

MEDI-CALL

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## 3 YEARS IN A JAP PRISON CAMP

Recently received by one of the 12th's personnel was a letter from his wife describing some of the experiences of her uncle, who was a civilian prisoner of the Japanese for three long years in Manila. The letter provides virtually a first-hand account of the Japanese barbarity which we have so long heard and read about. The man of whom this letter was written, was liberated when the Americans entered Santo Tomas. Following are some excerpts from the communication:

"The train my uncle came on was a special one for returning service men and evacuees from the Philippines. My uncle looked surprisingly well. When he was interned he weighed 130 and went down as low as 90 lbs. Now he has regained about all of it and is up to 129. For 7 days after the American 1st Cavalry entered Santo Tomas, the camp was bombarded by Jap shells. During that bombardment my uncle was wounded by shell fragments and had to have over a dozen shrapnel pieces removed from the right thigh. He has already told us many of his experiences. I

was happy to hear that he personally did not suffer much ill-treatment from the Japs. Twice he was slapped and another time kicked because he failed to bow to a Jap, and the other times because he was watching the American planes bomb Manila.

### PATIENT REACTION TO POINT SYSTEM

A "Medi-Call" reporter made a tour of the wards recently with a view toward obtaining patient reaction to the War Department's point plan. The results seemed to emphasize the much-disputed problem as to whether or not the combat man was given enough recognition. Here are some typical comments:

Pfc Roy E. JACKSON....."I think a married man without children should have 5 more points than a single man."

Pfc Louis FULLER....."It's all right but I don't think it gives the man on the line enough points."

Pvt Lawrence YATSU....."They don't distinguish between combat man and rear echelon. Combat men should get better break."

Pfc Gerald A. MONECO....."I can't find anything the matter with it."

### LOW FOOD SUPPLY MEANT END FOR ANIMALS

"For the first two years it wasn't bad and they were able to purchase food from outside the camp. The Filipinos did that for them until food became scarce on the island. The third year was bad. They lived on a soup of water with a few grains of rice floating in it. People died constantly, mostly those over 50. During the first years they could raise chickens, but when food became scarce, these disappeared. Gradually the dogs and cats began to disappear, too. They

(Cont'd on Page 8)

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One of the most odiferous scandals yet to come out of the European War  
war drifted into the nostrils of the American public last week. It cen-  
centered around the so-called "coddling" of high German army officers  
and the mystery of just why the Doenitz government is openly com-  
posed of former high Nazis and Nazi sympathizers, in spite of the  
fact that this war was supposed to have been fought to rid the  
world of such vermin.

Mothers and fathers whose sons died fighting the Germans must  
have been rather puzzled to hear of American officers dining with  
their former enemies, and engaging in friendly "shop talk" with them.  
Men fighting and suffering in the Pacific must have wondered, too,  
why world gangster Hermann Goering, the scheming, murderous, greedy  
"jolly" fat man, was being handled with kid gloves instead of the  
long-promised mailed fist. Perhaps they discussed his "chicken din-  
ner" over a sumptuous K ration feast, while sweating out the next  
Jap shell.

The soldiers of the Allied nations join with General Eisenhower  
in his strong denunciation of this action. The road we have trav-  
elled has been too long and too bloody, and the road ahead too  
uncertain, to let those who will not keep the faith deter us from  
our goal of final victory and lasting peace.

TWO KINES OF TERSE VERSE

The thought of another summer in Italy isn't terrific,  
But, O, how I loathe to think of one in the Pacific!!!

# HEADQUARTERS

This week's spotlight turns on the Headquarters Office..but that is nothing unusual, since the Headquarters Office is always in the spotlight. Among the enlisted men (and the officers, too), this place is known as the "Sanctum Sanctorum". While other departments deal in minor matters, great decisions of world-shattering import are decided behind the closed doors and hushed rooms of Headquarters. Such things as "When is my day off?" or "How about a furlough?" can be heard if one pins his (or her) ear close to the doors of this nerve center of hospital activity. Did it ever occur to anyone that Headquarters is the substitute for the parents of our organization? It is not necessary to get parents' consent to get married...but woe is on the person who dares contemplate a marital ceremony without the blessing of Headquarters - (see AW No. 96).

