircuts in the Day Room these days. Try him out, he's OK . . . S-Sgt. Paul VonKhrum is in the new Personal Affairs Office as first class assistant to Capt. Harnett . . . It was dryer outside then it was in Headquarters last week when the rains came. Buckets and small jars could be seen all over, looking rather helpless in attempting to catch the torrents of agua that found their way through the roof. . . . transferred to Florida are Sgt. Harvey Snider, Pfc. Ezell Collum and Pfc. Robert Renard . . . Good Kid Badges are finally out to all of you who have waited so long. Put 15 cents with that piece of paper and you'll have your very original and distinctive marking of fame in these parts . . . Some newcomers to A are Sgt. Clifford Young, S-Sgt. Al Janeski and Cpl. Clyde Glenn.

Did anyone notice Sgt. Andy Gazak's condition recently. Since WAC Pvt. Kathryn Suprosky has been in the hospital, he has been a slight bit dejected and forlorn.

Pvt. Oliver Roth's outlook on Pyote has picked up considerably since his wife met him in Fort Worth and they spent a few happy days there. They have returned to the Field to make their new home.

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS)—Joe Lavioletti, an electrician, hopped out of bed early one morning to go to work. As he did so, another man jumped out of the window with Joe's pants. Joe recovered the vital gear a few minutes later, outside his window, minus his wallet and \$100.

DETROIT (CNS)—Meanest men of the week are Charlie Willoughby and Jasper Manier, sentenced to jail for selling two whiskey bottles to a local resident. The bottles were full of cold tea.

MALECALL

By Milton Caniff



MAINTENANCE NEWS

The other night a severe storm and a tiny Cub aircraft arrived at Pyote almost at the same instant. The Cub attempted a landing at Pecos but that field was completely closed in. Continuing on here, the pilot of the small craft was caught in the rush of traffic hurrying to beat the storm in.

The Cub was given the red light by the tower in favor of other ships already in the traffic pattern and making their approach, but by now the wind had built up a velocity almost dangerous for the Cub to tarry any longer in the air—so he came in practically under the wing of a big bomber and the moment his wheels hit, his engine quit—out of gas.

The boys from Hangar One were immediately on hand to keep the wind from blowing the small plane away and it was pushed from the airstrip to the hangar just before the real fury of the storm hit. Somewhere in the shuffle the pilot's name was lost, but who ever he was he must have

a guardian angel and she was sure riding with him on that hop.

Lt. Ronald Elliot of Hangar One is leaving shortly for engine school but will be back with us when his course is completed. Pfc. Don Morris is all in a dither. His fiance (meaning wife to be) is arriving here in the morning from Oklahoma.

GI INSURANCE TOTALS \$117 BILLIONS

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Veterans' Administration now has become the world's largest life insurance company. It has policies worth \$117,670,000,000 outstanding for men and women in the service.

DEWITT GETS MCNAIR'S POST

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt has been assigned to succeed the late Lt. Gen. Leslie J. McNair in an undisclosed command of great importance in Europe, the War Department has disclosed. Gen. McNair was killed in Normandy July 25 by a bomb dropped by an American plane participating in the bombardment which opened the way for the break through of American forces near St. Lo.

BRIEF POINTS From Section C

By PVT. WALTER M. CABELL

A few nights ago, while on guard duty, Pvt. Robert Berkley lost his purse containing important papers, as well as 63 dollars. It was found by Pvts. Cobugh and Powell, of another unit. After a diligent search for the owner, they finally located Berkley, and returned the missing purse. You can imagine his amazement and thanks. "Real sportsmanship," he said.

S-Sgt. Smith does an excellent job as mess sergeant. He's been serving in the capacity of "Chief" for eight months now, and he should know his job.

As a result of "Talent Night," last Thursday week, our Unit is about ready to begin the rehearsals for our Variety Show. The Bingo party went off with a "Bing-Bang" last Sunday, too. Some fun! Quite a few prizes were given.

Is that machine on which you work properly guarded? If not, what are you doing about it?

Thursday Club Holds Meeting

During the September business meeting of the Thursday Club, Capt. C. J. Harnett spoke on personal affairs duties and discussed methods whereby he and the club women could be of assistance to each other.

Mrs. M. Miller announced the beginning of a 20-hour Red Cross first aid course on Sept. 12. Classes are to be conducted on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 12:30 for the next three weeks.

