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BOMB BLAST

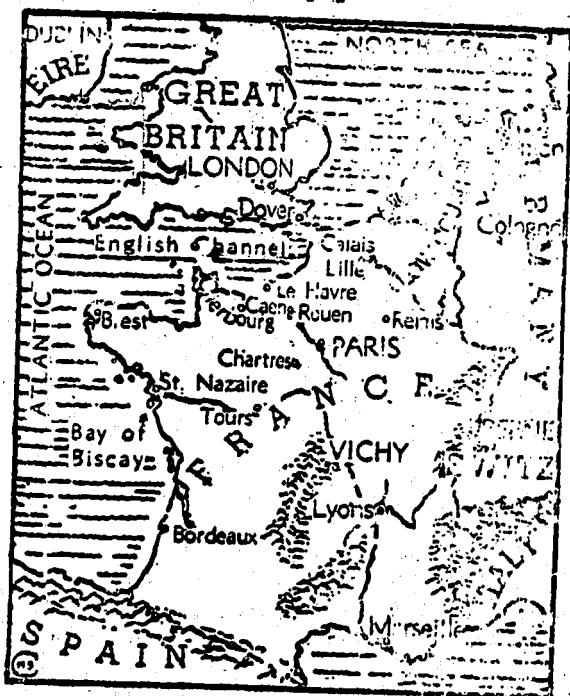
VOL I NO. 2

29 JULY 1944

TEUTONS TOPPLING

The news this week continues to be excellent from the allied point of view.

In Normandy substantial gains were made all along the line. As was true last week, the largest advance was made in the wake of terrific air bombardment by Allied forces. On Tuesday 3000 planes



blasted a path through the German defenses opposite the American sector in the south. After it was over, our infantry advanced under an intense artillery barrage.

In Italy our forces have pushed to within ten miles of the city of Florence. Recently declared open by the Germans.

By far the biggest news of the
(Cont'd page 8)

HISTORICAL REPETITION?

THE SUPREME COMMAND ADHERES TO ITS DEMAND MADE ON SEPT 29 FOR THE IMMEDIATE DISPATCH OF THE PEACE OFFER TO OUR ENEMIES.

OWING TO THE BREAK-DOWN ON THE MACEDONIAN FRONT, WHEREBY A WEAKENING OF OUR RESERVES IN THE WEST IS NECESSITATED, AND IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF MAKING GOOD OUR VERY HEAVY LOSSES IN THE BATTLES OF THE LAST FEW DAYS, THERE NO LONGER EXISTS ANY PROSPECT, ACCORDING TO HUMAN CALCULATION, OF FORCING PEACE UPON OUR ENEMIES.

THE ENEMY IS REGULARLY BRINGING NEW AND FRESH RESERVES INTO ACTION. THE GERMAN ARMY STILL HOLDS FAST AND REPULSES ALL ATTACKS WITH SUCCESS. BUT THE POSITION GETS WORSE EVERY DAY AND MAY FORCE THE SUPREME COMMAND TO MAKE SERIOUS DECISIONS.

IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IT IS IMPERATIVE TO STOP FIGHTING IN ORDER TO SPARE THE GERMAN PEOPLE AND ITS ALLIES FURTHER USELESS SACRIFICES. EVERY DAY LOST COSTS THOUSANDS OF BRAVE SOLDIERS LIVES.

VON MINDENBURG, G.F.M.

The above note was sent to the then Chancellor of Germany, Prince Max of Baden, on the third of October, in 1918. Germany had practically surrendered and shortly afterwards did sue for an armistice. There is good reason to believe that Hitler has been the recipient of several notes written in a similar vein but chooses to
(Cont'd on page 8)

BFB BLST:

Editor.....Sgt J. Shashy
Sports Editor...../Sgt J. Shashy
staff:

776th.....Sgt J. Shashy

777th.....Sgt V. [unclear]

778th.....T/Sgt Kaplan

CO's COLENTARY

Recently I read an article in a newspaper in which the American Infantryman was described as the "unsung hero of the war".

Undoubtedly the doughboy is doing an excellent job under the most trying of conditions and any praise or recognition given him is not exaggerated.