Yet, on the serious side, Headquarters is the all-important correlating department of the hospital. Matters of policy, interpretation of Army Regulations, liaison between departments, presentation of awards, and hundreds of other tasks fall to the members of this department. Heading the department is Major Ory (self-styled "best damn Adjutant in the U S Army"), who took over the position of Adjutant when the 12th began operations in Rome. His many and varied duties as intermediary between the members of the hospital and the outside world in general keeps him on the move (but he hasn't missed a ball game yet)...."And I don't intend to miss any." Entered service from Pensacola, Florida.

Following behind the Adjutant in rank, is the Assistant Adjutant, Lt. Livingston, another gentleman of the "Old South", and in particular...Mississippi. Lt. Livingston joined the 12th General from the 114th Station Hospital. Besides his duties as

Assistant Adjutant, the lieutenant has only ten other additional duties.... the most important of which is that of PX Officer. It is generally agreed that because of this latter position, Lt. Livingston is a good man to be friendly with.

T/Sgt Bob Hugler places entire blame upon the draft board of Detroit, Michigan, for launching him upon an Army career which up to this time has him in that "in-on-the-know-position" of Sergeant Major. How he now yearns for those happy and carefree days when he was in the Registrar's Office. Sgt Hugler's chief complaint is that the drumming in his ears that he hears as a member of the 12th General Hospital orchestra continues over when he assumes his place as Sergeant Major.

T/4 Gene Lancaster assembles the daily Special Order....the instrument whereby patients go home, Officers and Nurses go on DS and enlisted men get promoted....(or demoted). T/4 Braunstein is up to his ears (a bystander claims this should read "up to his nose") in the files. New York's gift to the armed forces, T/5 Calise claims association with generals....because he writes the General Orders that award decorations to patients and personnel. Headquarters's printing plant (one mimeograph machine) gets its daily beating from T/5 Tornavacca.....the man everybody sees when they need printing of forms. Pfc Hoover, outside social and other activities notwithstanding, handles the make-up of the Daily Bulletin and the numerous other tasks that fall to a Headquarter's clerk. Last, but by no means least, is the fair-haired boy of Headquarters, Pfc Atkinson (Newton, Alabama's most decorated soldier). "At" is the official courier and the darling of the nurses (when they need a lift to town).

## NATURAL HISTORY IN FABLES

## THE FLY



Once upon a time there was a bottle fly named Zoom who lived a lot of time flying around and another. At this he was very with a full load in an inch or if he had a mind to, which some best fly in town when it came to making a pass at a cake, piece of steak, or roast chicken, and was held by all who saw him to be both strong and clever. What with the food he jumped on and all, his feet were always sticky, and to come to a full stop right after a full-power landing was a cinch. Because of all these fine things Zoom ate well, often, and was very happy.

big broad-shouldered blue-eyed in a dunghill and spent landing on one thing or good. He could take off less, and land on a dime times he had. He was the

One day another fly, a fly who was a RIT, said: "Zoom, why don't you wash your feet? It would increase your payload and add 20 MPH to your speed if you'd get rid of all that trash. Why, think of the wind resistance you'd save, m'boy, just think of it!"

Zoom did, and thought this was good stuff. So he took a bath all over and wiped his feet dry. Then he took off. What speed! What rate of climb! Boy, oh boy! What performance! Delighted, Zoom levelled off and roared for a nearby cake at full throttle. He circled it at full speed twice, climbed for altitude, peeled off on one wing, and dove all out for his most famous trick, a full-power landing on vanilla icing. He hit the runway at blinding speed and slammed on his brakes. His feet were too slick, though, and they wouldn't hold. Zoom skidded across the cake with brake-bands smoking and screeching, did a wing-over, landed smack-dab on his nose, and burst into flames. His friends didn't have a chance to get his dog-tags, either, because some Humans came by just then and ate him up along with the cake.