Mrs. J. W. Martin stated a six-weeks bridge tournament will be sponsored starting Sept. 19, at 8 p.m. at the Officers Club. Admission is 25 cents per person.

Chairmen appointments were made, with Mrs. C. P. Blair heading personal affairs; Mrs. R. S. Hull the "spotters"; Mrs. G. W. Martin, special activities; Mrs. Miller, Red Cross activities; and Mrs. C. C. Schierholz, public relations.

Mrs. W. W. Jones informed the group she would be leaving soon and commented on having enjoyed working with the group.

Luncheon hostesses were:

Mrs. S. J. Mangimelli, Mrs. A. M. Michaelson, Mrs. C. C. Line, and Mrs. B. H. Battock.

Later cards were played with Mrs. R. Wertzler winning the bridge prize and Mrs. R. K. Watts the gin rummy prize.

Bridge and rummy parties will be held on the 14th and 28th of the month at 2:15 p.m. All officers wives are cordially invited to attend these functions.

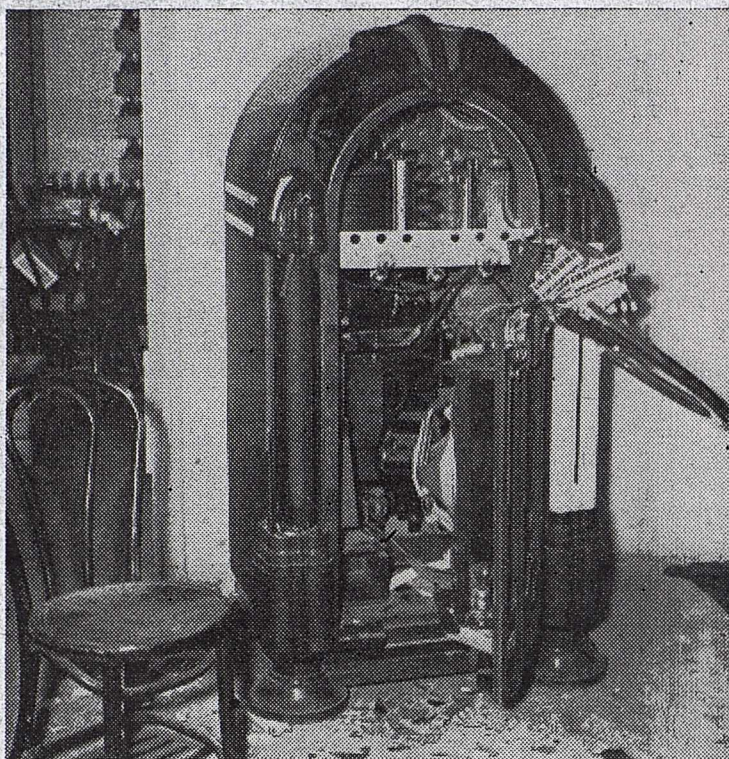
Flight Control-

(Continued From Page 6)

questing "bearings". The exact location is then determined when the signal from the plane is balanced in the Directional Finding receiver by a synchronized "tone". The bearing is then given to the aircraft and also relayed to the plotting room to locate the "lost" plane.

Also in the same room are other radio receivers. These are used for the sole purpose of receiving continuous wave messages from aircraft in flight. The receivers are manned by qualified radio operators, who relay all messages to cryptographers for decoding. Flight Control upon receipt of these messages, plots the position of the plane and will issue instructions or give whatever information is needed for the success of that mission.

A local tactical bombing mission would serve as an example of the efficiency of Flight Control. The aircraft commander will check with Flight Control for information before entering the bombing



The Enlisted Men's Bowling Alleys was broken into and vandals damaged the "juke-box". Base authorities are investigating this unsoldierly act of vandalism, reflecting, as it does, on all the GIs at PAAF.

ranges. The pilot is then advised of the traffic pattern and altitude of the range to be used. During this mission over the bombing "target", Flight Control is notified as to the location of each plane. This information is plotted on the Bomb Range Traffic Control Board so that two planes will not cross courses at approximately the same altitude or drop bombs on each other. Upon completion of the bombing mission, the aircraft notifies Flight Control that it is leaving the bombing range.

