

Medals Are Given Air Heroes For Widespread Feats

Men Had Parts In Operations From Orient to Europe

Two Silver Star and three Air medals were handed out at a formal retreat parade at the A. A. F. Convalescent hospital, Don Ce-Sar place, Wednesday afternoon, to veterans of many hours of aerial combat ranging from the wastes of the China-Burma-India theater to the high-altitude bombing in Europe.

After Lt. Col. Floyd A. Abbott, executive officer, published the war department citations, Col. Richard E. Elvins, commanding officer, decorated the heroes. The Silver Star medal was bestowed upon Lt. Thomas S. Potts, a B24 pilot from Overland, Mo., and Lt. Joseph E. Carr, Washington, D. C., a B24 bombardier in the highest decorations in some time at the Don.

Receiving Air medals were S/Sgt. Walter M. Wright, of Glen Allen, Va., Lt. Edward W. Exler, Warren, Ohio, and S/Sgt. Richard E. Beard, Fort Scott, Kan.

Cited for his daring action on Nov. 5, 1944, Lieutenant Potts participated in a bombing raid against enemy troop concentrations in Yugoslavia. On way to the target, two of his engines failed, and the crew was ordered to abandon the ship.

Skilful Crash Landing

During the bail-out, the engineer's chute was lost through the bomb-bay doors, and Lieutenant Potts, instead of abandoning the ship and deserting his engineer, decided to ride the plane down. Displaying great courage he skillfully crash-landed his plane in a shallow pond, and although trapped beneath the wreckage, managed to get out, and lead all crew members back to Allied lines.

Lieutenant Carr was bombardier of a Liberator in a formation of 27 planes which ran into a Japanese naval formation in the Sulu sea, Philippine islands. Included in the Jap naval brigade were three battleships, five cruisers and four destroyers.

In the course of the action, Lieutenant Carr was hurled by heavy anti-aircraft fire and evasion action, against the rear doors of the nose turret with such force he suffered a concussion. Although stunned and reeling, he fought off unconsciousness and crawled back to his bombight in time for last-minute corrections and drop his bombs. The formation landed two direct hits on two of the battleships.



FIVE AIR HEROES DECORATED—Above, Col. Richard E. Elvins, commanding officer of Don Ce-Sar A. A. F. Convalescent hospital, pins the Air medal on S/Sgt. Walter M. Wright, of Glen Allen, Va., in ceremonies Wednesday. Others, reading from the left, are S/Sgt. Richard E. Beard of Ft. Scott, Kan., the Air medal; Lt. Edward W. Exler, Warren, Ohio, the Air medal; Lt. Thomas S. Potts, Overland, Mo., the Silver star and Lt. Joseph E. Carr, Washington, D. C., the Silver star.

DATELINE: Pacific

By James S. Lindsay—Okinawa —P—Things I like about Okinawa: The scenery. War or no war, Okinawa is a beautiful spot and in many of its inland points the conflict has touched it but lightly if at all.

From the white coral beaches, the rich, red soil slopes gently up off both its coasts to the verdant, piney ridges which stagger irregularly down the entire length of the island.

There are no really big trees but there are many square miles which are thickly studded with very respectable pines.

The climate. Except when it rains, Okinawa's climate is very tolerable indeed. The days are warm and balmy, the evenings cool. But shortly after nightfall the temperature goes sliding down and by bedtime it's low enough to send you to the public relations office for another blanket.

But nights like that put a lot of zip into you. I've no way of knowing just how cold it gets, as thermometers have a low priority on landing craft. One night I thought I might borrow one at the medical dispensary and "d no sooner voiced the request than a medic had one in my mouth, had scanned it and pronounced me normal—which will be a big surprise to my friends.

The tombs. I get a terrific lift out of Okinawa's tombs. Apparently every family had one. They're old; very old, great stone arches set in hillside slopes. They are architecturally graceful, with small sealed apertures at their bases

Con Furloughed To Wed Now Given Parole Hearing

Little Rock, Ark., May 4—P—That convict whose romance with a Wac he'd never seen got him a furlough to marry the girl will get a parole hearing next month.

It was learned today that the case of the prisoner, John R. Bailey Jr., of Malvern, will be considered by the parole board at its June meeting.

