

# HOME AND BACK AGAIN

## MORGENSTERN HAS HAPPY TIME! WHO WOULDN'T?

At 9:30 PM on Dec 2, T/4 Bill Morganstern was home — home with the wife he'd left behind, and the two year old son he'd never seen. His emotions at that time are best left undescribed, for words are sometimes inadequate. One day we all hope to experience those emotions.

### AMATEUR SHOW

#### BEING PREPARED

All the mysterious preparations involving grease paint and paint pots are scheduled for an airing in the theater on the evenings of February 10th and 11th when the 12th presents its second unit show.

The presentation is sponsored jointly by Special Services and the Red Cross and has taken shape largely thru the untiring efforts of Dental Clinic Davis.

Many E.M. and Officers of the command will take roles. The identities of several are kept secret in order to add surprise to humor in the entertainment.

Take it from those who know, you WILL be surprised.

At the present, the show is in the preliminary rehearsal stage.

Morganstern left the 12th General in November on his 30 day TD. At a Repple Depple he was stripped of all equipment, except clothes and personal items, and given the usual orientation lectures. Anxious waiting was terminated by the arrival of a boat, and the voyage to that Happy Land began. There were a number of hospital patients aboard, and Morganstern, being a Medical Corpsman, was assigned duty as a night ward man. Time dragged by, but at last the seemingly endless expanse of water was crossed.

Four old, but not forgotten friends greeted the homecomers—fresh milk, steak, hot dogs, and ice cream. The men were torn between laughter and tears.

Almost immediately, Morganstern received his orders to report to the separation center at Fort Dix. Here he was given "the works"—furlough papers, partial pay, new clothes, and train and meal tickets for his journey home.

When queried about home attitude towards the war, Sgt. Morganstern informed us that however disastrous the recent German counter-offensive may have been from a military standpoint, it served to shatter civilian complacency almost as effectively as did Pearl Harbor. (Cont'd P.2)

# DEPARTMENT NOTES

## SURGI-CALL-UMN

(With apologies to Maj. Ory)

Several of the boys were just a little buzzed off at the selected title of our 12th General news sheet. Cries were raised of "favoritism", "prejudice", "ain't they heard of the boys who cut the meat", etc. Seriously, we think the name is appropriate enough, but as a consolation, we offer this line of news, of, by, and for ourselves; so seek ye weekly our little call-umn, and who knows what bits of information you might pick up.

Surgical Service welcomes the return of Captain Langston who has spent six weeks DS at the 56th Evac Hosp. The Captain enjoyed his work and associations there, and of all the potentials had only one complaint. It concerned his daily routine, but you'll have to ask him if you would question further.

For the past few weeks, anyone passing by the Eye Clinic in the evenings has been fascinated by the subtle strains of a mandola being wafted through the transom. What lilting melodies! Unconsciously one finds himself doing the Lambeth Walk or a reasonable facsimile. Upon investigation it was discovered that Major Droege-mueller, Chief of EENT Service, was the gentleman who made mellow with the music. Who said we did not have talent? Take it away, Maestro!

Col. Sturgeon, Lt. Col. Allen, Majors Martin, Droege-mueller and Lieberthal were members of a group that journeyed to Naples for a Medical-Surgical conference during the past week. All went well, we trust, and many new techniques and processes will be carried home to the 12th.

After 46 months of rugged and gruelling army life, the 'great Tarzan McClaid' finally succumbed to Lady Ether and had his bad knee rejuvenated. Prostrate abed Tarzan sends out an SOS for all beer donations. The gang in the Meat Market miss you Tarz and bid you a speedy recovery. **Quick, Minier - the enema tube!**

FROM THE LAB:-

## "PIJAK" WINS PROMOTION

After 2 years, 9 months, 12 days, 10 hours, and 29 minutes of faithful service by one John J. Mardyla, the army recognized his scientific ability and saw fit to bestow a mate to his lonely Pfc stripe. "Doc's" only comment: "There we are! Must be I'm ready for responsibility. What do you think of that?" We think that "Pijak", who entered the service from Wyandotte, Michigan, deserves hearty congratulations.