However, I should like to put in a plug for the "unsung hero of the air", the aircraft mechanic of the Air Forces.

His is not a spectacular job that makes headlines, but ask the man who flies them whether any act of heroism in the air was not closely connected with the mechanical perfection of the plane in which they flow.

The job of the mechanic is similar to that of the race-horse trainer. They both strive desperately for perfection and their efforts are rewarded by the spectacular ride of the jockey on the one hand and the pilot on the other. Theirs is the satisfaction of knowing that through their efforts was the ship able to make the run that day; that with their nursing it will be able to make the run tomorrow.

It is my fond hope that this Group will consist of groundcrews who will all take personal pride in the performance of their particular ships. Their tasks are not thankless ones. If they are not lauded constantly it is not for lack of thought but rather due to the fact that the Army EXPECTS every man to excel in the performance of his duties.

Colonel A.L. Schroeder.

BOOK REVIEW.....Sgt J Shashy

This week it has been our pleasure to have encountered a book which holds such a grip on its reader that it is almost impossible to lay it down until finished. The title is "Bushido" the anatomy of terror, the story of what happens to a country when taken over by the Japs.

As your [unclear] I want to [unclear] about [unclear] will [unclear] [unclear].

Those [unclear] [unclear] to serve on the [unclear] [unclear] are your right [unclear] [unclear] though they will [unclear] [unclear] for making plans and supervising construction they will [unclear] [unclear] your suggestions. They want you to feel that it is your chapel. If you do something with your own hands I am sure it will help you feel that the building [unclear] yours. If you care to work when you have a few hours off or some evening I trust there will be something to do. I hope you will count it a privilege to make a financial contribution.

It is my prayer that when the chapel is complete we may have gained more than a structure of stone. May we also have that spiritual blessing which comes to men when they work harmoniously together for the glory of God.

Building Committee:

Lt Col Charles F McKenna
Capt Arthur B Robertson Jr.
Capt Robert E Wingfield
Lt John Lucas

Lt Sverre Jorgenson

T/Sgt Jarry K [unclear]

T/Sgt Earl W [unclear]

S/Sgt William [unclear]

S/Sgt William Gilfillen

S/Sgt Robert Hiser

Sgt Daniel Leowid

Sgt Dexter Skaford

Sgt William Clario

Col Raymond Spruck

Chaplain John Eastwood

Worship Services: 0

Protestant-Sunday-1100 & 2000

Catholic - Sunday 1830 & Tuesday 1800

Jewish - Friday 1900

The authenticity of the narrative is guaranteed by its author Alexandre Bernikoff. He was for many years a member of the French Secret Service and his word has been vouched for by many important people in America.

For those who desire a better understanding of our enemy, Jap and how he rules the people he conquers, we sincerely suggest you drop into Special Services and check out a copy of this book:

"BUSHIDO, the anatomy of terror."

News FROM CORPS - 4-11-45

BROOKLYN (CMS)-- kibitzer, bearing over Dominick Ericole's Shoulder while Ericole and four cronies were playing pinchle in an empty lot, didn't care for Ericole's card playing, so he stuck the stem of his briar pipe in Dominick's ear. The kibitzer, unknown to the other players, fled immediately and the police are still seeking him.

GOLDSBORO, N.C. (CMS)--Locked up on an intoxication charge when he was unable to pay his \$5 fine, Harry Hunt found a \$10 bill in his cell. Calling his jailer, he paid the fine, walked out, bought more whiskey. He was back in jail again that night.

NEWTON, N.C. (CMS)--A 29-year-old man serving a 50 year prison term for murder and a 19-year-old girl were married in the prison camp yard recently. The bride, who works in a cotton mill nearby, was permitted to remain with her husband for 30 minutes, after which she was returned to town by bus. (Discussed the war no doubt)

ELECTRIC PILOT USED IN FORTRESS BOMBINGS

CHICAGO (CMS)--The AAF has developed an electric automatic pilot device which permits a Flying Fortress bombardier to make course changes at the moment he is sighting his target.

The device which is being manufactured at a midwestern plant, is capable of making 300 flight corrections per minute. It has been in use since shortly after Pearl Harbor.

GI's who don't mind their places soon find themselves with well-slapped faces.

