

Dec 7, 1944

PYOTE SELECTS SUN PRINCESS

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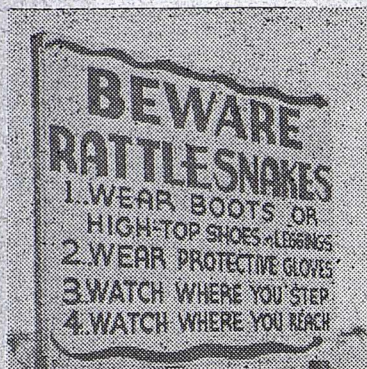


RUSSIAN ARMY NEARS AUSTRIAN APPROACHES

THE RATTLER

PYOTE, TEXAS

Published each Thursday at the Rattlesnake Army Air Field by the Special Service Office in cooperation with Public Relations. The RATTLER receives Camp Newspaper Service; republication is forbidden without permission of CNS, 205 E. 42 St. NYC 17. Any other material may be republished. Opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and should not be construed as those of the AAF. Local pictures by Base Photo Lab.



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Going To Seed?

Pyote, as we have remarked many times to our friends, is an easy place to go to seed.

The monotony of doing the same job seven days a week, of the eat-sleep-work routine, can get a guy down. The lack of bright lights where at to "get away from it all" all too easily wears into a mental rut.

The Pyote brand of "roughing it" makes a fellow careless in many respects. Most of all, it reflects in a rusting of mental alertness, in a failure to keep up with the times, in a lackadaisical attitude that borders on the cynical and the fatalistic.

We've noticed it about ourself. That's why we were pleased when the Special Service Office announced some study-courses for off-duty hours. If sufficient attendance is indicated, classes will be held in a number of subjects—from book-keeping to English History.

We feel it's a good deal. Time is one thing Pyote GIs have plenty of, there's nothing much to do and nowhere to go to do it. A course in some subject a few evenings a week surely can't do any of us harm.

Here's your chance to learn that "radio code"—if you want to; or study up on English Lit, or Algebra, or Public Speaking. Even learn a language, or brush up on that high school French.

Maybe the course will pay direct benefits later. Whether it does or not, it can't help but pay off in general knowledge—in knowing a little more today than you knew yesterday. Most of all, it's something to do with your leisure time to keep you from going to seed.

We're figuring on taking a couple of courses ourself. Because we can't think of any better way to spend off-duty hours that will pay more dividends.

We'll even bring an apple for the teacher. Wanna come along?



The Japs - - So Superior

The durability of Japanese products is a topic designed to bring sneers to our readers. We're inclined to think their lack of mechanical and scientific ingenuity is their most pronounced trait which will eventually lead them to defeat.

But in another department they far outstrip us—and they can have the laurels. Three years ago today they struck Pearl Harbor. Next day President Roosevelt described it as "the day which will live in infamy."

That it has. The Nips are being beaten every day mechanically, scientifically and militarily—but the infamy department they've got the jump on us. The day of their greatest treachery will live throughout history as one when a supposedly civilized nation hit an unmatchable low in behavior.

RAIN PUTS DAMPER ON LEYTE. FBI CHECKS ON CHEWING GUM

Rounding out the third year, 156th week, of the U.S. at war, this was the news from:

THE EUROPEAN FRONT: Russian troops moved to within 40 miles of the key city of Budapest, reached the shallow Lake Balaton that guards the approaches to Austria, in a fast-paced attack that sent German and Hungarian forces reeling backward. In northeastern Hungary, the Red Star's 4th Ukrainian Army threatened the eastern Slovakia stronghold, Kassa, 20 miles from the railroad-highway that controls all German territory in eastern Slovakia. The U.S. 3rd drove two miles further into the rich Saar basin, as 3 crack divisions hammered toward Saarbrücken. The U.S. 1st advanced to within 20 miles of Cologne. In Italy, German forces counter-attacked Allied positions south of Bologna amid fog and rain. In Greece violence spread as leftists battled against the new Greek government in internal revolt. Martial law was declared. The revolutionists plotted a march on Athens. From London came the full story of the brave defense of Malta, and the startling figures that one out of every 200 civilians was killed, and an average of 99 tons of bombs rained down on each square mile of the island fortress during its 28 months' seige.

THE ASIATIC FRONT: Foreign Minister T. V. Soong, brother of Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, assumed duties as premier of China to pave the way for a working agreement between the central government and the Chinese communists. Washington announced that U.S. subs sank a Jap light cruiser and destroyer. Nip forces continued their drive in China through Kwienchow province. In an effort to reinforce the Japanese position on Leyte, a naval battle ensued with both the U.S. and the Japs losing a destroyer each. Continual rains kept Leyte fighting at a stale-mate, but U.S. forces kept patrolling the Ormoc corridor. Iwo Jima, Jap volcanic island, 750 miles from Tokyo, took an aerial pounding from the navy planes.

THE HOME FRONT: The Federal Trade Commission promised an investigation to see just who had all the cigarettes. FDR gave the State Dept. a shake-up after the Stettinius appointment. Joseph Grew, former ambassador to Japan, was named undersecretary. The Dorsey-Hall trial kept popping fireworks on the coast. Congress passed the pension bill for widows and orphans of World War One. Governor Dewey arrived back in New York after a month's rest. Treasury officials lined up the football game of the year:

THE GOAL: MANILA

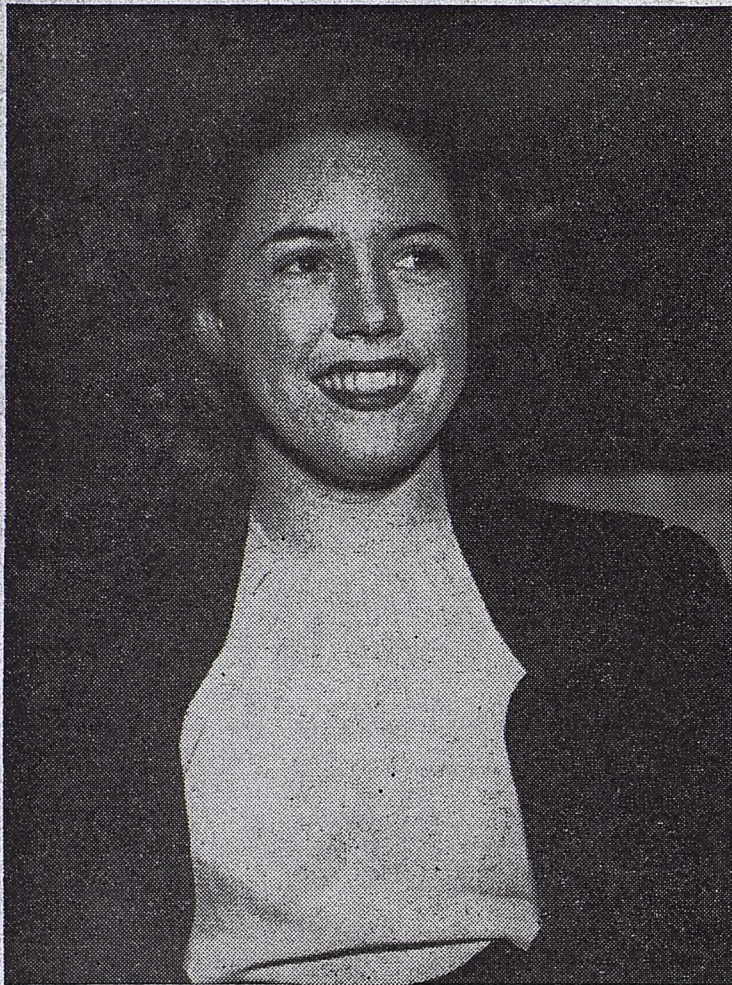


Manila, on Luzon island, only 1836 miles from Tokyo, is one of the main goals of our current campaign. At Cavite, near the capital of the Philippine Islands, is an excellent naval base which formerly was operating headquarters for the U.S. Asiatic Fleet.