(continued from page 1)

He added that night clubs and other places of entertainment are crowded. There is plenty of free and easy money, and people aren't afraid to spend it. There is definitely a cigarette shortage. The old slogan, "I'd walk a mile for a Camel", has become an actuality.

Overseas bars will get you otherwise impossible favors. Many a dealer will reach under the counter for that last bottle of scotch or pack of cigarettes in order to sell it to an overseas veteran.

The comment is often made that **30 days at home is not worth** all the red tape of getting there and tears at parting again. Moganstern is inclined to disagree with this. "It was definitely worth it," said he, "and I'd do it a--gain if I could!"

# SCHOOL BELLS "CAFE SOCIETY" RING FOR OPENING MAC OFFICERS WITH BANG

The Surgeon's Office, Peninsular Base Sector, in conjunction with the Surgeon's Office, MTOUSA, is conducting training schools for Medical Administrative Corps officers at various hospitals thruout the base section.

Major Piper and Lt. Livingston are now attending the Supply and Pharmacy School at the 300th General Hospital. Major Overfield will attend the school for Detachment Commanders at the 26th General and Captain Mitchell will attend the Mess Officers' school at the 26th. Lt. Johnson will go to the Registrars' School at the 33rd General and Lt. Deeters the Motor Vehicle School at this hospital.

The Motor Vehicle School will be held here commencing 7 February and will be under the direction of Captain Woolsey and officers from MTOUSA. Participants will discuss their problems and try to bring out the best ways of handling Motor Pool routine matters. Particular stress will be placed on the subject of Preventive Maintenance.

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ARE YOUR CLOTHES TOO LARGE?

Don't waste money on

----- Tailoring! -----

BRING THEM TO AMBRUNO'S LAUNDRY

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ARE YOUR CLOTHES TOO SMALL?

Readjustments on Clean Clothes

.....Our Specialty.....

MANDELZVEIG'S MILITARY STYLE SHOP

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HAVE YOU HAD YOUR stove-pipe de-sooted recently? Try my water bath "specialty" stove-pipe irrigation system. I am also experienced in dropping rocks (this work must be done on a slightly higher level). "I WORK NIGHTS"

-----B. S. LEVINE, T/4, Hdqs.

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"Cafe Society", the 12th General's new E.M. club and one of the finest in this theatre, staged its official opening last Tuesday nite. A preliminary opening had occurred the preceding Saturday, but Tuesday evening was the one to remember. Col. Sturgeon, Lt. Col. Castaldo, Major Ory, Major Overfield, and many other officers as well as Red Cross workers dropped in to admire the grandiose decorations.

Enlisted Mens' Club President Sweeney is justly proud of the huge electric sign, the fireplace which sports an old-fashioned double-barreled shotgun above the mantle, the impressive bar and the draped curtains. Tables, chairs, and tablecloths which were secured with difficulty provide an air of homelikeness. This homelike atmosphere is even more pronounced when one contemplates the fireplace, probably the only one in this whole region.

President Sweeney is also grateful to the many fellows in the detachment who put in a lot of hard work to make "Cafe Society" the splendid club it is. He announced that it will be open from noon till 5 when the doors will be closed until 7 P.M. to give the boys time to polish up for the evening session which lasts till 10. It is expected that the men will be able to spend much spare time in their club and derive from it a maximum amount of enjoyment.

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YOU MAY HAVE GAPPED at Gibraltar and ambled in Oran and napped in Naples or bartered in Bagnoli. You may have even ridiculed Rome and longed for Leghorn, but you have never been anywhere or seen anything until you have LOOKED AT LUCCA. (Pisa is omitted for obvious reasons.)

ADV. -----Lucca Chamber of Comm.

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12th General Hospital Weekly Newspaper

Col. John H. Sturgeon, M.C.,  
Commanding Officer.

Lt. Charles H. Nichols, MA.A.C.,  
Advisory Officer.

Published every Sunday thru the Office of Information and Education.

This paper is not to be sent thru the mails.