Moral: "It's great to be clean  
And swell to be neat  
But if you're a fly, bub,  
Don't was those feet."

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 K.H.HIS CAUSE TAILORS TOIL
 

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"The uniforms are alright, it's just that the fellows are too long or too short." That's the opinion of Raul Sosa, detachment tailor. Since he also believes that it is easier to whittle down a uniform than a soldier, he hurries about his business in the tailor shop.

sews on insignia or presses clothing.

Boss Tailor Harry Mandelzweig is a patient in the hospital so he isn't able to help direct traffic and operations. Sosa says, "Boss or no boss, the stripes must go on."

During these rush periods, Sosa does the front office work, checking clothes in and out, while his staff of lady assistants makes adjustments,

Actually, the tailor shop was so busy when "Medi-Call" called for a story, our representative hadn't the heart to bother the workers. They never knew we were there.

# GI NEWS

(ANS) -- A highly detailed geographical plan in which the whole of Europe was plotted against a map of Texas and surrounding states, was used for bomber training missions by the Army Air Forces, it was disclosed recently. The little city of Terrell, Tex. served as London and other cities as far away as Albuquerque, N.M., were used to simulate European geography.

## MAKE YOUR OWN COMMENTS, MEN

(ANS) -- Don't all shout at once, men, but it's true. A bill approved recently by the House Military Affairs Committee makes local draft board members and other uncompensated Selective Service officials eligible for a certificate and medal for faithful and patriotic service. Before it can be effective, Congress must pass it.

## THEY HAD WORDS FOR IT

(ANS) -- War correspondents used 163,000,000 words to tell the story of the conquest of Europe from the west in the 337 days between the invasion and the surrender.

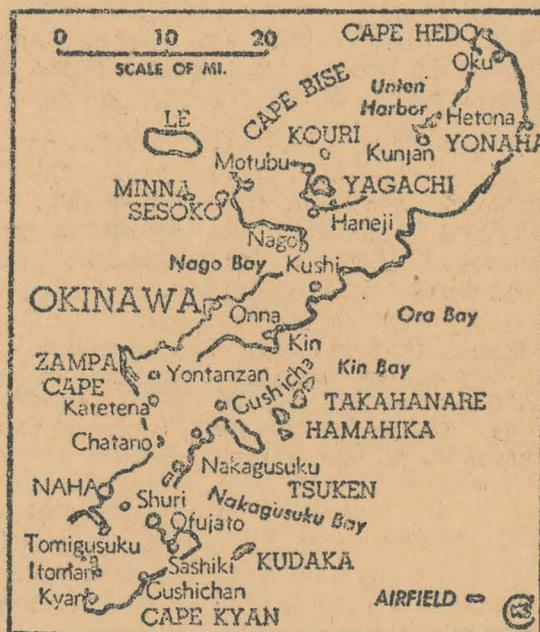
Another 400,000 words were filed on the surrender. The writers used 524,000 words on D-Day.

The censors in addition checked 12,000,000 words weekly of the Army's own public relations handouts and personal films and pictures of the troops which totalled 60,000 feet of movies and 700,000 stills per week.

## TARAKAN

(ANS) -- Tarakan Island, first Borneo station for Allied forces driving southwestward from the liberated Philippines, is one of the best sources of petroleum so far discovered in the vast, oil-rich Netherlands Indies and British Malaya.

The palm-fringed island, covered with wooded hills, is the largest of numerous islands lying in the delta of the Sesajap River near the northern limit of Netherlands Borneo's east coast. It is 16 miles long from its rounded north shore to its southern tip. It is 50 miles south of the British North Borneo border, 190 miles southwest of recently-recaptured Tawitawi of the Sulu Archipelago, and 800 miles southward across the Sulu Sea from Manila.