Randolph Field vs. the 2AF Superbombers for Dec. 16th at the Polo Grounds. Mrs. Whitehouse, wife of Pfc. Whitehouse, adopted the 10-month-old child of her husband and a Newfoundland girl. The FBI investigated the case of a war-worker injured by exploding chewing gum. Congress was burned up over souvenirs sold at Army-Navy game marked "Made In Japan". A Minneapolis music teacher was strangled. Her 57-year-old "best friend" was Suspect No. 1. Roger Bresnahan, catcher for the famed Christy Mathewson of the old NY Giants died. So did Mrs. Bergdoll, mother of the famous World War I draft dodger. Elliot Roosevelt, Colonel in the Air Force, married movie actress Faye Emerson. Clare Booth Luce, congresswoman, said she wasn't being gagged, that she didn't show for a press conference in England because she didn't feel like it. Laramie (Wyoming) gals were whistling at fellows. Seems they enforce the keep-off-the-grass rule at Wyoming University by all the gals totin' brass whistles. The United States cut back on reconversion due to the shortage of ammunition and badly-needed supplies overseas. Lil' Abner got through another Sadie Hawkins day unharmed and single.

TOY CAMPAIGN GOES OVER TOP

PYOTE SUN PRINCESS



Air Field Employee Picked For Role In El Paso Sun Carnival January 1st

Miss Bobbie Tubbs, a bubbling, brown-eyed brunette, is Pyote AAF's Princess to the 10th Annual Sun Carnival in El Paso.

The 19 year old field employee was selected for her charm and public poise to represent the field in various Sun Carnival events, which will be highlighted by the coronation of the Sun Queen at the New Year's Day football game.

THE COVER-

Now that every GI has written his letter to Santa, and Supply Sergeants have put triple A priorities on socks to hang on barracks ventilators—we know that Christmas is just around the corner. Typical example is the free gift-wrapping booth set up at the Post Exchange. Mrs. Florence Traubman will wrap any gift for mailing, regardless of where it is purchased, and a spiffy job of fancy-wrapping it is, too. Giving the booth (and gifts) a once-over is T-Sgt. Gilbert Reynolds who hopes Santa won't forget him.

(Photo by Gordon.)

Bobbie is well-known on the field for her numerous appearances in field entertainments. As both singer and actress, Bobby played the lead in "Off Limits", as well as appearances in "Cactus Capers" and other variety bills.

A native of Fort Worth, she is employed as secretary to the Station Signal Officer. She's an ardent football fan, bowls a mean game and plays a fast game of basketball.

Her father, Ralph G. Huffman, is a B-29 engine installation inspector, and her mother, Loya A. is also a field employee in the parachute department.

Monahans Backs Rattler's Drive To Provide Toys For Needy Kids

Here's The Dope On Profile Nos.

GIs are being tagged with a new number which will decide the order in which you will be called for overseas duty.

Men throughout the base have, are, or will be profiled by medical authorities to determine their physical fitness and overseas qualifications.

The profile serial number (PSN) consists of six numbers, the lowest "1" and the highest "4", and falls into three classes, A, B, and C. The PSN is a six-digit number: the first standing for physical capacity or stamina, the second to upper extremities, the third, lower, and fourth for hearing, the fifth for sight, and the sixth for neuropsychiatric.

If your PSN starts with a "1", that means your physical stamina is okay, if you win a "2" that means not-so-hot, and "3" is worse.

If your profile serial number is within 11111 and 211211, you're Class "A", from 211211 to 322231, Class "B", and from 322231 to 333231, Class "C".

SOLDIER SHIPPED HOME GOES AWOL INSTEAD

INDIA (CNS)—GIs stationed here are shaking their heads over the caprices of one of their number, a private who went AWOL while awaiting a ship which was to have taken him home to the U. S.

According to an MP report, the reluctant repatriate left Assam Sept. 9 on orders to go home. Instead he took off for Calcutta to visit his girl friend. He finally arrived at the POE a month later, and said he didn't want to go home. Told he would be shipped to the jungle again if he didn't go home, he reconsidered and shipped for the States.

STILWELL DOFFS HAT TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS

CARME, CAL. (CNS)—"My hat is off to this generation," Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell told interviewers in a recent conference here. "I'm for them."

"The Army must have done an excellent job of training," the general said. "The soldiers are more amenable to discipline, and I think the war picture was better presented to them."

Under the able direction of T-Sgt. Lawrence H. Shipp, Santa Claus' helpers, the soldiers who are on the Convalescent Training Program roster at Pyote, will be busy as bees. The Boy Scout Troops of Monahans have seen to it that they'll have plenty to do.

Troops 61, 63 and 80, under the direction of Rex Palmer, Scout Field Executive, scoured the area around Pyote and turned in a truck load of toys to be repaired, repainted and reconditioned. These toys will be distributed to the poor kids in the vicinity of the camp come Yuletide.

It's all a part of the Rattler's campaign to see that a G.I. Santa Claus makes merry the heart of some youngsters who, in the ordinary run of things, might have a bleak and toyless Christmas.

Under the immediate supervision of Scoutmasters T. V. Longbotham and W. R. Smyers, Monahans scouts staged the collection campaign. Housewives had been notified and put toys that could be salvaged out in front of their houses. The scouts made a swift collection and the patients in the Convalescent Training Program and other G. Is who are contributing their time are doing the rest.

By the way if you have a few spare minutes you'd like to turn to some worthy account, drop around and contribute your labor. It will help give some needy kid a real Christmas.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HITLER THE ANSWER—PLENTY!

LONDON (CNS)—Reports concerning Hitler's health—or lack of it—have been as thick in this city as GI giblet gravy. If all of them are true, the German fuhrer is suffering from the following maladies:

- Concussion of the brain.
- Coronary thrombosis.
- Tumor of the throat.
- Paranoia.
- A broken arm.
- An earache.
- Flat feet.

TIME'S AWASTIN'!

There are only—

17

more days—

TILL CHRISTMAS!

Field Inaugurates Nite-School Curriculum

Host Of Subjects Suggested For Spare-time Schoolroom

Two off-duty classes have already commenced in the new PAAF spare-time curriculum which offers GIs a chance to improve their education and put their off-duty hours to a cultural use.

Instituted by Special Services, classes have been organized in Spanish, and in Basic Radio code. In the near future, courses will be offered in any and all languages from Chinese to Pidgin English, as well as classes in math, English, science, history, etc.

Read "Going To Seed?", the editorial on Page 2.

Those interested in signing for any course are invited to stop by the Special Service Office (next door to Service Club) and have a chat with Pvt. Bernard Steinberg.

The Spanish class is held each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings in the Rehearsal hall (the bldg. to the rear of the SS Office) at 7:30. The Radio Code Class is conducted in the bldg. occupied by the Combat Crew Pool office.

No definite schedule has yet been arranged for other courses—in language, business, English, history, math, science, plumbing—or practically anything, be sure to register.

Sole Surviving Sons Get Non-Combat Duty

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Both the War and Navy Departments have approved a policy of releasing from combat duty all men who are the sole surviving sons of parents who have lost two or more sons in battle.

The move was made "in recognition of the sacrifice and contribution made by a family which has lost two or more sons and has only one surviving," the WD announced in a recent release.

Sympathetic consideration will be given to every application in each of these cases if the circumstances warrant it. In most cases the surviving son will be returned to the U.S.A. for duty here or for discharge from the Army or Navy.

However, each case will be decided upon its individual status, the WD has decided. In all cases of extreme hardship arising from family circumstances the Army has in the past cooperated to provide relief from active duty or discharge if the complaint has been found to have merit. The plan of removing men from the hazards of combat activity is an extension of this policy.

DENVER (CNS)—Arrested on a downtown street while wearing a bird cage over his face, a 62-year-old local eccentric had a ready explanation. "I'm a child of impulse," he contended.

CTP Program Adds Extra Service

Lending new emphasis to the Air Corps' slogan "The AAF takes care of its own" announcement was made today of the establishment of a new office in the AAF Regional Station Hospital, Pyote, Texas, for the primary purpose of insuring that sick and wounded soldiers will be placed in AAF jobs best suited for them after their convalescence.

Lt. John R. Minges has assumed duties in the new office. His is but one of one hundred and twenty such offices set up in hospitals through the country. The program is under the supervision of the Hospital Liaison Division of the Personnel Distribution Command in Atlantic City, N. J.