Editor: E. B. White Associate Editors: Eugene D. Weinberg  
Sports Editor: Lester Braman Eugene Lancaster  
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H. J. Maxwell, Albert Hoover, James Brown

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VACATIONS & ROTATIONS

Six members of the command recently left on rotation, and six others departed for a 30-day furlough in the States. Those being rotated are: Lts. Evelyn, Hodges, Kemer, and Sacks, and T/3 Edward Lord and T/5 Lloyd Hudson. The furloughs are being enjoyed by Capts. Dent and Rierson, Lt. Gehring, T/5s Frank Zola and Lloyd McCarney, and Pfc John Gillie.

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To the Editors.....

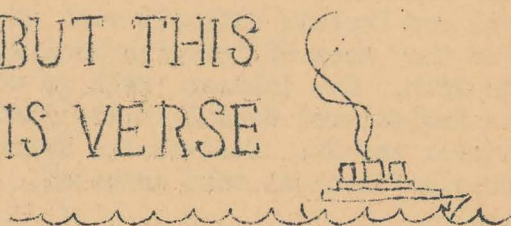
In the 25 months that I have been overseas, I have never had a pass for a period longer than one day. Now I have requested a 3-day pass, and to my amazement, I am told that all of the large cities are "off-limits". I have made a little survey of our neighboring units and I learned that most of them, including hospitals quartermasters, and engineers, are enjoying 5--day passes in Rome or Florence. Technically, they are placed on "detached service" and are quartered at rest centers or related units. Can anything be done to obtain the same privilege for men of this Detachment?

Sincerely,  
Pvt B.H.

Slips that pass.....

"Transportation of the non-transportable femur injury"  
(12th General Hospital Daily Bulletin Information Section, paragraph 2, January 22, 1945.

PROSE IS BAD,  
BUT THIS  
IS VERSE



MOOD NOIR

What a moribund state is this?  
I am depressed, bewildered,  
Yet I know not why.

What gave this black mood birth?  
My soul nourishes it,  
Will't never die?

Release thy grip O foul antagon-  
Set my spirit free! ist  
O hear my cry!

What price consolation?  
Why, a quick rotation!



THEY DO IT EVERY TIME

## JAPS WEAR RUBBISH AS LUZON DISGUISE

(By Camp Newspaper Service)

The Japs brought out their full bag of tricks in a vain effort to repel our successful invasion of Luzon Island, including use of human torpedoes.

The human torpedoes were more interesting than dangerous, and did very little damage to our war ships or transports. Most of the Japs accomplished little except the dubious achievement of blowing themselves up.

To turn themselves into human torpedoes, some Japs lashed explosives on their backs and swam under water in attempts to blow holes in the hulls of our vessels. However, a man swimming in the water, it developed, just could not carry a sufficient weight of explosives to do much damage.

To camouflage themselves, several of the Japs used wooden boxes over their heads, simulating rubbish heaved overboard from the transports.

Others used luggers and small boats. A few of the luggers were 100 feet long and covered with palm fronds. They were secreted in the narrow waterways behind Santiago and Cabarruyan Islands, at the northwest corner of Lingayen Gulf, but our fliers easily penetrated the make-shift disguises.

Some others used small motor boats filled with explosives. One such motorboat charged broadside into one of our ships and blew itself to pieces. Another small enemy craft ran abeam of one of our vessels and the Japanese crew tossed hand grenades onto the deck.

But the verdict of V/Adm Theodore S. Wilkinson, commander of the Lingayen Gulf task force was: "There wasn't a good, honest torpedo in the lot."

## VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL COURSES AVAILABLE NOW

One day this war will end; the time may be uncertain, but the ending is not! When that day arrives, how will you be prepared to readjust yourself to civil life?

The change from military to civil life will be nearly as difficult as it was the other way round----and who has forgotten those early "soldier" days? The intelligent person will face this problem of an uncertain future and plan accordingly.

Vocation---what you do for a living---will surely enter into most of those plans.

The Army is providing a substantial help for such planning thru its "United States Armed Forces Institute", commonly referred to as USAFI.

### GET TRAINING NOW

If you plan to change your vocation and such a change involves formal study, there is no need to wait 'til hostilities cease. You can begin your work here and now by taking appropriate courses with the Institute. If you need a refresher course on some subject vital to your work, or if need additional credit for a diploma or degree, the Forces Institute may be able to help you.