After the training mission is declared a "success", the aircraft commander will contact Flight Control and notify that they intend to land. But in case an aircraft has been "damaged" Flight Control immediately notifies Maintenance and they in turn send a crew to await the landing. The pilots will, when contacting Flight Control, include in their reports added information which can then be utilized in later flights.

Whenever communications are severed between aircraft and Flight Control because of weather or static conditions, the plane relays position reports and other flight information through A.A.C. S. (Army Airways Communication System) and A.T.C. (Airway Traffic Control).

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The villain in a thrilling movie serial so incensed one 11-year-old patron of a local theater that he peppered the screen with BB shot, necessitating the installation of a new screen.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

In memory of our beloved late 1st-Sgt. James W. Schurr who was killed while returning from the Medics' ball game at Carlsbad, N. M. This expresses the sincerest sentiment of the entire hospital personnel. — T-Sgt. Lawrence H. Shipp.

IN MEMORIUM

Though he that ever kind and true
Kept stoutly step by step with you,
Your whole long gusty lifetime through,
Be gone awhile before—
Be now a moment gone before,
Yet doubt not; soon the seasons shall restore
Your friend to you.

He is not dead, this friend—not dead,
But in the path we mortals tread
Got some few, trifling steps ahead.
And nearer to the end—
So that you, too, once past the bend,
Shall meet again, as face to face,
This friend you fancy dead.

Push gaily on, strong heart; the while
You travel forward, mile by

IN OUR MIDST

By SGT. THEORA FRENCH and PVT. BARBARA COLEGROVE

Never before in our Pyote career have we wished that it would stop raining, but we have just such a statement tonight. We thought that Special Service took care of everything on the base, but when we called today for a rowboat to get us home from work, they were fresh out. We ask you, in a place like Pyote where rowboats are so important, is that anyway to run an office? We have a money-making suggestion for anyone with enough energy to take it up; we suggest a Sir Walter Raleigh ferry system be run in front of the Station Hospital and the Officers Club.

Our PERSONALITY of last week was none other than our own Lt. Haslam, "The Pistol Packin' Mamma of the Wacs".

Hello to Sgt. Sylvia Wexler who has been doing a swell job on re-recruiting for the past ten months. The Sergeant will take up her old stand at the Base Administrative Inspector's office, as well as barking out the orders as Chief of Barracks No. 2.

Welcome back from furlough to Pvt. Bernice Ross and Pvt. May L. Tacchi. Congratulations are in order this week to our 1st-Sgt. Mary Roman and Sgt. Norman Jensen. The reason? Mary is sporting a lovely ring on her third finger, left hand. We can't pin them down to a date for the wedding just yet.

If you saw a lot of frantic, demented WACs chasing each other around the area last Monday, it wasn't that we all got mad and were going home; Lt. Haslam put all of our names in a hat and shook them up, madly, and then we drew for new quarters. Don't ask us anymore where so and so lives, because we don't know. We're not so sure where we belong ourselves, let alone where we left that second barracks bag, and the spare tooth brush.

LAUGH 'O THE WEEK

NEW GUINEA—A Jap surrendered sheepishly to two GIs on patrol. He explained that the aroma of U. S. Army chow finally wore down his resistance.

mile,
He loiters with a backward smile
Till you can overtake,
And strains his eyes to search his wake,
Or, whistling, as he sees you through the brake,
Waits on a stile.
—Robert Louis Stevenson.

RATTLER SPORTS

The Ring Lost A Scrapper But The Army Gained One In This Encounter

"The little town was buzzing with an excitement that was rare on the Kansas prairies in the early 1900's," begins an article in the September issue of Coronet magazine. The excitement centered around a slender, sturdy-legged, tow-haired youth who strode briskly along the twilight streets with a newspaper wrapped package under his arm. In it were a pair of rubber-soled shoes, a pair of boxing trunks and a sweat shirt.

The young man walked so fast that his heavy-set companion breathlessly begged him to slow down lest he wear himself out before he got to their destination... an improvised boxing ring where waited Frankie Brown, a professional boxer... stocky, thick-necked and round-headed. Outside the ring were the Kansan's friends, shouting words of encouragement, urging him to show the skill that had made him the pride of that little town.

The Kansan was lean and rangy and fast. And his excellent footwork was to his advantage. He danced back from Frankie Brown's stinging left jabs and rolled his body under the powerful right-hand punches. He realized early in the match that his only chance to win a clear-cut victory over Brown was to out-general him, Coronet relates.