The bride of ten days is Private Mary Delena Bailey, 20, of Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

The "love at first sight" romance developed like this:

The girl began corresponding with Bailey four months ago after she had met his sister-in-law, also a WAC private.

Bailey proposed marriage by mail.

Wac Delena got a marriage furlough to come to Arkansas to meet him.

She didn't want to be married in prison. She went to Gov. Ben Laney with her dilemma.

The governor granted Bailey a 30-day furlough.

And yesterday Acting Gov. J. L. Shaver, in the absence of Governor Laney, also lent a helping hand. He granted a 30-day furlough extension so Bailey can accompany his bride to Camp Edwards, Mass.

Bailey is serving a four-year sentence for robbery. He's been in prison since July, 1943.

'Damyantee' Good Southern Word, Judae Declares

Home Front TODAY

By James Marlow—San Francisco, May 4—P—You're not missing as much as you might think, if you're one of those not able to attend the United Nations conference here.

Sure, it's history in the making. But it's also a grind for everyone connected with it.

Take the opera house where the delegates of 46 nations hold their big, formal meetings to vote and listen to speeches.

Speeches have been made for days now, most of them in Spanish, French or Russian.

For the very important speeches there's an interpreter. So the audience — delegates, newspapermen and the public admitted to the opera house—can follow what is being said.

But also are big stretches of oratory, not considered important enough for immediate translation, which leave the audience numb and blank.

There are not enough seats for all the people who jam into the opera house. So some of the plain citizens who manage to get in have to stand four or five deep in the back, unable to see very much if anything.

There's color, to be sure: Batteries of spotlights; a skyblue backdrop; the flags of 46 nations stacked side by side on the stage; the knowledge that some of the most distinguished statesmen in the world are right there, bunched shoulder to shoulder in the orchestra seats.

And one of the big foreign ministers—Stettinius, Eden, Molotov, or Soong—is always sitting on the stage as chairman in full view of everyone.

The delegates themselves are

Other Decorations

In addition to the medal each received yesterday, Lieutenant Potts wears the Purple Heart and the Air medal with three oak leaf clusters, while the chest of Lieutenant Carr is adorned with the Air medal with seven oak leaf clusters, the Philippine Liberation medal and the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with five battle stars.

After the decorations, members of the base personnel and detachment of patients, passed in review in honor of those decorated, to the tune of music furnished by the Drew Field band.

Lt. S. G. Hill, assistant adjutant at the Don, served as parade adjutant.

Medical Alcohol Spree Lands Man In Local Bastile

Charles A. G. Bills, whose only address was given as "general delivery" and who admitted that he had been drunk on denatured alcohol, today was sent to jail for five days and fined \$5 after conviction in city court.

Police testified they found Bills, former Bay Pines hospital patient, "punch drunk on a green bench and waving his fists around like a prize fighter."

"When we finally got him off the bench," one officer testified, "he managed to take two steps forward and then fell over backward." The officer added that investigation showed the man not only to have imbibed of the denatured alcohol but also to have taken an undetermined amount of a well known hypnotic drug.

"Why do you drink denatured alcohol," Judge Herbert L. Peters asked him. "Do you want to leave this life? That stuff is poisonous. You were just a zombie when they picked you up. You apparently didn't know anything."

"That's right, judge," Bills admitted. "I just don't have good common sense."

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which are opened during certain rituals of the dead. I think that about covers the things I like about Okinawa.

Things I don't like about Okinawa:

The Okinawans. To my mind these unfortunates are about the poorest, meanest spirited people in the world. The ones I've seen are incredibly dirty with grime ingrained by the years. Japanese oppression undoubtedly accounts for much of their poor economic conditions, but they could at least keep moderately clean.

Their houses are filthy and vermin-infested. I've had to sleep in a few of them. Their personal habits are disgusting, their ideas of sanitation are non-existent and their young women are unattractive.

The mud. When it rains, the rich red soil is transformed to rich red mud; a sticky, slimy, glutinous substance that clings in pound lots to your field boots and makes jeep and truck drivers' lives a profanity-punctuated nightmare.