Eddie Parascowick of the Bayonet Barsecowick is a lower ball gunner on Lt. Bob's plane's "Little Gismo" a tick happy ship if there ever was one. Pushing his spring words that rainbow "fifty" Eddie had experience the other day over 3,000 feet would qualify a wooden Indian for a Section 8.

Impassable in his jammed ball turret with locked guns, Eddie was rescued with the fact that if his rescuer loosened the wrong set of bolts--both turret and Eddie would be salvaged from four miles up. A ball turret glides like a steel safe.

Eddie will always remain a little hazy about when his turret jammed. "Gismo" was peeling off the target away from flank when interphone called "fighters at 6 o'clock."

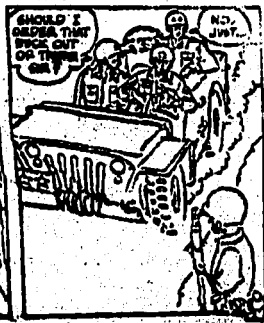
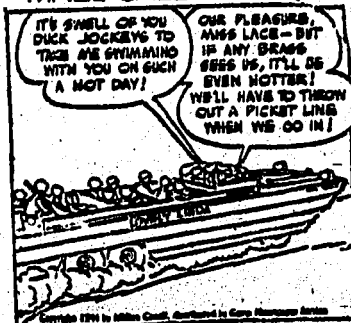
"I slew my guns in that direction but couldn't get as much as a 10 degree turn when the thing jammed and my guns locked at 45 degrees and down. I couldn't believe it but it didn't take long to be convinced. I was cursing and praying in the same breath. Then I just sat there and watched the fighters. They made four passes us--all from level or above instead of below--thank the Lord. The they went after another box of ships.

Out of the fighter belt, Eng. T/Sgt. Bartrug, starting working on the turret. B-24s aren't built to land with a ball turret down. If they can't be hauled up you're supposed to drop them. And after the haul to Germany, the long voyage home can become a diabolical problem in gas consumption.

"Bartrug is the best engineer in the world, but I didn't like being the guinea pig, it's so easy to loosen the wrong bolts. I sweated it for nearly four hours. He dismantled the whole top and he didn't turn a wrong lug.

MALE CALL

by Milton Caniff creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



BEACHHEAD FEINT

The woman's war

by.....

"We just gotta find it! Why does everything have to go wrong when the Inspector's coming?" exclaimed S/Sgt Clopton of the fighting 76th.

A crisis had arisen in the orderly room. Action had to be taken, and fast, if our side was to avert a serious setback. A service record had been lost. That encyclopedia of GI lore without wings, just wasn't to be found.

"I left it right there on my desk, and now where is it?" Clopton demanded, locking accusingly at the other typewriter commandos in the office.

"So what, said Sgt Franciscus belligerently. That guy is one of the new men. He's always bawling about something. Last week he was in here complaining about the pay he received. Said he had paid the laundry bill five times and we got him stayed with it again. Does he think we make mistakes like that here?"

"So what!" said Sgt Leonard. "That guy's a goldbrick. If I had my way he'd be working in a mine, or a work farm. Look how he works those Italians, but we gotta find his service record just the same.

"He was in here yesterday," continued Clopton. "He only works twelve hours a day, and yet he wants a good pay. Doesn't he know there's a war going on?"

"Look how hard we work" sobbed Sgt Leonard. "Just keeping track of all those changes in Army Regulations is enough to drive us crazy. There's that regulation on indentments for example. A.R. 615-385, paragraph 6, section 8, as revised by changes 2, 3, and 7, provides for double spacing in the heading.

"But" Leonard continued despairingly. "Where we can type the letter, we have to check Air Force Memorandums, Wing Directives, War Department Bulletins, and then there's those letters from Group."

"Now see here fellows," Chief clerk Clopton again. "I know we work long hours. We're doing our share. If you guys would type an official letter once in a while, we'll get something done too. This," said Clopton, waving a letter, "is the first one I've written home today. Huh---seems kinda heavy---hope it can't be read." Embarrassed, Clopton extracted the missing service record from the envelope and slumped into a chair.

SYMPHONY IN "8"

by..... J. Kennedy.....