But Frankie Brown was a ring-master too. It was a clean, hard fight. A case of one natural-born fighter pitted against another who fought because he loved it. They were as evenly matched as any two boxers who had ever stepped in the ring. The bout was declared a draw and even the spectators agreed with the judges that this was the only possible decision.

After the match was over, Frankie Brown caught up with the smiling tow-head who had wrapped up his paraphernalia and was started home. They began a conversation and stopped off in a lunchroom to talk over a sandwich and a glass of milk.

Frankie Brown told his opponent how much he had admired his ring style, what a great boxer he'd make. But the other smiled. "I'm going to college and get an education, so I'll be able to carve out a career to suit my own ideas."

They talked to nearly midnight, says Coronet, and in the end, it was the views of Frankie Brown that were changed. He decided to give up boxing as a career and enter college, even if it meant working his way through. He thanked the Kansan for the ad-

vice.

"You're welcome Frankie," the young Kansan laughingly replied.

At that Brown grinned back. "Forget that Frankie Brown stuff. That's just my ring name. My real name's Rockne—Knut Rockne. And say, if I should want to write you, how should I spell that last name of yours?"

"E-i-s-e-n-h-o-w-e-r. Dwight Eisenhower," the lanky Kansan smiled.



Q. I'm a Regular Army man, see, with two hitch stripes on my sleeve. I have been told that I am not eligible for benefits under the GI Bill of Rights because I'm not a selectee. That sounds fishy but it might be true. Tell me, is it?

A. Of course not. The only eligibility requirement for GI Bill of Rights benefits is that you must have served in the Army on or after Sept. 16, 1940.

Q. I'm attending Cooks and Bakers School but, at heart, I'm really a fighting man. I want to transfer to the Rangers. How can I do this?

A. Right now you're out of luck. The Rangers do not exist as a TO prat of the Army. They were formed from men taken from other units in Africa and England. Thus far, no Ranger units have been formed in the U. S.

PUTNEY, VT. (CNS) — While Leon Wood was milking a cow, the cow picked Leon's pocket and swallowed his wallet. Wood then killed the cow, recovered his wallet and also a darning needle, two fish hooks, his driver's license and his A-gasoline ration book, all of which the cow had swallowed previously.

2AAF "SUPERBOMBERS"

ALL-PACIFIC COAST, ALL-AMERICA HALF-BACK, NOW STAR ON 2AAF ELEVEN

Lt. Billy SEWELL

DURING HIGH SCHOOL IN TACOMA, HE ONLY WEIGHED 110 LBS. SO WASN'T ALLOWED TO PLAY FOOTBALL, BUT LATER PLAYED SEMI-PRO AND ON WASHINGTON STATE FRESHMAN TEAM IN '37. WEIGHED 180 FOR HIS 6 FT. 1 IN. IN '39 AFTER WHICH THERE WAS NO STOPPING HIM

7th LEADING COLLEGE KICKER IN THE U.S. IN '38 WITH AVERAGE OF 42.9 YARDS. THREW TOUCHDOWN PASS TO BEAT WASHINGTON IN FIRST GAME HE STARTED. NATION'S LEADING PASSER IN '40 WITH TOTAL OF 87 COMPLETIONS. RAN BLOCKED KICK OVER FOR POINT THAT BEAT STANFORD 14-13 IN '41.

Monahans Grigger With Superbombers

MONAHANS, Sept. 14 — Sgt. Don Leuthy, who played a stellar brand of tackle for Monahans a few years ago, is on the squad of the 2nd Air Force Superbombers. Sgt. Leuthy finished here in 1940 and later attended Texas A. and M., where he was an outstanding candidate for all-Southwest honors at tackle until he suffered a mid-season injury that forced him out of play. He is expected to be a bulwark in the Superbombers' forward wall.

Help save the government tires so that there will be more tires for private use.

THE SOUTHERN INVASION—WAR'S WORST KEPT SECRET

FRANCE (CNS) — The invasion of Southern France was the worst kept secret of the war, according to Supreme Headquarters here. Thousands of Frenchmen and Americans knew it was coming and correspondents in Normandy and Brittany were constantly being asked about it by both Frenchmen and GIs.

KNOXVILLE, TENN. (CNS)—When George Cazana, manager of the Seven Seas juke joint, opened shop one morning, he found the juke box blaring and \$2,460 missing from the till. The tune in the juke box was "Pistol Packin' Mama."