The range of courses is wide; some of the self-teaching courses carried by the unit include:

- Principles of Advertising
- Business Filing
- Business Management
- Bookkeeping and Accounting
- Typing
- Shorthand
- Radio

and many others.

If you are interested, drop in and visit Lt. Nichols, Information and Education Officer.

BRAZILIAN S REPLY

A recent edition of Medi-Call contained an article of which I was the subject. Now I should like to contribute a reply.

I am not possessed of the gifts that carry a man to public leadership. I am only a Brazilian whose single fortune consists of loving deeply the country where he was born. I have had the good fortune of visiting the United States and meeting the Americans, whom I came to like and admire a great deal. Now, along with a majority of Brazilians, I consider America my second homeland.

It is with satisfaction that we see day by day America becoming more Brazilian; Brazil more American. We know that from this fraternal union grows Pan-Americanism, and that under Allied leadership everything will be in peace and order in North and South America. Our two nations serve as a great example to our other brother countries of the new continents.

With thousands of North Americans in Brazil today, Brazil has discarded her remote hopes in Europe in favor of the certainty of American unity and friendship.

Today, with its population of almost 60 millions and its area of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  million square kilometers, Brazil is the leading country of the Latin world. Our incomparably beautiful capitol enraptures anyone who finds himself there. And, as is the case with the great American cities, Rio de Janeiro enjoys the most flattering fame throughout the world. Another great city is Sao Paulo, an outstanding industrial center whose exports rank it in first place in South America.

We also have Volta Redonda, 'steel city'. Metallurgy is developing in Brazil with rapid and sure strides. Already we construct our boats, planes, and

will soon have our first automobiles. The exploration for and exploitation of mines has caused us to be called the 'arsenal of prime materials indispensable to war'. Exports of all types go to the U.S.A., from coffee to the minerals which are helping to win this terrible conflict.

The rubber empire, the Amazon, is furnishing millions of tons of precious products, a tribute to the joint Brazilian-American force which is working there.

Here in this theater of operations all that remains for us is great longing and homesickness. All our ground, air and sea forces combat the common enemy. We shed our blood for Brazil and for America. I am very proud of this American - Brazilian friendship. These two countries, leaders of the Americas, will always march side by side, both in war and in peace. Led by men of the caliber of Vargas and Roosevelt, they will be the standard bearers of democracy in the future.

So it is that we Americans of the United States of Brazil and the United States of America, with our common desires and sentiments, enjoying both samba and 'boogie woogie', seem to be becoming more and more similar in the hope of forming from our two native lands a single family.

Henry Stozek

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### 356 DOCTORS DIE IN WAR

Chicago (CNS).....At least 101 U. S. physicians have died in action and 255 others have died while in military service since the outbreak of World War II, the Journal of the American Medical Association reports.

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Indianapolis (CNS) --- Reprimanded by a cop for jaywalking, a local lady bashed the policeman in the face with her handbag. In side the handbag she carried a shoe. The charge: assault with a dangerous weapon.



## MEET THE TEAM

PLACE IN TOURNAMENT  
PLAYOFFS NOW ASSURED

III

Jan 28..... The Redbirds bounced back into their winning ways at Madison Square Garden tonite by withstanding a last quarter rally of the 414th Fighter Squadreon to win 27-21.

This was an important game to the boys from the 12th. Due to the fact that the Redbirds had entered the league after two games had been played. PBS Special Service Officials decided that altho the 12th General team had finished at the top of the league standings, they should be charged with two defeats suffered by the team they had replaced. This decision dropped them to third place in the standings.

## MANAGER MOERMAN MAD

When Manager Bill Moerman received this news, he donned his fighting togs and promptly stormed the Special Service Office. He won a compromise victory: it was decided that the Redbirds would play a game tonite, if they were victorious in this game, they would be eligible to play in the coming tournament.

So the weary Redbirds gathered their forces for their ninth battle in ten days. The previous eight contests had rendered "Old Folks" Foley so sore and stiff that he benched himself in favor of younger and fresher talent. Manager Moerman shuffled the team by moving Tom Oliphant up from guard to Foley's forward post, and he, himself, took over Oliphant's position.