"It's awful," groaned Sgt..... commenting on the artistic performance of Cpl "Signor" Boulay, violinist virtuoso of the 76th.

Cpl Boulay has bought a violin. It's a real "Guarnierius" and cost \$70. Three months have passed since he made the purchase for 15,000 Lire, and for three months complaints have been coming in mounting crescendo.

"That harbor is responsible for it all," said Cpl Kovitsky plainly. "Why did he promise to give lessons until Boulay could play the thing? Boulay can't take him back to America."

"I work hard. I get tired. Very tired. I need my sleep, but how

can I sleep? I'm laying on my bunk - my eyes close - I start to breathe heavy - I'm asleep. ****It ain't funny, how can I describe it? It begins with a tremor. It's not a tremor - the writing goes jerky - I stop and turn. What kind of guy was that Guarnierius? Why did he put --- "triple" note in his violin? Boulay said - he always hits it. It's not a tremor - I feel it all over me. Wow! I'm out of bed and half way out of the tent. I feel a chill. What's happened? This place can't go on," sobbed Cpl Speer.

Boulay will part with his violin. He hopes to master it before returning to the States. Perhaps he's too optimistic... America, for warned of the new threat to its domestic tranquility, may tighten up the Immigration Laws.

330023

777TH UNDERGROUND...
by.....

After a long period of confinement to the hospital due to a fractured ankle, Stanley Taylor is back in camp again. From the way he is lackadaimically sitting around it's obvious that he's afflicted with some sort of ailment while at the hospital, neuritis or something. To quote Taylor, "The nurses aren't a bit plain".

The military expert of the sq Joseph Procidz, says that since the Russians were able to take Minsk in a surprising encircling movement, then advanced on Psk right through the Pripet Marshes the fall of Dvinsk is not far behind. Moreover, with the fall of Lissa, Kariawa and I... let alone Wlodawa, Gradiszcz, Kelcawice, Zamodu and Czerna, it won't be necessary to learn how to pronounce Baranowicz.

Carl Matuszczyk is taking vitamin pills again, trying to regain the two and a half pounds he lost through missing breakfast two mornings in succession. It is hoped that his efforts will be successful; his familiar shape would be missed by all.

For sheer persistency in the face of insurmountable difficulties, a citation for Joseph Dia whose mustache, after several weeks of cajoling cultivation, is just beginning to show, putting all his would be hecklers to shame.

For information of all self-styled Don Juans: a sweeping conquest was made by big Howard Cagel when a little Red Cross girl consented to pose with him for a snapshot. The passionate manner in which he crushed her to him was reminiscent of the good old silent movie days. Cagel is longingly sweating out all Red Cross trucks for her return.

But as far as we're concerned the search is on for Reich's Harlem sisters. The stimulation caused at the show last Wednesday will positively not subside. The air traffic to Tun is has become a major problem.

By.....

"Smiling Jack" is wearing... congrat... "Killer" McPee working on... secret... has the... "Deacon" ... returned from... left for... We'll miss... Who are the... in the... ita's husband... Is "Fish" V... Section 3 with his exhibition... dry-land fishing... Squadron Operations is getting... Airport every day, what with everyone calling up daily for "Reservations" for Bari, Rome, Naples and other live spots..... Stanley L... is in for his fourth... 2 are for... accomplished..... good boy Stanley! This reporter for one is taking Chaplain Eastwood's advice as per his "Flimsy" in last week's Bomb Blast... there is too much needless swearing going on around camp.... what more I've got plenty of hair on my chest too... Great games on at the Officer's Club... the opening nite was the 20th and allmissions were reflow... how the wind howled the next day!!! Despite numerous obstacles and other difficulties the 75th Service Club will be opened by the time you read this... plenty of refreshments---and good too--- Ten... The airplane will behave to stay when they start laying billboards flat on the ground... Lt Jack "Ness" ... is up for... a 612..he's the best customer in the PX for "Red Dog" chawin' tobacco.... High... is Mike Yury... with 43... 7 to go..... let's... two, three Mike. The bill is getting to be quite a city with all the stone buildings going... think they'll need them?????