7-A Grid Play Starts Friday

Monahans, Wink And Kermit Big 3 Of Flag Race

(Ed. Note — For the football faithful, The Rattler prints here-with a preview of the season ahead for Class A teams in this section. District 7-A includes Kermit, Wink, Monahans and Pecos. Next week we'll give a 3-AA forecast).

MONAHANS, Sept. 14—District 7-A's cut-throat football league, where the winner is usually glad when the firing stops, starts its title chase with three games this week-end.

Signs point to a well-balanced race, with the play probably being dominated by three clubs—Monahans, Wink and Kermit. Up at Wink, where the Wildcats hardly ever confess having enough boys for scrimmaging purposes until they've already sacked up the gon-falon, Coach Bryan Henderson says, "Not good, not bad," and lets it go at that.

The Wildcats have nine lettermen back from their last year's team which won bi-district honors. Around these boys and six reserve lettermen Henderson will build his '44 edition.

Monahans intends to field a light, well-balanced and well-oiled precision outfit, vastly different from some of the ponderous Green Wave elevens of pre-war vintage. Head Coach Milton McClesky has eight lettermen back, and a squad of 29 boys altogether, to pick from.

Kermit has stamped all information concerning her team "Secret" but the latrine gossip is that the Yellow Jackets have a lot of stuff on the ball. They open their season on Sept. 22 against Monahans.

In Pecos, the Eagles are bounding back with a full squad of experienced boys after a season of disappointing losses last year.

District 7-A teams will play a round-robin schedule, meeting each other twice—once in fun and once in earnest. Only exception will be Wink and Kermit, who play only once, and it is a conference game.

The season schedule:

Sept. 15—Jal, N. M. at Wink; Grandfalls at Monahans, and Pecos at Crane; Sept. 22—Pecos at Wink; Monahans at Kermit; Sept. 29—Wink at Hobbs, N. M.; Pecos at Monahans; Oct. 6—Wink at Monahans, Lovington at Kermit, McCamey at Pecos; Oct. 13—Andrews at Wink, Kermit at Pecos, Monahans at Crane; Oct. 20—Monahans at Wink; Oct. 21—Pecos at Austin High (El Paso); Oct.



JOHNNY STRZYKALSKI

Hard-Plunging Back Is Pyote's Donation To 2AF Football Team

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—Pyote (Tex.) Army Air Field's contribution to the 2nd Air Force's 1944 football team is peppery Johnny Strzykalski, a football sensation at Marquette University in 1942.

Strzykalski, whose name is a harbinger of dread to linotype operators and opposing linemen alike, is expected to see a lot of action for the Superbombers this fall.

A sawed-off 195-pounder who runs with punishing power, Strzykalski won honorable mention on the Associated Press and International News Service All-American teams in his only year of varsity competition before Uncle Sam beckoned.

The Milwaukee lad was third among the nation's punters with an average of 41.9 yards; first in Mid-West with a mark of 42.8, and second, in Mid-West punt and kickoff returns.

That same season, Strzykalski ran back two kickoffs for touchdowns, bolting 93 yards for a score as Manhattan was beaten, 27 to 13, and travelling 90 yards for a

27—Pecos at Kermit; Nov. 3—Wink at Pecos, Seminole at Kermit, Texas Deaf School at Monahans; Nov. 10—Kermit at Monahans; Nov. 17—Tahoka at Monahans; Nov. 23—Kermit at Wink, Monahans at Pecos.

touchdown in Marquette's 34 to 14 victory over Iowa State.

Another of his bright achievements was a 90-yard kick in the game with Great Lakes, one of two teams to defeat Marquette in 1942, while against Michigan State he figured in all the point-making in a 28 to 7 triumph, scoring two touchdowns and passing for the other two.

Strzykalski for three successive years was Milwaukee all-city high school back and an all-city basketball player two years in a row, setting a scoring record of 140 points for one season. He also threw the shot on the school's state championship track team.

The 2AAF back has two more years of college competition left. He came to Second Air Force from Peterson Field, Colorado Springs, by way of the Army Air Field at Pyote, Texas.



Brass hats in the United States Army have become as sports conscious as Brooklyn Dodger fans. And from now on you're going to see a lot of sports activity in the Army—both within the U. S. and abroad.