As Hospital Liaison Officer Lt. Minges will be charged with accounting for all Air Force personnel in his hospital and for all personnel of Arms and Services serving with the Air Corps immediately prior to their admittance. His office will also counsel and aid these men in a wide variety of problems, including pay, promotions, awards, etc. "No problem is too trivial for our consideration," Lt. Minges said in urging all Air Force and ASWAAF personnel to make full use of the new facility, "we want every patient who has any kind of problem whatever to call on us. We may not know the answer but we'll exhaust every effort to find it."

Hospital Liaison Officers have been carefully selected with an eye to providing the best qualified personnel. A large proportion of them have served overseas and returned under the Personnel Distribution Command's rotation policy. Lt. Minges was Public Relations Officer for the Golden State International Exposition in San Francisco for three years, and is a member of the American Council of Public Relations.

BOSTON (CNS)—New England educators are worried about the shortage of school teachers here. Massachusetts' 8 teacher-training institutions have lost 43 per cent in enrollment since 1938 and authorities expect the trend to continue.

SOARING 'B-29s' MARK PROGRESS



The scoreboard in front of Base Headquarters, tallies the bond purchases for the 6th War Loan. Broken down into Sections, Officers, and Civilians, the toy Superbombers climb in ratio to the amount of purchases.

Officers Lead In 6th War Bond Purchases On Field

Officers continued to pace the field in the 6th War Loan. Purchases of \$32,985 worth of war bonds gave the officers 76% of their quota. With the 6th War Loan two-thirds over, Pyote had reached 43% of the quota set—\$58,400 purchased toward the quota of \$136,000.

War Bond officials hoped that an upsurge of bond purchases would still put the field over the top before the end of the month.

Christmas Tips Civ. PX Gives

The Civilian Personnel PX is receiving large shipments of attractive gift items that will suit anybody on your Christmas list from Cousin Julius (age 8) to your own "Miss America".

Mrs. Aline Watson, in charge of Christmas gifts at the Civ. PX, gave a number of gift tips for the GIs, officers and civilians at Pyote. (Remember that officers and enlisted men are welcome to shop at the Civilian Personnel PX.)

For example, to quote Mrs. Watson, there are watches—reliable time-pieces—on sale there from \$32.50 to \$75.00. And Indian jewelry (we aren't sure whether Indian takes a capital I or small i), which is sure to please the Missus back home; the jewelry runs the gamut from brooches to ear-clips (and all the stuff in between) priced from \$1.95 to \$35.00.

Then, of course, there's costume jewelry, which—if memory does not fail us—are those novelty bracelets and knick-knacks that the girls sport; and Christmas gift rings for men, women, and children.

Capt. H. D. Lucey, War Bond officer, stated: "I hope the fellas don't forget that they can buy GI bonds by having \$7.50 a month deducted from their pay. War bonds are a smart way to give yourself the Christmas present with the future."

Among enlisted men, Section B led with 66% of its quota purchased to total \$1,080; Section F had bought \$6,825 for 56%; the 728th Band, \$205 for 45%; Section E, \$2830 for 38%; Section A, \$2,090 for 29%; Section D, \$3200 for 19%; Section C, \$635 for 11%; and CCD, \$665 for 7%.

Civilian purchases to Tuesday night totaled \$7,885—28 percent of quota set for civilians on the field.

Mrs. Watson answered our questions about lingerie. (And we were blushing furiously.) She stated that the Civilian Personnel had some very nice lingerie, and that they were expecting a shipment of hosiery, too. (But not nylons!)

And of course, there's stationery, in all shapes, sizes and prices—from 50 cents to \$1.25.

The Civilian Personnel PX is well stocked with any number of attractive items. Mrs. Watson's advice is to come in and look over

Cont. on Page 8, Col. 4)

Theater Schedule

- Thu.—THE DOUGHGIRLS with Ann Sheridan, Jack Carson, and Jane Wyman. (A scrubbed-up version of the stage riot about hotel-room hunting in Washington.) Also, "I Love To Sing" and Paramount News.
- Fri.—NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART with Gary Grant (Ethel Barrymore and Jane Wyatt. (A serious tear-jerking drama about a cockney ne'er-do-well.) Also featurette "I Won't Play".
- Sat.—SIGN OF THE CROSS with Claudette Colbert, Charles Laughton, and Frederick March. (Revival of a 1932 spectacle about the fall of Rome.) Also cartoon "Puttin' On the Dog".
- Sun. & Mon.—FRENCHMAN'S CREEK with Joan Fontaine and Arturo de Cordova. (DeMaurier's novel, in technicolor, of the gentle lady who falls for the Pirate.) Also Paramount news.
- Tue.—(Twin Bill) RECKLESS AGE with Gloria Jean. (Adolescents at work and play.) UNWRITTEN CODE with Tom Neal and Ann Savage. (Which proves that crime doesn't pay.)
- Wed. & Thu.—THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO with Spencer Tracy and Van Johnson. (The fictionization of Doolittle's raid.) Also Paramount news.

Service Club

- Thu.—Sewing from 10 to 5. EM Wives Luncheon: 12 to 1.
- Fri.—DANCE: 9 to Midnight.
- Sat.—Informal activities; letter-writing, radio, etc.
- Sun.—JAN GARBER DANCE AT REC. HALL (8:00-10:30 PM.)
- Mon.—Informal activities; games, recreation, etc.
- Tue.—All-GI Juke Box Dance (8:30-11:00 PM.)
- Wed.—GI Movies 8:30 PM.

Monahans USO

- Thu.—Bingo. Cigarettes for prizes; gingerbread with whipped cream and hot chocolate.
- Fri.—Family night. Informal games.
- Sat.—DnANCE. Refreshments.
- Sun.—Coffee Hour: 11 AM; Cassical Records: 3 to 4 PM; Song Fest: 7 PM; Movie, "Howards of Virginia": 8:30 PM.
- Mon.—Song Fest: 7 PM; Meeting of Junior Hostesses and GIs: 8 PM; Movie, "Howards of Virginia": 8:30 PM.
- Tue.—Arts and Crafts pgm.—Mrs. M. L. H. Baze.
- Wed.—Better Halves Club Luncheon: 12:30 PM; Senior Hostesses Meeting: 3 PM, Catholic Discussion Group: 8:30 PM; Spanish Class: 8:30 PM.

Pyote Talent Troupe Boosts 6th War Loan At Palace Theatre Tues.

A top-notch Pyote Army Air Field talent troupe plays the Palace Theater in Monahans next Tuesday night to aid the sale of war bonds in the Sixth War Loan Drive.

The stage show, for which one 25-dollar bond serves as admission, features a talent-studded lineup of the best of the field's artists.

Highlight of the program is a Monodrama by Charlotte Ash, provocatively entitled "Christmas Every Day". Other entertainers on the bill include Grace Burleson, Gene Elston, Charles S. Rudolph, Harold Mason, magician; John Jerome; Bobbie and Terry Tubbs; Norman Rossfeld and the Comba-

teer Quartet; and Monty Ash, producer and master of ceremonies.

This same Sixth War Loan show played at Wink and Kermit Tuesday and Wednesday in an Army-aided drive to put these communities over the top in the current bond drive.

The acts on the bill are mostly professional; the majority of the artists having worked in stage, screen or radio orbits before donning uniforms.

The entire show is presented by the Special Service Office in cooperation with Mr. Russell Ackley and the Monahans Sixth War Loan Committee.

Tuesday Night Hop Is All-GI

An all-GI "Juke-Box" dance for EM and Wacs will be held Tuesday evening at the Service Club from 8:30 to 11.

Miss Eleanor Crowder, club hostess, announced the "All GI" dance and expressed hope that it can become a regular monthly affair. All Wacs on the field have been invited; and the juke-box is stocked full of current hit tunes.

Dancing starts at 8:30 in the main lounge and will continue until 11 p.m.

Tomorrow evening, Dec. 8th, is dance-night, too, at the Service Club. The regular weekly dance night has been shifted back to Friday, effective this week.

Hostesses from surrounding towns will be on hand to augment the supply of winsome dancing partners. Dancing is from 9 to 12—tomorrow night at the Service Club.

