



TWELFERS TELL OF VOYAGE

We're all expecting a long boat ride sometime this year, and several patients and members of the 12th took a miniature one last week as a preview of the real thing. This voyage lasted but 90 minutes and was made in an RCL which never left the harbor waters of Leghorn. The tour was arranged thru the I & E Office of the 10th P of E and will be given again for this hospital in the near future.

About 150 passengers were aboard; complete freedom of the boat was permitted provided that common-sense safety precautions were observed. The barge-like vessels were built in Nova Scotia and have participated in many amphibious invasions. As the tour progressed, the boat would slow down as we passed points of interest and speed up at other times. Inasmuch as photographing of the port area is now allowed, the cameraddicts among us were in their glory.

The harbor contains many scuttled and bombed vessels of many nations. Axis submarines were used to block the two entrances through the breakwater and one of these entrances remains impassible; the conning towers of the
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FORMER 12th MEMBER REVEALS EXPERIENCES IN U S

No doubt many men of the 12th will remember T/Sgt Bill Quinn and T/3 John Raysor, who were sent to the States recently on temporary duty. These men were originally scheduled to return to this theater after a furlough, but the end of the war in Europe changed this so that they were to be assigned to duty in the States or be discharged. The latter of the two occurred. The following is an excerpt from a letter which was received from them by Gene Lancaster of Headquarters.

"The train ride down from Leghorn was as bad if not worse than we anticipated. We went directly to the "Block-house" and were glad that we did not have to go out to the "Racetrack". We spent about eight days there, which included a tour of guard duty--in the rain--at the fairgrounds.

"Our first real break came when we boarded a large luxury liner which at one time plyed the Pacific for Matson Lines. Our whole gang ended up in first class cabins with private baths--at what price luxury, though, for we had to pull four days guard duty to pay for our added comfort. We enjoyed
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* MEDI-CALL *
* 12th General Hospital Weekly Newspaper *

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FORMER 12th(Cont'd from Page 1)---

free run of the ship and three meals a day instead of two as a morale builder or compensation. We had smooth water for the greater part of the voyage and no one got seasick. Taking everything into consideration, it was an excellent voyage home.

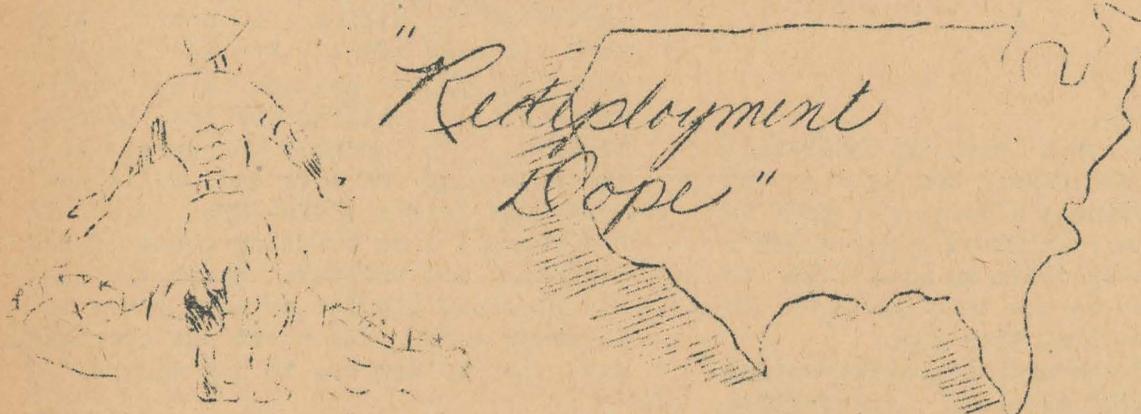
"We first hit a camp in Massachusetts, where we stayed for a day and then shipped here to Dix. The people in New England gave us a real welcome. We had a royal lunch on the train immediately after getting off the boat and from there on out to the camp people waved and yelled from autos, hotels, houses, factories, and the like. It was easy to tell that ours was the first ship into Boston since VE-Day. There was the space of a brief moment on arrival, at the first camp when I almost felt like I had done something to win the war. We had gotten off the train and were filing past the engine when some guy yells to the engineer, "Thanks for the ride!" The engineer, very dramatically with gusto and utmost sincerity called back, "Thanks for what you boys did for us over there!" Hearts filled with pride and I'm certain that each of us felt that we alone had won the last battle. We were first given a half-hour orientation lecture and then went to a steak dinner. The following day was spent in making out a few forms, and the next day we boarded a train for Dix.