According to the War Department, the Army is planning to spend about \$20,000,000 on sporting goods for GIs during the coming year. This outlay is almost three times the amount laid aside for sports equipment last year.

The Army also has set up a special command to carry out its new sports program in order to place more emphasis on sports in the training of soldiers.

Here's the way the WD explains its new plan:

"Hitherto, exigencies of combat training have necessitated emphasizing physical conditioning with competitive games limited to leisure time. As the tactical situation improves, Army planning can be expected to encourage the natural desire of the soldier for competitive athletics. . . ."

Casey Has a Winner

Old Casey Stengel is smiling again. For the first time in ten years he has a good ball club to manage. After quitting his depressing job with the Boston Braves, he signed up to succeed Charlie Grimm as boss of the Milwaukee Brewers, of the American Association, and right now the Brewers are leading the pack.

In Casey's lexicon there are only two kinds of ball players, good ones, or "professionals"—the kind he has at Milwaukee this year, and bad ones, or "ribbon clerks"—the kind he used to have at Brooklyn and Boston.

Once, when the ageless professor was managing the Dodgers many years ago he sent in a pinch runner an over-zealous youngster who had joined the team just the day before. Carrying the winning run, the young hero rounded second on a banjo hit, came into third under a full head of steam and then fell flat on his face at Casey's feet and was tagged out. The good professor had just one comment to make of his disappointing performance. "Get up, you ribbon clerk," he said—and walked away.

STOP ACCIDENTS

Do you know that athletics caused 309 accidents, or 18 percent of the total accidents to military personnel of the 2nd Air Force during the first half of 1944?

Sept 14, 1944

ALLIED TROOPS AT GERMAN SEIGFRIED LINE

FDR, Churchill Discuss Defeat Of Pacific Foe

Number 1 topic across the nation was the war against Europe, as this week the Allies raised the curtain on the third act of the war against Germany. American forces hit the territory of Germany-proper and started an assault on the much-vaunted Siegfried line.

And throughout the world, events marched forward with increasing pace to climax the increasingly-apparent downfall of the Third Reich.

Yank units took over sections of the Maginot line, hauled up the heaviest U. S. guns—the new 240 mm. Howitzer—to shell Germany. Luxembourg fell to the Allies, and the British entered Holland.

In Eastern France, the forces of the two invading armies, the First from the west, and the Seventh from the south, met to bring full weight against a trembling west wall.

Russian advance patrols penetrated into East Prussia as Red troops galvanized for action in the drive across West Poland before "General Mud" took over.

The Yanks on the Italian front continued a slower, but no less relentless advance, hitting the trail that led to the Gothic line.

Marshal Tito's Yugoslav patriots maintained their active against their German oppressors, captured the quisling dictator of Croatia.