OKINAWA — BATTLE OF GUTS

## DENTISTS' POST-WAR PLANS

(ANS) -- A recent survey in the Journal of the American Dental Association reports that 22 percent of the dentists now in the armed forces will not return to their former communities to practice after the war.

Responses to questionnaires sent to 21,000 commissioned dental officers indicated, however, that 93 percent of the dentists who went to the armed services from private practice plan to return to private practice.

*Department  
Notes*

"MESS BURPS"

— YOU! —

The war on this side of the world could not have reached its final stages and brought unconditional surrender to the German Army had the officers and enlisted men responsible for our achievements in combat failed in the performance of their missions. It is in keeping with our military traditions that an assigned objective is attained. The good soldier does not quail before the difficulties of his mission. He performs it.

In the Seventh War Loan Drive all of us have a mission. Our duty is no less clear in this drive than it would be in combat. We must perform it.

Success in great battles depends upon the isolated performance of each individual participating in them. Countless single acts of skill, heroism and self-sacrifice are indispensable to the success of massive operations involving entire armies. So it is with many activities not directly relating to combat which are, nevertheless, an essential part of the pattern of victory. Not the least of these activities is yours. The War Loan Drives are a vital phase of the total war effort. We count on each of you as the combat commander counts upon each soldier on the fighting line, and as each in turn counts upon the other. Each bond you buy is a purchase in security for the future.

The time approaches when the nation will shift its energies and its manpower from the prosecution of war to the pursuits of peace. No one can forecast how easy or how difficult the transition will be for discharged service personnel who will be released after hostilities cease. But one thing is certain----the cash reserves

The unhappy looking cook soon walking about the corridors these days is E/5 Eugene "Zeko" Lereau, who recently returned from the U.S. where he went on TD. Zeko is bemoaning the fate that permitted him to be shipped back just a few days short of the end of the war and then after he had had only 72 days on furlough! Messages of sympathy and condolence sent in care of this column will be greatly appreciated.

FLASH!!! (exclusive) Results of softball game between members of this department and officers of the unit, more popularly known as the "Ration Destroyers"---Mess Department.....8  
Ration Destroyers.....2

Highlight of the game: Bases loaded, 1 out, and Major Ory at bat! Picture if you will the position Abe Caplan, pitching for the Mess, found himself in. It was only after Caplan was reminded that all Rotation was suspended that he settled down and retired the side without any scoring.

\*\*\* CRAFT SHOP \*\*\*

Latest addition to the Special Service recreation program is the Craft Shop, located in Row 8. Housed in two adjoining tents, the Shop provides tools and facilities for metal work, carpentry, clay modeling, and, in fact almost any of the manual skills. Here men who find delight in such work may putter away to their heart's content--during off-duty hours.

YOU accumulate will make the going far easier for you in time to come.

Bonds in various denominations, starting at \$7.50, can be purchased for cash or by allotment. There is no red tape---merely step in at your PERSONNEL OFFICE and make a purchase.

# SPORTS

The scourge of Leghorn, the 12th General Hospital's Redbirds, raced thru the past week like a runaway fire engine, flattening four more opponents to run their season record to 21 victories and remain unbeaten.

Sunday afternoon, the 'Birds bowled over the "Motor Macs" of the 603rd Ordnance Co., 10-2 for their 6th consecutive PBS Big Ten League victory. For Bill Moerman it was his 7th straight win of the season as he helped his own cause considerably by lashing out 4 hits in as many trips to the plate and scoring 3 runs. Bill fanned 11 visitors in the 7 innings he worked, retiring in favor of Clyde Thrasher after being struck in the neck by a flying bat while sitting on the bench.

Tuesday's victims were the 62nd Fighter Sqdn "Wings", who held a 1 run lead briefly in the 1st inning only to see the Redbird power erase it with a 6 run outburst in the home half of the frame. The Wings tapped Andy Krause for another tally in the 3rd to close their scoring for the day while the Flock added another pair in the 5th just for the exercise. Abe Malovany rapped three tallies across to lead the Redbird attack of 8 runs on as many hits while the Wings got 2 runs on just 3 safe blows.