The dust. The army has been building roads, as the army does everywhere it goes, and the constant flow of military motor traffic stirs this rich, red soil I've been repetitiously talking about into a dust that penetrates your clothing, fills your eyes, ears and nose and exercises an abrasive action upon your disposition.

The snakes. I've seen only one snake here, but there are supposed to be lots of them, and personally, I hate a snake I can't see just as much as one I can, and maybe more. That goes for malaria, too, which the medics said abounded here, but which nobody seems to have.

The mosquitoes. There are millions of them, all big as butterflies, and any mosquito which employs an iridium-pointed drill instead of a standard stinger is a cad.

The shooting.

Nuff Sed

Fort Worth—P—The Shackelford county ration board at Albany wrote to a farm woman asking her to supply more information as to why her husband needed a special stamp for work shoes.

Her reply: "To keep the cows off his feet and the stickers out of them."

—And he got the shoes.

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Jackson, Miss., May 4—P—"Damn!"

That ain't cussing. The judge says so.

Nor is a damyankee.

That's just an old southern byword.

Judge George Noble explained all this—in legal language, of course—in city court in dismissing charges against Mrs. Theodore G. Bilbo, divorced wife of Senator Bilbo (D-Miss.).

Howard Owen charged Mrs. Bilbo was guilty of disorderly conduct for calling him a damyankee.

Mrs. Bilbo, on the other hand, charged Owen was disorderly in breaking a glass door at the entrance of her apartment.

The judge fined Owen \$15.

Then he delivered this opinion: "Apart from the joke we have down here about calling a person a damyankee, I think we have precedent for the assertion that the use of the word 'damn' is not cursing."

Two Congressmen Back After Seeing Nazi Horror Camp

New York, May 4—P—Reps. Leonard W. Hall (R-N. Y.) and Gordon Canfield (R-N. J.) arrived at LaGuardia airport by plane yesterday after viewing the horrors of Nazi prison camps in Germany.

They were among a group of congressmen and newspaper executives who visited the atrocity camps at the invitation of General Eisenhower.

As he alighted from his army transport plane, Hall said he believed all pictures of the Buchenwald camp, "although revolting in every respect," should be shown to the American people.

"Even the pictures cannot show the cruelty and depravity of a people who would treat human beings as the German people treated those in their detention camps," he said.

Canfield praised General Eisenhower for "inviting the people's representatives" to view the camps.

It was the habit of Henrik Ibsen to make complete histories of the lives of his stage characters up to the moment of the opening of the first act.

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kept hopping. They bounce around from one meeting to another. And their technical experts work into the night.

In all the rushing around one distinct impression remains: This is like a convention of business men.

The diplomats look like business men, most of them, whether they are Spanish, French, Russian or some other nationality.

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov is a good example. He dresses like a prosperous American banker, neat, well-tailored, well-fitting clothes.

You may have the impression that the conference here tingles with glamour. Actually, it's stuff, steady work for all concerned.

No Reply Expected

Hutchinson, Kan.—P—The Hutchinson News-Herald printed on the front page the following which was mailed to the paper's classified advertising manager:

Wanted to rent—Quiet cozy furnished house or bachelor apartment by refined gentleman who loves children, flowers and what goes with war. Must be close to deep bomb shelter. Also must have clean rugs. Am offering 10,000,000 reichmarks or two cigarettes for right kind of place. Urgent need for moving. Address A. Hitler, Berchtesgaden, please forward.

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California Iceberg

LETTUCE, head _____ 10c & 15c

Yellow Summer SQUASH ___ lb. 7½c

New Crop Texas Onions; Hard

Head GREEN

CABBAGE ___ lb. 5½c

Young, Tender Stringless

GREEN BEANS _____ 2 lbs. 29c

California Green BROCCOLI;

Cherry Red RHUBARB ___ lb. 25c

No. 1 Maine POTATOES, 10 lbs. 45c

California Green Top

CARROTS _____ bunch 7½c

New No. 1 Red Bliss

POTATOES _____ 5 lbs. 35c

Home Grown SPINACH,

Snap Black-eye

PEAS _____ lb. 10c

California Sunkist LEMONS; Juicy

Valencia ORANGES _____ doz. 29c

Large, Ripe Cuban

PINEAPPLES _____ ea. 25c

Small or Large Green

CUCUMBERS _____ lb. 15c