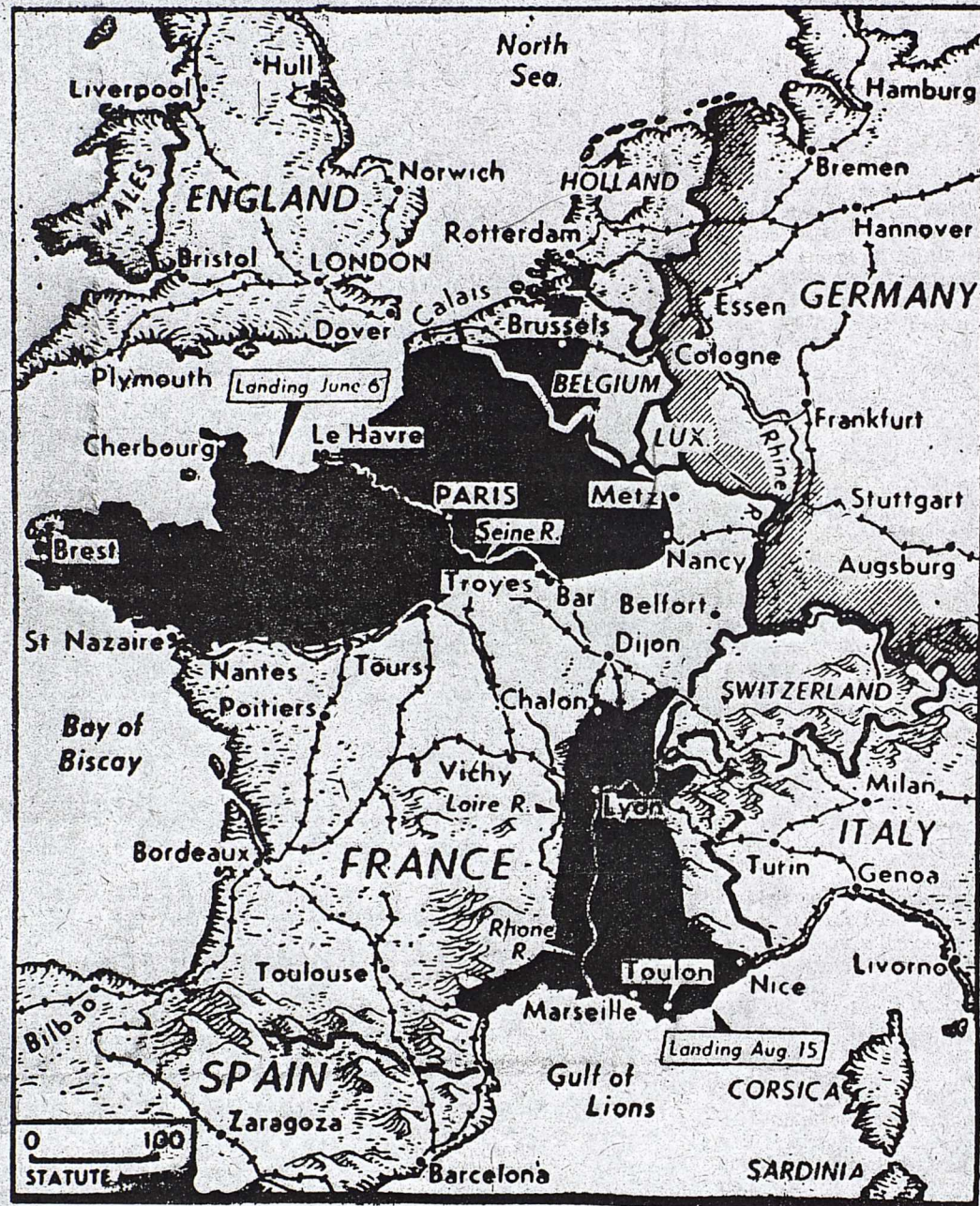
From Washington, Secretary of State Cordell Hull warned Austria to throw in its lot with the Allies and join the increasing number of Axis satellites who realize that the Hitler jig is up.

While a flood of Red Army men and materials swamped through Transylvania, in cooperation with Rumanian armies, other Russian units smashed toward Czechoslovakia via southern Poland.

A 5,000-plane raid Sunday night, from Britain and Italy, battered German industries, and Monday, "thousands and thousands" of Allied planes struck hard and telling blows at Hitler's oil refineries.

With such a concerted onslaught swinging toward them from all sides with unabated fury, it is small wonder that Nazis frantically attempted to control opinion inside Germany.

"Every good German is for-



bidden to talk of the end of the war or even allude to a peace compromise," read the order of the day.

Nor were the Japs neglected. The Phillipine Islands were pounded, pounded, and pounded again, in what promised to be the advance pressure to fulfill MacArthur's pledge: "I will return!"

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill met in Quebec, exchanged a few pleasantries, and then settled down to the serious business of planning strategy for final victory against Japan.

Their retinue read like a Who's Who of Allied military strategists, gathered to plot

what Secretary Early declared to be "largely, if not exclusively, a military conference."

War prophets, who still argue whether Russia will join with Britain and the U. S. against Japan, attempted to read some meaning into the fact that Stalin was invited to attend this conference—primarily concerned with the defeat of Japan. Nor could the Japs gain much enjoyment from Stalin's reply that "mounting offensives in Russia kept him from attending."

Topic No. 3 on the U. S. mind was "reconversion", and what and how the country would reconvert—and to what degree—after Germany falls.

Anxious mothers, wives, and sweethearts trusted hopefully that "their soldier" would be one of the boys discharged after "V-E" day.

Maury Maverick bounced up with a demand that small businesses be allowed to reconvert first. War Mobilizer Byrnes turned over to Congress his plans for demobilization.

And topic No. 4—yes, topic No. 4—on the U. S. list of things to talk about—was another battle—the battle for the American League pennant. It was still anybody's flag with the Yanks, Browns, Tigers, and Red Sox fighting it out to the finish.