'Hats Off', USOcko Due Here Dec. 14

Another bang-up USO show hits the Rattlesnake field next Thursday, December 14th, for two shows—7 and 9 p.m. at Theater No. 1.

"HATS OFF" is the name, and it features a bevy of young ladies, the Park Avenue Sextette (formerly with Sally Rand, who needs no introduction). The bill includes LeVan and Bolles, a piano and patter team, James Evans, juggler who indulges in fancy footwork; Olga Diebinetz, singer; Herron and Richardson, musical and singing duo, and the Park Avenue Sextette chorus line.

It's a week from tonight, Thursday, December 14th, at Theater No. 1—and, of course, is all free.

★ ★ ★ ★ Star Dust ★ ★ ★ ★

RADIOBITS: Kay Kyser's College of Musical Knowledge may lose its sponsor soon. Reason: Lucky Strike has no cigarettes to advertise. But several big sponsors are angling for the show. . . . Benny's new vocalist is Larry Stevens, replacing Ensign Dennis Day. . . . Of top radio shows 10 years ago, few names remain in the insider circle. Penner, Cantor, Elsie Hitz, Myrt and Marge, Amos 'n Andy—are either dead, vanished, or way down in the listings. . . . Fred Allen probably won't return to the ether this season. . . . Biggest Christmas radio coverage in history will be handled this year by all 4 networks. Lucky break: Christmas eve falls on Sun-

CARY GRANT



Cary Grant in a scene from "None But the Lonely Heart", which plays the Base Theatres Nos. 1 and 2 next Sunday and Monday. Grant assumes a new type of role as the shiftless Cockey of Richard Llewellyn's best-selling book.

Garber Plays For Rec Hall Dance Sunday

Jan Garber, the Sultan of Swing, and his orchestra are playing two dances Sunday evening—from 8 to 10:30 at the Rec. Hall and 11 to 1:30 at the Officers' Club. In order that the dancing time may be increased at each dance, the base orchestra will start the dance at the Officers' Club at 9:00 and will play till 10:30 and then move to the Rec. Hall to take up that dance from where Garber leaves off.

The Rec. Hall dance starts at 8, lasts till midnight; the officers' Club dance runs from 8 to 1:30 a.m.

A goodly supply of girls from the surrounding communities will be on hand for the GIs Sunday evening, and all personnel are invited to attend, either stag or bring a date.

FT. WAYNE, Ind. (CNS)—Paul Perkins took a sleeping powder, dropped into a heavy snooze. While he was sleeping a noisy thief dug Perkins' car out of a mudbank under the sleeper's bedroom and drove off in the auto, which had no muffler, and backfired consistently. Perkins slept on

day, giving "One Man's Family", Jack Benny, et. al. chance to tie Christmas spirit into their shows.

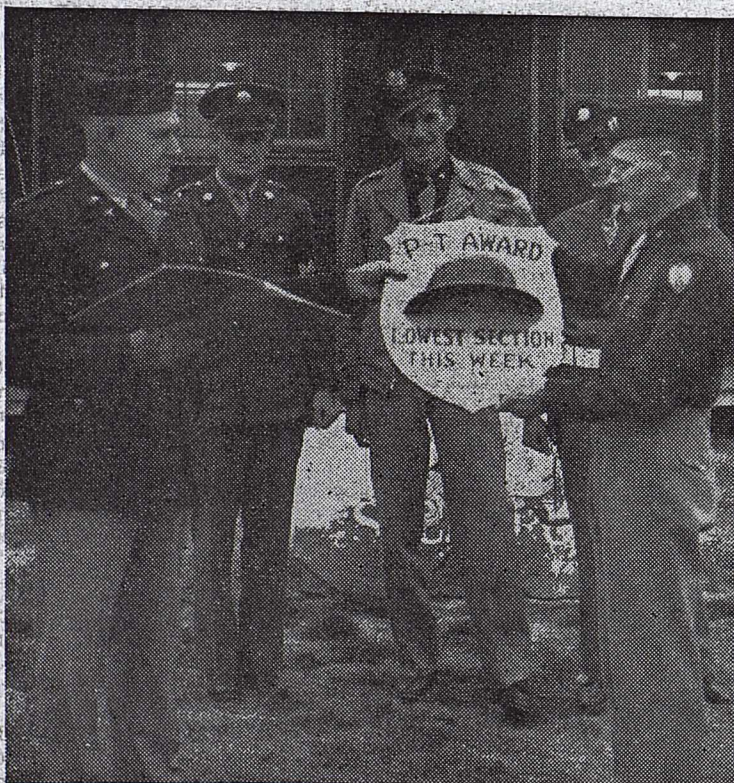
RATTLER NEWS REEL

SEC. C DANCE RATED HUGE SUCCESS



Section C's gay jubilee party had a fine turnout; the attractively decorated day-room was filled to capacity, and there was music, dancing, food, and refreshments. The camera catches a shot of the dancing festivities at the pre-Turkey-day trot.

SECTION D WINS BROWN DERBY



Major Ernest A. Swingle, Commander of Troops, reads the official order that presents Capt. H. D. Lucey, C.O. of Section D, with the Brown Derby. The Derby goes to the Section with the lowest PT percentage for the week.

THANKSGIVING FORMAL NO TURKEY



The Service Club's Thanksgiving formal attracted a gay crowd of GIs and attractively-clad ladies. The holiday dance provided an occasion for the girls to wear the floor-length swoon-gowns that had the lads in a dither.

MEET BILLIE—



Wac Pvt. Billie Lewis, of Portsmouth Ohio, trips the light fantastic with Pfc. Z. Smith of Section E. A number of Wacs attended the Thanksgiving hop, looking radiant in spangly evening gowns.

—AND JEAN



Vivacious Jean DeLacey, Wac Pvt., was snapped by the cameraman as she danced with Cpl. John Murray, of Toledo, Ohio and now with Section E.

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL CAFE OPENS FOR FINE FOOD AND GOOD COMPANY



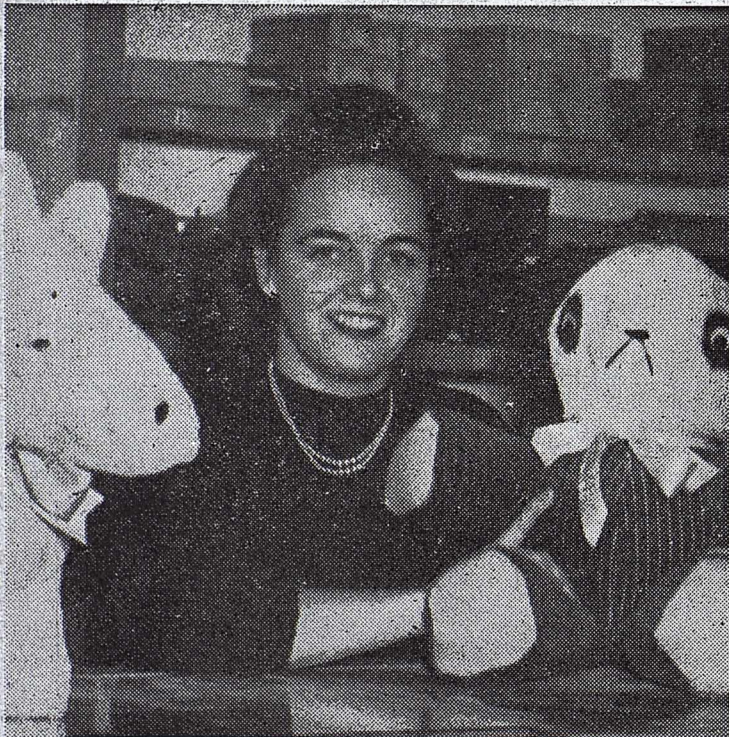
The Civ. Personnel cafeteria is attractively furnished with a large number of tables for parties or groups. Here a quartet of CP lovelies lunch and trade the chit-chat over a tempting meal.



The Civilian Personnel Cafeteria opened last Thursday and the ever-ready cameraman was on hand to snap a few shots of the moderately-priced and well-menu'd cafeteria.