## TEAM SPIRIT TRIUMPHS

In a slow first half the Redbirds scored 11 points while holding the Flyers to u. In the third period, led by Wilson and Kelly, the local hoopsters dropped seven field goals through the bucket to take a 25-11 lead.

We present Leonard "Tarzan" McClaid and Iva "G.I." Wilson, each a forward for the Redbirds, and each a veteran in 12th General Hospital sports activities.

McClaid's home is in New Hampshire, Ohio, a few miles from Lima. He graduated from New Hampshire High School where he played basketball and baseball. After finishing school, Mac played semi-pro baseball and independent basketball for the New Hampshire team. Then "Tarz" worked at the State Hospital at Lima where he played forward on their basketball team and catcher on the softball team. At the same time, he pitched for the New Hampshire Merchants during the softball season.

Along with Wilson and McGraw, McClaid is one of the three remaining players from the 12th's championship team in Ft. Custer in 1942. He has also played three seasons on the Redbird baseball team as centerfielder. Unfortunately, Mac has missed the last nine basketball games because of his hospitalization for a knee operation. His steady play has been greatly missed, and his return to action will strengthen the Redbirds greatly.

Cont'd Page 8.

But in the last quarter the Air Corps boys rallied against the tiring Redbird attack and started dropping basket from all directions. At this point the old fighting 12th spirit came to the rescue and the boys stopped the enemy's attack with an airtight defense. Having caught their second wind, the Redbirds were once more on the offensive when the final whistle blew.

Wilson with 9 points and Kelly with 8, led the Redbirds in scoring. Morris and Dykiel with 7 points each shared honors for the Flyers.

# ABOUT



# "MEDI-CALL"

MEDI-CALL is now familiar to patients and personnel of this hospital. It seems timely therefore, to explain how it is written and published.

No sooner is one issue prepared than the editorial staff is racking its collective brains for ideas to be used in the next. When a story suggests itself, a staff member is delegated to collect facts from an informed source, or a person with the data is requested to submit an article. Letters, poems, and short stories are continually solicited from everyone.

Once the material is submitted, the editors check it for facts, bring it to form, and type it in the proper column width. This is cleared via Special Service thru Headquarters which checks for censorable material. This procedure is followed because Headquarters is responsible for everything that appears in print.

When the "copy" is okayed, it is returned to the editors who cut it and paste it on the dummy in the form in which it will finally appear.

You will notice that MEDI-CALL has a right column margin. This makes the job of cutting the stencil very difficult. But Charlie Case, John Raysor, Ray Merle, Walker Stuart, Bill Quinn, Graff Williams, and Bernie Willage who volunteered to type a stencil each week make this extra effort.

Then the art work must be tackled. Merle Scarlett has the responsibility of getting the sketches in. Often he depends on volunteer patients like Wallace Kelley,

Wd. L., who has done much of the lettering and drawing.

Typing and Art complete, the stencils are sent to Headquarters

An incident occurred last week concerning our Sports Editor, Les Braman. In addition to his editorial position, Les is scorekeeper for the Redbirds. He writes a detailed account of each game for publication in MEDI-CALL after the game. But last week's issue was "to go to press" at the same time that the final tournament contest was being played with the 105th. It was agreed that one page would be held pending Braman's phone call to give the results of this important battle, so that it could be included in the issue. Unfortunately, the wrong phone number had been stamped on his pass and he was given a finance unit many miles away instead of the 12th General. When he finally learned our number, he was told that our wires were down. At 2330 hours, a rain-soaked Braman came trudging in with the disappointing news that we had lost the tournament by one point. But the paper included the outcome of the game, and was out by 0830 hours Sunday morning as scheduled.

(Cont'd from Pg 7)

Wilson hails from Briston, Oklahoma, where he starred in basketball and track at Briston High School. After graduation, "G.I." played basketball for the home town's independent team.

Iva took a shot at football after he entered the Army, and was a teammate of McGraw on the 215th Medic's eleven. That winter they teamed up again along with McClaid on the strong basketball team of the 12th in 1942. After the season, Wilson dropped out of athletics until last summer when he played a few games in left field for the Redbird nine. Lack of practice accounted for his slow start this season, but he looks better each game, and is now dropping in baskets to go with his splendid floor game.