Abstract 28

Com-Kingdom

MOVIES:

Sun & Mon, 30 & 31 July
"JAM SESSION"
.....with.....
Ann Miller and
Five popular bands

Tues & Wed, 1 & 2 Aug
"BATTLE OF CHINA"
.....also.....
short subjects

Thurs & Fri, 3 & 4 Aug
"NEVER A DULL MOMENT"
.....with.....
Ritz Brothers
Frances Langford

BASEBALL:

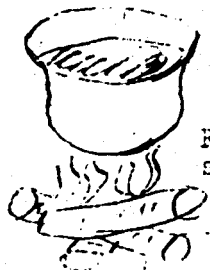
Sun 30 July - 464 vs 565 SS
Mon 31 July - 464 vs 387 SS
Tues 1 Aug - 464 vs Guard Sq
Thurs 3 Aug - 464 vs 387 SS
Fri 4 Aug - 464 vs 565 SS

SOFTBALL:

Diamond available to all who wish to play.

SWIMMING:

Italian District Number 2 Swimming Meet will take place on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd August, at Bari. A REAL SHOW!!!



Minneapolis (CNS) - Short Fogelund, 82, rolt young as he started to climb a tree. At the Minneapolis General Hospital, his knee fracture is "improving" they say.

THE WOLF

by Sansone



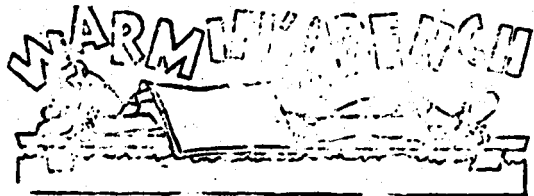
FRANCE --- Pvt George Lemelin, who landed with the Engineers on D-Day, received word the other day that his draft board in Detroit had granted him occupational deferment for one year--as an essential worker.

CHICAGO (CNS)-- A tall stranger, munching a sandwich in a Chicago restaurant, protested when charged 19 cents for a "tid-bit." After learning who the stranger was the restaurant subsequently cut the sandwich price to its OPA level--a dime. Name of the customer: Henry Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury.

DENVER, Col (CNS) Asked how he spent his pay Sgt Sargent replied: "I spend the greater part of my monthly income maintaining civilian morale."

WITS and ERRORS

by.....S/Sgt. Robert C Hoover



Lt. Col. Mickey Cochran's Great Lakes Blue Jacket Baseball Team now has won sixteen games, while losing none.... Cochran's victims included the Chicago Cubs, the Pittsburgh Pirates, The Milwaukee Brewers and the Philadelphia Athletics.

When Max Baer was heavy-weight champion of the world his manager owned 25% of his contract, Sam Lorimer another 25%, his father claimed 10% and a few more guys claimed 15% which left Maxie holding only 25% of himself.

"You see" said Maxie, "I thought there was 1000 % in everything, like in baseball, so I thought I had plenty left. Boy! Was I surprised!!"

Bob Pastor is now the PT Officer at Randolph Field Texas. He graduated from OCS last November at Miami Beach Fla.

Sgt Joe DiMaggio, the well-known San Francisco Lasagna financier, hasn't lost his batting punch. He clubbed out four home runs in four games recently at a south Pacific base.

Ordered for induction:

Ed Huesser, Cinn. pitcher....
Charlie Metro, Detroit outfielder....
Rollie Hemsley-----
Yankee catcher...Al Unser, Detroit Catcher.

Lt Byron "Whizzer" White, famed football flyer of the University of Colorado and the Detroit Lions, has received the Bronze Star for his service in the "Little Beavers" Destroyer Squadron which five times has bombarded Japanese bases in the south Pacific.

The softball diamond is now ready for use!!! Hq. has its team ready to go; 777th Engineers are ready and the boys who guard our field have a good team worthy of your steel. So let's get those teams up here to S/Sgt Hoover.

OVERHEAD

77th EM Club.....
"I don't see how the club can give us free beer and water-skiing, do you?"

Hq. EM Club.....
"Want to join, man, show around! This is only my 2nd hot case!"

Hq. Off Club.....
"I just sent my wife some stamped envelopes."

On the line.....
They just grounded my ship for a dusty catwalk."

79th Area.....
Hey Passano! You sell me your field jacket, yessss?"