The C-P's new cafeteria is open from 6:15 AM to 10:30 PM; and the line moves fast. Located in the main Civilian Personnel Bldg., the cafeteria is open to civilians and military as well.

WHY NOT GIVE PAMELA A PANDA?



The Post Exchange offers a large selection of Christmas gift tips. For the GI who wants something wuxtra fancy to send his flame in the frame. The lovely lady above recommends one of these Panda dolls to decorate the girl's boidoir. After all, you won't mind if the gal cuddles with THAT, do you?

Rattle Snake Charmer



Pin-ups come and pin-ups go, but the gal who made the sweater an outstanding apparel remains as pin-uppealing as ever. The MGM's Lana Turner (MGM meaning 'Most Glamorous Maid') gives forth with a pensive look for the week's Pyote Pin-up. Any self-respecting wolf will howl by the numbers.

At The Chapel

CATHOLIC—Sunday Masses: 0800, 1615, 1830. Daily Mass, 1830, except Thursday. Mass Thursday at 0930 in Red Cross Reading Room. Evening devotions Tuesday and Friday, 1900. Confessions Saturday, 1730 to 1830; 2000 to 2100; before all Masses on Sunday.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE—Thursday: 2000, regular weekly service.

PROTESTANT: Sunday—9:15—Hospital Service, Red Cross Auditorium; 10:00—Section C Chapel Service; 10:30—Station Chapel Service; 7:30 p.m.—Section C Vesper Service; 8:00 p.m.—Station Vesper Service. Wednesday—7:00 p.m.—Chapel Chorus Rehearsal; 8:00 p.m.—Bible Quiz.

JEWISH—Friday, 1930, Sabbath Evening Service.

Christmas Cantata Plays Field Dec. 13

The choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Monahans will present Frederick Bullard's Christmas cantata, "The Holy Infant", at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 13, at the church.

Director is Pfc. Lowell S. Barnes of Pyote Army Air Field, who holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Indiana, and conducted various church choirs, glee clubs and bands prior to his service in the army. Pyote AF enlisted smen and Monahans civilians will constitute the choir.

Soloists will be Mrs. Viola Coghill, alto; Miss Betty Cherry, soprano; Pfc. John F. Batte, tenor; Cpl. Corky Van Heusen, baritone; and Cpl. Glen Cook, basso.

The public is cordially invited to attend the cantata.

FLYING TIME AWARD

Section I regained the lead in operational efficiency for the week ending Dec. 2. Percentages based on largest number of available flying hours flown are:

- SECTION I—99.5%
- SECTION III—97.2%
- SECTION II—93.6%

Classified Ads

ANY EM OR officer who was in the 5th Air Force and knew of a B-25 named "Stinky Joe", please contact Mrs. Jenkins, Monahans 240-J.

RIDE WANTED to Los Angeles for soldier and wife leaving Dec. 20. Will share expenses to drive. Contact Mrs. Lillian Bryant (Ext. 7).

ATTENTION All Flying Students! The CAA inspector will be at Monahans Airport Wednesday, Dec. 13, to give written exams, flight exams, and student permits.

WANTED—Ride for two to Los Angeles or vicinity on Dec. 23. Contact Pvt. John E. MacConnell at Base Photo Lab.

Vets Can Buy Post-War Homes With U. S. Guaranteed Loans

By **CAMP NEWSPAPER SERVICE**

Here's the procedure outlined by the Administrator of Veteran's Affairs for obtaining a government-guaranteed loan for purchase of a home.

First, go ahead as if no GI Bill of Rights existed, by applying in the customary way to any bank, building and loan association or other loan agency or to an individual lender for the amount you will need. Agencies empowered to make loans will have the official application forms and will know all the latest dope about the program.

It's up to you to convince the prospective lender that the property is suitable for a loan, of a reasonable value, and that you can repay it out of income. (You usually will find the lender anxious to accommodate you, since that is the way he makes his money.) When you've sold your position to him, you're finished. The lender carries the ball for the rest of the way.

He will communicate with the nearest Veterans' Administration office and will be informed of the amount that will be guaranteed

by the government. The amount that can be guaranteed has been fixed by law at a maximum of \$2000, although you can borrow as much as your credit is good for and an appraisal of the property justifies. The government is authorized to guarantee up to 50% of loans of \$4000 or less. The government, itself, does not lend any money.

(If a man and wife both served in the armed services and are eligible for the benefits of the GI Bill of Rights, they may combine their rights and may be able to obtain a guarantee of up to \$4000 on a single property.)

On the government-guaranteed portion of the loan, a maximum interest rate of 4% is permitted.

PX GIFTS—

(Cont. from Page 4, Col. 3)

their selection and make up your Christmas list.

Also she reminds you that they will be pleased to gift wrap any purchase, in a fancy Christmas package, suitable for mailing.

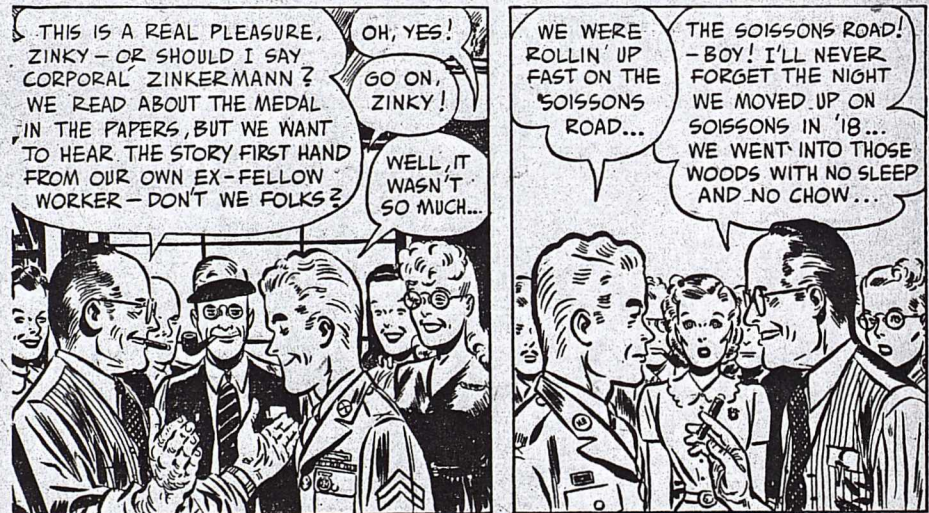
So with Christmas hovering closer and closer, better take Mrs. Watson's suggestion and start that shopping tour before you run out of pay. The Civilian Personnel PX is ready to serve your every Christmas gift-want.

CONCORD, N. H. (CNS)—New Hampshire auto accidents caused by farm accidents have increased ever since farmers, beset by the manpower shortage, have allowed their fences to fall into disrepair.

B-Gen Frank T. Hines, Veterans' Administrator, emphasized that loans will be based on the "reasonable normal value" of a property, and pointed out that market prices in many sections of the country today do not qualify under the formula required by law.

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COOKED BY A HASH MARK



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The Civvies

Cash Awards! One lady, noticing a shining manufacturer's name plate on a piece of fire control equipment, simply remarked: "Why paint a piece of equipment olive drab to conceal it, and then put a mirror in the equipment to flash its position to any enemy plane that might come over?" She made this remark on a piece of paper and dropped it in a suggestion box. Result, she received a \$25 Suggestion Award. Have you a suggestion? Is it a good one? Then cash in on it. Will it simplify work? Reduce hazards?

In August, 1944, \$57,711.13 was paid in awards. Did you get your share? No, of course not. You didn't submit it.

A Fort Sill Headquarters employee suggested an examination of buglers at post headquarters for greater accuracy in bugle calls. He received \$25 for his suggestion. What can you suggest for Uncle Sam—and yourself?

Anne Smith from Charleston, W. Va., and Kathryn Powell from Lexington, N. C., are new employees in the CPO. Welcome to the office, girls.

Parents working on the base are encouraged to take advantage of the nursery. The best of care and interest are given to all.

The barn dance must have been a blow-out. I wonder what was in the hay that caused J. C. to have hay in his hair the next morning. What curious J. C.

Lillian Stewart from the Payroll department is visiting her brother in Amarillo, Texas this week-end.