"The second day after our arrival

here we were told 'that' we would have to be screened to be determine what kind of a furlough we'd be given. We were also told that for most of us 30 days was all that could be expected instead of the 45; that with the end of the war TD's were to be treated as Rotatees and we'd all get 30 days, Rotatees included. Therefore an interview was in order. They also told us or hinted that a few discharges might be granted, but that went in one ear, out the other for Quinn and I, as we had no combat time, no dependents, and only 89 and 87 points respectively.

"Well, we had our interview, our services records were checked, our points counted, and our spec. numbers looked at. The interviewer gave you a card and you presented this to one of three officers at the back of the room. After a few routine questions the officer looked up and said, "Will you accept a discharge or would you prefer to remain in the Army?" After pondering stupefying question for a full one hundred thousandths of a second I managed a quiet, apologetic, "I think the former, Sir," and he promptly dispatched me to a line leading to a desk where a Sgt was seated with a stamp and pad. We knew through the grapevine that if you were to be discharged they stamped your card with an "A". Well, I was right behind Quinn and when the Sgt lifted that "A" stamp, the look in his face together with his involuntary motions was enough to lay

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NURSES' REDEPLOYMENT QUESTIONS
PARTIALLY ANSWERED

About 3,500 of the 17,800 U. S. Army nurses in the European Theater of Operations will return to the United States for duty in American hospitals, the Surgeon's Office in Paris stated recently. It is estimated that approximately 1,800 nurses will be needed for the Army of Occupation. Nurses will be classified for future service under the same rules as other officer personnel, except that married nurses, whose husbands have been discharged from any of the services, also are eligible for discharged.

IT HAPPENS ONLY IN FABLES

(ANS)—Master Sergeant Otto Vanek, of Berwyn, Illinois, was burning up. Several days went by without action on his request for a furlough. Finally, after much deliberation, he took the matter up with the personnel office at his present station, Tonapah Army Air Field. He marched right into the personnel office and latched on to the first clerk he came to. "Oh," said the clerk, "we tore up your request!" "Tore it up," roared Vanek in his very best master sergeant manner. "Sure," said the clerk, "Your overseas service makes you eligible for a discharge. We're going to send you on a permanent furlough."

DISCHARGED GIs FACE NEW PROBLEM
AS CIVILIANS

(ANS)—It's all for the GI, they say, all for education. Let's all go back to school, it's good for you. Sign right here and the Government will take care of the rest; it's easy.

Add to the number of rackets awaiting returning servicemen, the "fly-by-night" schools and "colleges" designed to exploit the veteran who wants to continue his education and is eligible to receive 500 dollars a year in tuition fees from the Government under the GI Bill of Rights.

A growing list of fake schools—and some legitimate ones which have stepped out of line—have been established in various parts of the country, Dr. Francis J. Brown, educational consultant of the American Council on Education, recently declared. Their purpose is to snatch 500 bucks from the Government—not education.—

ETO (CNS)—S/Sgt William D. Stern, a mess sergeant with an infantry company, turned down a chance to return to the U. S. under the Army's redeployment plan. Said Stern: "I have a brother fighting the Japs. He's not getting out. I guess I can stick to it."

FORMER 12TH (Cont'd fr Page 2)

anyone in the aisle. I don't know what I looked like. To make a long story short, we are now in the Separation Center waiting for the beloved diploma. In another 48 hours, with the same luck we have had, we'll have a strange little title--MR. Quinn is now worried sick thinking about food, clothing, and shelter, which the Army has provided him for so many years and he keeps eating his heart out over the fact that he now has to buy stamps."

To the Editor:

I have been reading "Medi-Call" for quite some time, and as a result of this continued attention, I feel as though I have a bit of space which I can rightfully claim as mine. It is my intention to use this space to the fullest extent at this time.

Many of the articles which appear in "Medi-Call" are both interesting and humorous, but the number of such, when compared with the potential, is surprisingly small. To me there is no doubt that this situation does not exist as a result of the negligence of the men on the staff of the paper, but to the ineffective coverage of the news and human interest events. After making inquiries in various quarters as to the reason for this apparent failure, I discovered that approximately three men are attempting to cover all which occurs in all the departments of this hospital. It is an impossibility! As an additional fact I think it wise to mention that two of the three work on the paper as an off-duty job. This failure on the news coverage is easily understandable in this light.