Over the Target.....
What's that little black puff

During a break in the film.....
8'3'":?/-XZ)8#8"-QR-&"XK&Z.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS:

"I'm going to be the first pilot to crash land with a full bomb load."

OFFICER'S VOLLEYBALL TEAMS FOUNDING INTO SHAPE

Although no entries have been made as yet in the Officer's Volleyball League, several good teams are playing and getting into shape. The Det Officers are all ready to go and have won several games in practice sessions. 778th and 777th Officers are also playing. Lt "Tex" Biddle and "Doc" Goodfried of the 78th are looking for men interested in forming a team. The name goes for Lt. Hetsel and Capt Timmons of the 779th. Let's get these teams formed and some real competition. This writer says that the Hq team looks like the winner already. (ED: Written by a Hq man)

464TH SWIMMERS COMPLETE AUG 1-2-3

The 464th swimmers will leave for Bari to participate in the Italian #2 District Swimming Meet on 31 July. The Meet will be held on the 1, 2, 3 of August. It should prove to be... "quite spectacular".

... TO ...

... from page 1.

... however, was the attack on Hitler's life and the series of riot and revolt that followed. Any of these stories are, of course, unfounded but it is evident that a crisis is fast approaching in Germany and if it once gets out of hand, anything can happen.

The Junkers, Germany's died-in-the-wool militarists, are not averse to slaughter so long as they are not the victims, but they revolt at the sight of German BLUE BLOOD being spilt and especially in such large quantities.

On Tuesday, Marshall Stalin announced the capture of the fortress Lublin, on the way to Warsaw. All along the eastern front the Germans were forced to retreat or be killed. This was especially true in the north where the Russians have cut the railroad running northwest into Riga -- the last good escape line for the Germans in this sector.

In the Pacific, the landings on Tinian and Guam islands are progressing successfully and the Japs are being thoroughly beaten in both places.

Jap shipping was again pounded wherever encountered and several freighters and smaller vessels were sent to the bottom.

The remnants of the Jap 18th Army in New Guinea is being methodically hacked to bits by General MacArthur's forces.

THE WOLF

by Sansone



... I ...

... from page 1.

disregard them. He says his young have to learn to lose!! Surrender means suicide to them. HITLER WILL NOT SURRENDER. OF HIS OWN FREE WILL, NO MATTER HOW HORRIBLE THE COST IN GERMAN LIVES. HE AND HIS BLOOD-THIRSTY PLANNERS MUST FIRST BE EXTERMINATED.

Picture what has been going on in Germany during the Nazi regime. Hitler, Goering, Goebbels, Himmler, Schacht and many others have been acquiring vast fortunes wrested from the hands of helpless minorities. Will the fruits be stolen? Not if they can help it! Where in the world can they go and live unmolested by an aroused populace? Germany is their only haven and Germany will be theirs until it is crow-barred from their clutches.

The present so-called revolt? The instigators are as cruel and haughty a crew as ever faced the courts of the Spanish Inquisition. The Junkers!!! They are NOT in the least concerned about the well-being of the German people as a whole. Their only concern is the maintenance of the "landed gentry" in Prussia. The particular part of Germany in which they hold sway, Prussia, is the direct antithesis of democracy; a feudalism of the worst kind which they hope to salvage by indulging in "revolutions". WE MUST ACCEPT NO COMPROMISE!!! THE JUNKERS ARE NO MORE ACCEPTABLE TO FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE THAN HITLER HIMSELF. LET THE FRANKENSTEINS SUFFER IN THE DISILLUSIONMENT OF THEIR MONSTER TURNED AGAINST THEM.

We haven't MUCH more to go. Let's make sure we do a good job this time, rather than accept ANYTHING hurriedly. WE MUST SHOW THE PEOPLE THE ERROR OF THEIR WAYS. WE MUST SHOW THEM THAT DEMOCRACY DOES WORK. WE MUST POINT OUT THE BENEFITS OF A FREEDOM WHICH THEY HAVE MISSED FOR SO LONG. WHEN THIS IS DONE, AND A THORN REMOVED FROM THE WING OF THE DOVE, THEN CAN WE SAY THAT FUTURE WARS HAVE BEEN AVERTED.