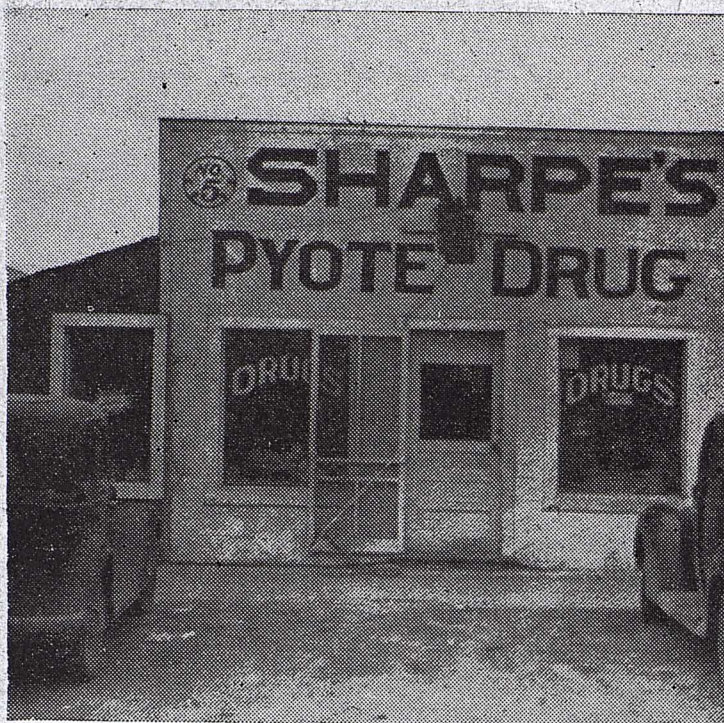
The girls in the CPO have certainly had appetites since the Cafeteria has opened. Girls, you had better be careful—It takes a long time to LOSE weight.

Wonder why Florence Preslar keeps her door locked lately. Well, if I were four pairs of nylon hose, I'd feel safer locked up in a girls' dormitory.

Betty Ellis is leaving for a Christmas visit to her home in Washington the 15th. We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy return to Pyote, Betty.

BROOKLYN HAS A BAD PENNY

BROOKLYN (CNS)—Magistrate John F. X. Masterson blinked when James Walla, a novelty hawker, appeared before him twice within an hour on the same charge—obstructing traffic. The magistrate opened his mouth to comment, but Walla beat him to the punch. "Your honor," he said, "I'm awfully disappointed at seeing you again tonight under such circumstances." The fine—\$10.



This is Pyote's drug store, one of a number in this territory owned and operated by Mr. S. B. Sharp. It's famous for its nickel fountain root-beers, for its well-stocked shelves, and is a popular soldier stop in Pyote.

SO THIS IS PYOTE . . .

(Today's "So This Is Pyote" is the tenth in a series of pictures and stories concerning the countryside. GIs of Pyote have been clipping this weekly feature and sending it home to give the folks some vague idea of what is behind the address "Pyote Army Air Field, Texas.")

According to geologists, this particular spot in Texas is called the Permian Basin, and some quarter billion years ago it was a vast, shallow sea.

That item we garnered from the Rattler's issue of 12 months ago: along with the pertinent fact that it was Senator Ben Tillman of South Carolina who first said: "Texas has more trees and less timber, more rivers and less water, more resources and less cash, more cows and less milk, and you can see further and see less than any damn country in the world!"



The Post Exchange, GI General Store, has its own drug counter, where GIs and civilians may purchase needed toilet articles and sundries. The stock includes everything from aspirin to ocharinas—and sometimes even the scarce, precious Gillette blue blades.

MAINTENANCE

Ah, December! The last and most eventful month of an equally eventful year. And what do we do—quiver and shake with the cold and our teeth chatter in anticipation of even colder weather. Christmas is at hand fellows, and in case you weren't in the lucky few who have furloughs that include the twenty-fifth well—that's just rough. But listen all you hangar pilots, you can make Christmas seem more like Christmas by giving some of your free time to the repair and reconditioning of toys for the less fortunate kids of district. It's only a suggestion, mind you. Let your conscience be your guide.

While trying to get some parts from Tech Supply, Hangar Four, we heard: "I don't care if she is a quarryman's daughter, she still doesn't have to take everything for granite." (Corn? My aching back!)

We tear our hair and gnash our teeth and even chase butterflies when it comes time each week to write this hyar bit of chit-chat and felows it ain't easy to write this when we don't have anything to write about. So we ask you, plead with you to give us a hand. It's your column, we said that many times before, and so it's only fair that you should help write it.

Semes as if everybody has got the inevitable winter colds. Sort of an epidemic you might say, and some of the boys wondered why there couldn't be two sick calls each day instead of only one, to accommodate the boys on the "B" and "C" shifts. Sounds OK to us, but Pyote's hospital facilities are being stressed too much as it is, fellows, so we imagine that more than one sick call a day is out of the question for the present.

Let's get Pyote over the top this month fellows, in everything; War Bonds and flying time. Can you think of a better combo to win the war? —RWT

50 Million Packages Heading Overseas

WASHINGTON—Approximately 50 million Christmas packages are enroute to American troops overseas, the War Department reports.

This mailing, the largest mass movement of packages ever to leave the country, will be delivered before Christmas day to the dog-faces and the GIs down under before the big holiday, the Army Postal Service stated.

Delivery of packages will be effected by every possible type of transportation—ranging from dog teams in the Arctic to camels in Africa, from parachutes to amphibious ducks, jeeps, and trucks.



See What the Boys in the Back Rooms Will Have

Every year about this time a bunch of boys start whooping it up in back rooms all over the U. S. in their efforts to pick the best football player in the land.

Last year the boys in the back rooms picked Angelo Bertelli, of Notre Dame, as their choice and gave him the Heisman Award, presented each year to the winner. Previous winners were Frankie Sinkwich, of Georgia; Bruce Smith of Minnesota; Tom Harmon, of Iowa; Davey O'Brien, of Texas; Clint Frank and Larry Kelley, of Yale, and Jay Berwanger, Clark Slaughnessy's boy from Chicago. All these men were backs, save Kelley, an end, who used to play in the other guy's backfield all afternoon long.

This year no one knows what the boys in the back rooms will have. There's no Bertelli around, no Harmon, O'Brien or Kelley to dominate the field. The boys are going to have to burrow a little.

First choice of most coaches whose teams have faced Army is Glenn Davis, whipfast left half-back for the Mule. Davis, who carried the ball an average of only 5 times per game during the first 7 games on the schedule, piled up the incredible average of 18.8 yards per try and scored 19 touchdowns through the Penn game.

Despite Davis' amazing record, there are some coaches who rate him behind Doc Blanchard, his pile-driving teammate. Blanchard, a plebe, isn't as fast as Davis, but he hits the line harder, blocks harder and kicks better. Ed McKeever, Notre Dame coach, thinks Blanchard is the best all around back playing football today.

Not even Blanchard, however, can run as hard as Navy's Bob Jenkins, who once carried Joe Stanowicz, Army's 200 - pound tackle, piggy back 10 yards across the Mule goal for a touchdown. You could give the Heisman Award to Jenkins and no one would get sore about it.

If the boys in the back rooms don't go for Davis, Blanchard or Jenkins, they can give the award to Don Whitmire, Navy tackle, who is the greatest lineman in the country, or to Buddy Young, a back, who is threatening Red Grange's 20-yard scoring record at Illinois. In 1924 Grange scored 13 touchdowns, including 4 in 12 minutes against Michigan. Young has scored 11 already.

Then there are Les Horvath, the back who held Ohio State's schoolboys together this year;

2AF HOOP LEAGUE OPENS



Clark, Tucson center, tries a push-shot in the court-opener between Davis-Monthan and Pyote. Owen (12), Pyote center, tried to block the shot. Also in the picture are Childs (7) of Tucson, and Burns (16) of Pyote. Referee (to left) is S-Sgt. Lefty Parvin. To far left is S-Sgt. Lefty Abolafea, scorekeeper.