If the men in the various departments would freely contribute some of the many appealing anecdotes which are known to them, in my opinion "Medi-Call" would inevitably become a paper of which the 12th General could justifiably be proud.

And so the men who have been wondering what was to become of them in the future now have a first-hand account from a man who formerly was in their midst. "Medi-Call" sincerely expresses its appreciation to Gene Lancaster for providing this interesting story.

NATURE ALSO AT WAR

Salt Lake City (ANS)--When a section of the sidewalk literally exploded, a botany professor, not an ordnance expert, was called in to investigate. Dr. Walter P. Cottam of the University of Utah said a common edible mushroom, whose cell sap was greatly increased by heavy rains, caused about 2,250 pounds of pressure per square inch beneath the walk and blew it up.

SPEND ALL YOU HAVE TO, BUT DON'T SPEND ALL YOU HAVE!

MALE CALL

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

BITTER GLITTER



G I NEWS

U.S.-BOUND PATIENTS TO RECEIVE TASTE OF HOME

What would you give for a brimming glass of fresh, ice-cold milk, Joe? Impossible? On the contrary, it's already being served on hospital ships going back to the states.

A new method of quick-freezing whole milk has made it possible to serve wounded soldiers returning from overseas on Army hospital ships with fresh milk as appetizing and tasty as any to be had on your favorite farm back home, the War Department announced recently. Although in some instances the milk has been kept in the frozen state for three months, its taste is as fresh as if it had just come from the cow, and its bacterial count is lower than that in the average milk supply of the average American home.

Approximately 30,000 pints of milk in the frozen state are now being shipped monthly from Charleston and Boston and additional large amounts from New York, New Orleans, San Francisco and Seattle. While this milk is intended for the hospital ships, some of it, when the situation makes it possible, goes to overseas hospitals as well. In time it is expected to enlarge shipments for the hospitals. In addition, 400,000 pints are being shipped monthly to Alaska for the general use of American troops stationed there. (ANS)

MONEY FLIES FREELY AS CHINESE GAIN IN OFFENSIVE

(ANS) -- American transport and combat planes played a new role in the Chinese war recently when \$15,000,000

in Chinese currency was flown from Chungking to the battlefront in southern China. The money was used to pay for repairs to roads in the area recently recovered from the Japs.

The transfer of funds required the services of at least three branches of the U. S. Army and two Chinese agencies, in addition to the Chinese Army which supervised the work. It took only four days for the request from the front to be answered and the money delivered.

Quick repair of roads and transportation facilities in the areas recaptured by the Chinese Army is essential for maintaining the present limited counter-offensives. Shipments of this kind are expected to become common affairs as new advances are made along the entire battlefront.

HAIR

Babies haven't any hair;
Old men's heads are just as bare;---
Between the cradle and the grave
Lies a haircut and a shave.



I & E SECTION

After several months of featuring various departments within the hospital, "Medi-Call" turns to its home base, the Information and Education Office. Time was when I&E was an obscure part of the unit, existing principally on paper and in the "added-duty" category. Now, surely, there is no one in the outfit who is totally unaware of I&E, although its exact functions may be a bit hazy in a good many minds. That last is the justification for this article.

Until November of 1943, the functions of I&E, insofar as they were developed at that time, were a responsibility of the Special Services Division. It has discovered, however, that information and education activities were different in nature and required a different type of personnel than recreation services; the first dealt with attitude and mental training of the troops; the second with the mental and physical change and rest. At that time, consequently, there emerged the Morale Services Section as a separate entity; eventually, for the sake of clarity, the title was changed to "Information and Education."

Morale remains the overall end of the program, the means being embodied in the two components of the name. The activities carried on under information (which includes orientation) and education are supposed to contribute to the maintenance of a high state of morale. But all this sounds highly theoretical and idealistic. Let's nose dive down through the clouds to a more earthly level. How does all this work out in the unit?

Let's start with Information. The Army intends that the American soldier be an informed soldier, that he be a thinking soldier, and he arrive at his own conclusions, having free access to

the pertinent facts. To this end, publications are distributed by the I&E Office on a subscription basis, free to patients, including Stars and Stripes, Yank, Time, and Newsweek. To this same end, orientation periods are held, about half of them discussion groups where everyone is free to express his own opinion. To this same end, radio in the theater is supervised by the I&E Section, and men in the unit have even gone on the air in the discussion programs. "Medi-Call" is sponsored for this general purpose, keyed to unit needs. Pamphlet and posting materials are widely distributed. News summaries and daily radio newscasts are prepared and distributed. Orientation films, G.I. Movies, Combat Bulletins, and similar films are also shown. These are some of the information activities, but there are others being developed to meet new situations, temporary or permanent.