Traveling to spacious Yankee Stadium in Leghorn on Thursday evening, the Redbirds played one of their best games of the season crushing P.B.S. Headquarters for the second time this season, 7 - 3. Bill Moerman, playing at 1st base in place of the injured Ed Subjeck and left fielder Ray Sparrs belted home runs while Vince Kelley rapped a double with the bases loaded

## PBS BIG-TEN LEAGUE STANDINGS

TEAMS	W	L	PCTG.	GBH
Boomers	6	0	1.000	-
REDBIRDS	6	0	1.000	-
Carcos	2	2	.500	3
Laundry Reds	2	3	.400	3½
Motor Macs	1	2	.333	3½
Boosters	1	2	.333	3½
Cobblers	1	2	.333	3½
Spareparts	1	4	.200	4½
Flying Cats	0	4	.000	5

## GAMES TODAY

Carcos at Laundry Reds

Boomers at Cobblers

Flying Cats at Motor Macs

Boosters at Spareparts

(REDBIRDS not scheduled)

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to provide the necessary stick-work to give Lefty Prymicz another victory. The little lefthander allowed but 5 bingles and was never in serious trouble.

The expected exciting contest with the 98th Engineer "Hawks" proved to be a bust as the Redbirds mauled their vaunted opponents to all the corners of Ory Field to the tune of 10-1. Bill Moerman won his 8th game of the season allowing 2 hits and fanning 12 Hawks in a game limited to 5½ innings because of poor visibility at the plate.

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## N-O-T-I-C-E

THE "REDBIRDS" ARE NOT SCHEDULED TO PLAY TODAY BUT THERE WILL BE A BALL GAME THIS AFTERNOON AT ORY FIELD.

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## LITTLE REDS LOSE

Crippled by the loss of their all-around star, Irv Rosnick, the Little Reds 3 game winning streak was snapped on Thursday night by the 604 Ordnance Co. ten, 7 to 4.

3 YEARS IN A JAP PRISON CAMP

(Cont'd from P. 1)

looked for rats but couldn't find any. They did catch two moles once and ate those.

JAPS CRUEL TO FILIPINOS

The Japs were worse to the natives than to the Americans and killed hundreds at a time for petty reasons. One time he saw the Japs put a hose into one and fill him up with water till his stomach was inflated like a balloon and then they jumped on him till he broke as a balloon would. The Japanese usually bothered internees only for infringements of the camp rules. Once they beat a man with the soles of their hob-nailed shoes. When he became unconscious they threw water on him and continued the beating. When he passed out a second time, they left him overnight, and continued the same process the next day.

My uncle was in surprisingly good health, considering the ordeal he had gone through. I hope that with rest and care he will soon be back to normal again.

WANTS TO BUY CAMERA

Anyone desiring to sell a 35mm camera contact Corporal Ed White in Detachment of Patients Office.

RED CROSS TALK

Red Cross looked like a regular playground last night---what with the orphans running around--big tanned brutes playing musical chairs and all of the children's delights we could summon. Cake and cold drinks added to the fun and the kiddies lapped it up with smiles of contentment.

DONUT REQUESTS FALLING OFF

"How about some doughnuts, Miss?" was one of our most frequent requests from both patients and personnel. Whether or not the end of the war or the sudden rise in temperature has dulled the appetites for this famous item is a matter of opinion. At any rate, beaucoup doughnuts were left over. Is it that donuts are a winter food, or shall we serve malba toast next time?

WINNIE & DEBORAH ARE BACK

Winnie and Deborah are once again with us. Winnie Wahler has been home on leave-----Deborah, her dog, has spent the spring in Naples.

Battle Creek, Mich. (ANS)---Thirty years ago George Peabody applied for a license to wed. It was refused because he couldn't get his mother's consent. The other day, George Peabody, 48, returned to the license bureau, bride on arm. "We're going to get married," he announced. "Mother finally gave in."

MALE CALL

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

JUST KEEP THE SUIT BUB