First Drills Ready Wac Cagers For Season Opener Here Dec. 13

Led by Sgt. Bobby Zentz, a group of 14 Pyote Wac basketball players are working out three times weekly in preparation for their season which opens Dec. 15 with a game here against the Alamogordo AAF Wacs.

The girls are coached by Cpl. Sid Rosenblatt, a PT instructor who takes no guff about his present assignment. "We've got a hard working, clever bunch of girls and we're all expecting to have a good season," he says. Cpl. Rosenblatt believes that the girls will make up in spirit and hustle everything they lack in experience.

Sgt. Zentz, who has several years of basketball play behind her, leads the sextet from her forward position. Also, running at forward are: Pvt. Louise Foley and Pvt. May Tacchi, a diminutive and shifty scoring threat. The three first string guards are Pvt. Helene Gotch, who has also had previous experience and is assistant captain; Pvt. Lucille Groesback, and Pvt. Frances Hogan.

Bob Fenimore, of the Oklahoma Aggies, Bob Kelley of Notre Dame, Shorty McWilliams, of Mississippi State, and Gordon Clay, of Southern California, the best back on the west coast. The list runs on and on.

You could pick any one of these fellows for the Heisman Award and no one would raise much of a holler. But the boys in the back rooms may cross everyone up and pick a Rutgers guard instead. You never can tell, as we say in the Shavian theater.

Other squad members are: Pvt. Vivien Brown, Pvt. Alma La Branche, Pvt. Gladys Buziak, Sgt. Rita Burke, Pvt. Barbara Kzaley (cq), Pvt. Helen O'Neal, Pvt. Jerry Slessar and Pvt. Jayne Maynard.

It is unofficially understood that Wac basketball teams are being developed at Big Spring, Hobbs, Midland and Pecos air fields. The Pyote team expects to take on all Wac teams within a radius of approximately 100 miles. All games will be played under regular girls' rules.

The following games have been booked tentatively:

- Dec. 15—Alamogordo here.
- Dec. 17—Hobbs (N. M.) there.
- Dec. 22—Pecos there.
- Jan. 7—Roswell (N. M.) here.
- Jan. 14—Hobbs (N. M.) here.
- Jan. 20—Carlsbad (N. M.) there.
- Jan. 30—Pecos here.
- Feb. 4—Roswell there.
- Feb. 24—Carlsbad here.

Some places on the team are still open, states Cpl. Rosenblatt, and welcomes any Sec. B member—particularly taller girls—to try out for the team. Practice sessions are held in Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at the Rec Hall.

Tucson Bumps Rattler '5' In Opener 44 - 36

Cpl. Bill Ray Tabs 13 Points To Lead Pyote

Tucson's towering cage quintet visited Pyote last Friday night and handed the Rattlers a 44-36 defeat in the first home game for the locals.

Baur, a speedy forward, teamed with Bilito, the sky-scraping Tucson pivot man, to rack up 21 points for high point honors.

Marksanship honors for Pyote went to Cpl. Bill Ray who rammed six field goals and a charity toss through for 13 points.

The Rattlers travel to Biggs Field, El Paso, tomorrow night for their second league game. On Dec. 13 they return the game at Tucson, and Alamogordo comes here Dec. 15.

The box score:

PYOTE				
	fg	ft	pf	tp
Evans, f	4	0	1	8
Chapman, f	0	0	0	0
Funk, f	0	1	1	1
Bostick, f	2	0	0	4
Owen, c	1	0	0	2
Burke, c	2	0	2	4
Ray, f	6	1	0	13
Joyce, g	1	0	1	2
Crenshaw, g	0	0	2	0
Graham, g	1	0	1	2
Burns, g	0	0	0	0
	17	2	8	36

TUCSON				
	fg	ft	pf	tp
Baur, f	10	1	1	21
Winton, f	0	0	0	0
Harrison, f	2	0	0	4
Bilito, c	3	0	0	6
Clark, c	0	1	0	1
King, g	0	0	0	0
Childs, g	3	0	3	6
Arle, g	0	1	0	1
Bobb, g	2	1	1	5
	20	4	5	44

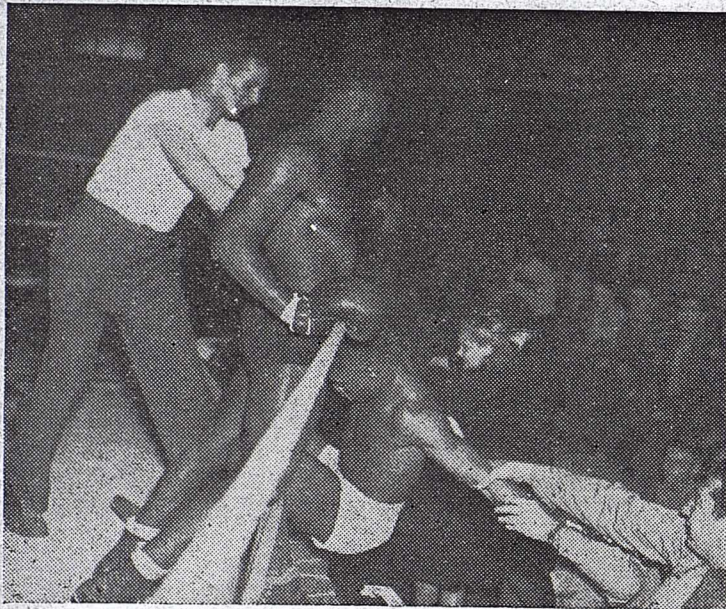
CHICAGO (CNS)—Mrs. Catherine Winiecki won an uncontested divorce here recently. Her charge: Hubby snuffed out cigars on her face.

MINNEAPOLIS (CNS)—Grounds for Divorce: Mrs. Irene Thyberg filed suit against her husband because "he scolded me whenever I took more than one bath a week."

NEW YORK (CNS)—More than 500 former alcoholics recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous with a dinner in a local hotel. They listened to reports that the organization now has more than 12,000 members in 370 groups throughout the U. S. and Canada, and a new unit is functioning successfully in Hawaii.



Charlie Bush (left) takes a brushing left from Young in the first round of their three-round exhibition card. Bush, though floored in the first, came back to easily take the bout over the Monahans volunteer.



Cpl. John Dahl, referee, gives a hand to Richard Smith of Pyote, who went sprawling through the ropes after some hard licks by Ed Hunter of Pecos. The main-event ended in a draw with both boys giving and taking plenty of punches.

Pyoters Take 2 Bouts In 3-Way Benefit Bill

Smith-Hunter Battle to Draw In Main Go; Program Nets \$118.50 For Athletic Fund

Sixteen rugged amateurs traded blows last Saturday night in Monahans in a benefit card which netted \$118.15 for this field's athletic equipment fund.

A crowd of about 1,000 witnessed the card which was highlighted by the draw match between Ed Hunter of Pecos (160) and Richard Smith (165) of Pyote. The two colored boys, both fast and aggressive, started mixing it at the opening bell and both landed plenty of punishing blows during the bout. Hunter landed a jolting right in the second but it failed to faze Smith and the Pyote soldier in a third-round exchange belted his opponent freely.

Pyote's amateur biffers took two matches, Alamogordo one and two more wound up in draws. The rest of the card was exhibition.

In a heavyweight exhibition, S-Sgt. Eddie Ownby of Pyote met Albert Hansen, a young Monahans Navy dischargee. Hansen, the popular favorite, had the crowd with him with his speed but Ownby's terrific punching power dazed him in the first round. At the start of the second Hansen opened Ownby's left eye with a lashing left. Referee John Dahl considered stopping the bout but Ownby refused and at the end of the round had the Monahans lad stunned.

In the final frame both boys opened up and slugged away. Hansen was in pretty bad shape at the end of the bout but stayed in their tossing leather even after his seconds had tossed in the towel.

In the semi-final George Carbin of Pyote decisioned Howard "Punchy" Meredith of Alamogordo with a two-fisted attack that had Meredith halfway through the ropes at the end of the second round. Carbin used his speed and longer reach to beat off Meredith's looping lefts and take the nod going away. Both weighed 150.

"Roughhouse" Martin, 117-pound Pyote soldier, tangled with "Man Mountain" Sharp in the comedy bout of the evening which saw Martin chasing Sharp from the ring at the last bell. The little man tried to make up the difference between his 117 pounds and Sharp's 240 with pieces of iron in his gloves but the referee, S-Sgt. Lefty Abolafea, foiled this maneuver.

In a middleweight match Jack "Kid" Lutes of Alamogordo decisioned Jack Zimmerman of Pyote. Zimmerman staked his effort on his crushing right but the faster Lutes opened up midway in the second stanza to pound Zimmerman steadily and force him to cover up throughout the last two rounds. Both lads weighed 153.

Harold Young, a Monahans High School lad, volunteered to go in against Pyote's Charles Bush, a classy lightweight and the two fought a fast exhibition bout. Young landed a brushing left in the first which floored Bush for no count but outside that the Pyote lad had things pretty much his own way. Bush weighed 133, Young 135.

Pyote's Ike Robinson spotted McKinsey Parks of Pecos Army Air Field a few inches reach and used a long overhand right to take the decision in a lightweight match. Robinson, at 133, and Parks, at 135, are considered the two best lightweights of the respective fields.

In the evening's opener Jack "Lucky" Waines of Alamogordo and Leroy Constantino of Pyote battled to a draw. Waines went in at 135, Constantino 138.

Judges for the card were Capt. Martin Diedrich and Capt. Anthony Pisano, both of Pyote. Timekeepers were Cpl. Quentin Taylor and S-Sgt. Mason Parvin.

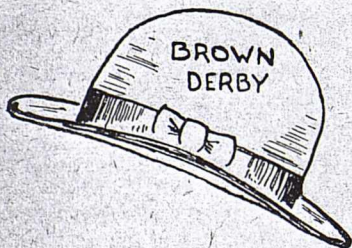
Psychologists can Get Direct Commissions

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The official BPR release, dated Oct. 10, War Department, according to an official BPR release, dated Oct. 10, has authorized the direct commissioning as second lieutenants of enlisted men qualified by education and experience as clinical psychologists, with opportunities for appointment open to those considered best qualified.

Clinical psychology is defined as psychological work involving direct contact with individuals or investigation of individual behavior, such as psychological testing, mental hygiene work, counseling, guidance, assembling and analyzing case histories, college psychology teaching, or care of the mentally or physically handicapped.

Minimum education requirements are a bachelor's degree in psychology, sociology, or educational or individual psychology. Applications will be forwarded through immediate commanding officers to the Officer Procurement Division of the Service Command.

PT AWARD



Section D won the Brown Derby for the lowest percentage in PT participation (82.59%) and will possess it as long as they remain at the bottom of the list.

Bowling Standings

After four weeks of bowling in the Officer's League, the following records have been set: High team series, Wyatt's Wreckers 2394; high team single game: Wyatt's Wreckers, 865; high man series: Lt. Eisenhart, 594; high man single game: Capt. Riggs, 211; high man average: Lt. Serafinski, 164.

Standings:	W.	L.	Pct.
Wolf Pack	9	3	.750
Hot Rocks	8	4	.667
Wreckers	6	6	.500
Beach Boys	5	7	.416
Swoopers	4	8	.333
Spiders	4	8	.333



KOOPS' KORNER

"THE BOYS AT PYOTE"

I was in the library the other morning, heckling the librarian and trying to borrow a pail to mop out our office when a fellow stopped me and gave me this clipping.

It's from the Rocky Mountain News of Nov. 14th. The sports paragrapher, Chet Nelson, had just seen the 2AF Superbombers paste the Fort Warren Sentinels. I think you'll be interested in what he has to say.

"We have heard the Bombers' schedule come up for a panning. Too easy, and playing in such remote places, the critics complain. Well, we find it difficult, indeed, to be critical of the team's schedule and playing sites after hearing a story about the Bombers' visit to Texas for a game this year.

"Out on the plains of the Longhorn state, miles from nowhere, is the tiny town of Pyote, standing as a skeleton memorial to an oil boom. Pyote has coyotes and rattlesnakes, cactus and dust-storms, a dozen buildings and two trains a day—and the finest flying weather in the world.

"Because of its record flying weather, the 2AF constructed a base there in the desert, 150 miles east of El Paso and just south of the Border of New Mexico. For many months, Pyote had been one of the most important fields in the Second Air Force, whose mission is the training of 4-engine bombardment crews.

"Because of its remoteness, however, this highly valuable base lacks many of the ordinary entertainment facilities available to army camps near large cities. Many shows and entertainers bypass Pyote. The nearest large community, a city of some 15,000, is 60 miles away. Many of the personnel of Pyote never leave the base for weeks on end.

"That is why four airplanes loaded with the finest football talent in the Second Air Force last month rolled off the runways at Colorado Springs and took off heading for the place on the map known as Pyote.

"Just such missions as this one was the Purpose in organizing the Super-Bombers last August—to take high calibre football to the GIs stationed at bases adjacent to remote or small cities.

"Playing for the boys at Pyote—that's the theme of the Supers, and Dobbs, and all the rest of them believe it is worth while. By all means, it is."



CONVERSATION PIECE

Coming back from the fights in Monahans the other pec-em (and a fine card it was—with deep thanks to Root and his boys at the Rec Hall). I was talking to Bob Nash (Rattler editor) about a story on the coming USO show.

A fellow sitting next to me said, "You mean they have USO shows down here?" Seems he'd been on the base for two days and was shipped to the Rattlesnake haven from Lowry Field in Denver.

He asked a lot of questions about the base, and we told him some of the things Pyote has to offer. We explained that Pyote had its drawbacks, as everyone admits; but we told him, too, that there were a lot of nice things about Pyote—that its recreational facilities are second to none in the 2AF; that for such a god-forsaken base Pyote hustles—and tries to do its darndest to make Pyote as good a base as Pyote can hope to be.

We all know what it's like to hit the field for the first day—to get off that train and see for miles and miles and see nothing, just nothing at all. It's a gloomy picture, and a fella can't be blamed if he does let his chin sink to his dog-tags.

But I hope the newcomers find that Pyote isn't all cactus and dust—there's a lot of friendliness here. There are a stack of guys in the same spot, and nice guys they are. There's a fine library, a good Service Club, bowling alleys, and—well, there's some nice things about Pyote, too.



Q. This is to settle a bet. I say that most soldiers do not want their wives and sweethearts to join the WAC, and that most Wacs are not related to GIs. Can you give me the figures?

A. You lose. Official figures show that 60% of the Wacs are wives, sisters, daughters or mothers of men in the armed services. Of the remaining 40%, half were the only members of their family eligible for military service.

Q. What are the minimum standards for eyesight for a rifleman? Both my eyes are less than 20/200, but I am performing duty as an automatic rifleman.

A. WD Cir 409, dated 19 October 1944, says that any EM with visual acuity below 20/200 bilateral, correctible to 20/40 bilateral, will not be assigned initially for training as a rifleman (SSN 745) or scout (SSN 761). However, any EM already trained as a rifleman, automatic rifleman or scout with visual acuity below 20/200 bilateral, but not below 20/400 bilateral correctible to 20/40 bilateral, who is now performing assigned duties satisfactorily will not be reassigned solely on the basis of his visual defect.

THE CRYSTAL BALL

(Each week The RATTLER will record predictions on the duration of the war, as made by ranking men and women of our time.)

Major-Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, newly appointed commander of American forces in China, chief of staff to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek; "I expect Japan's defeat within about a year from the time the struggle in Europe ends."

REMEMBER?

Headlines of a year ago, as culled from the files of the RATTLER.

Dec. 8, 1943: The Monahans USO opening was a huge success; parades with Wacs, Guards, Jeeps, War Dogs, etc. as well as floats and bands led the procession; the Odessa Chuckwagon Gang served barbecued deer, sandwiches, and coffee, and dancing lasted till midnight. The Base Mixed Choir practiced for the Christmas cantata. 323 workers received Civilian Service awards at the Sub-depot hangar. Lt. Col. Temple Winburn left his post as Director of Station Services for a new assignment. Eight more veterans of the 19th Group won decorations. Boxing bouts at the Rec. Hall gained a large crowd to see the two technical kayos.

The Wolf

by Sansone

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