What of the other aspect of the program---education? For a long time, activities in this field were restricted to those of an off-duty nature, such as correspondence and self-teaching courses offered through the Armed Forces Institute. For a while, to the extent that there was interest and personnel willing to devote free time, group classes were carried on in evening hours. Now, with spare time

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S P O R T S

REDBIRDS STOP BOOMERS AGAIN - INCREASE LEAD TO 1½ GAMES

Ory Field, 10 June 1945.....Just to prove it was no fluke a week ago, the Redbirds stopped the 719 Ry Op Bn. "Boomers" again today this time in more convincing fashion, 6-3. And this time Lefty Prymicz needed no help as he hurled his 10th straight victory of the season, scattering 9 hits and pitching shut-out ball after the 3rd inning.

The pattern of the game was similar to the 8-7 thriller a week ago. That is, for the first three innings. The Redbirds got a pair in the opening frame and the Boomers promptly tied the count in the top of the 2nd. The Flock got a run in their half of the same frame but the persistent Boomers got the equalizer in their half of the 3rd. The next three innings were scoreless and as the tension mounted, the teams went into the seventh with things still all even, 3-3. Prymicz had little trouble retiring three Boomers in succession. And then in the latter half of this chukker the Redbirds broke out with a pair of runs that proved to be decisive. Prymicz opened by reaching 1st on an error by the Boomer 1st baseman. Lefty promptly stole second, but for a while it looked as though he'd die there when Kelley and Oliphant fanned. But big Ray Sparrs came through with a single to center, a blow that proved to be the game winner, scoring Prymicz and breaking the tie. Ed Subjeck then tripled down the right field

PBS BIG TEN LEAGUE STANDING

TEAMS	W	L	PCTG.	GBH
REDBIRDS	9	0	1.000	-
Boomers	8	2	.800	1½
Bladers	4	2	.667	3½
Laundry Reds	7	3	.700	2½
White Hats	1	2	.333	5
Motor Macs	2	6	.250	6½
Cobblers	2	6	.250	6½
Flying Cats	1	6	.143	7

LAST SUNDAY'S RESULTS

REDBIRDS 6; Boomers 3
 Laundry Reds 6; Cobblers 3

GAMES TODAY

Bladers at Cobblers
 Laundry Reds at Motor Macs
 Flying Cats at REDBIRDS (2 PM)

 *
 * B A S E B A L L !! *
 *
 * TODAY.....ORY FIELD...2 PM *
 *
 * *Redbirds* 838th Eng. *
 * vs. *
 * "Flying Cats" *
 *

 to score Sparrs and put the Redbirds in a 5-3 lead. The Boomers got a pair of hits in the 8th but Prymicz was great in the clutch and kept the plate uncrossed. The Redbirds added an unnecessary tally in their half of the 8th on an error and a triple by Abe Malovany. A last inning threat by the Boomers was thwarted by Prymicz when he forced catcher Roye to bounce back to the mound with the bases filled for the final out.

LEGHORN TRIP (Cont'd from Page 1)

subs protrude from the water, and an old Italian battleship lies partly submerged across the channel. On the smokestack of the remnants of an Italian cruiser is painted the silhouette of a B-17 which was claimed to have been shot down by that ship. The other entrance to the sea was blasted open by the British navy which was also responsible for mine-sweeping and for the defense of the harbor and which still controls all berthing in the port.

Our guide explained that Leghorn accomodates no large warships and no large transports because of its narrow channel and comparatively shallow water. Even some freighters have to be partially lightened just outside the port so that they will be able to enter and discharge their main cargo at the regular berths. One of the merchant vessels unloading supplies in the harbor was a new-type Liberty which had already seen action in the Pacific as evidenced by four Jap flags painted on its smokestack. In its engagement with the four planes, which it destroyed, it lost part of its super structure but suffered little damage elsewhere.

Each installation at work at the port has its own sea-going motor pool consisting of many types of small vessels. One particularly novel one we saw consisted of two airplane gas tanks fastened together with a small motor thrown in. Its pilot and passenger seemed to be headed for some place in a hurry and they seemed to be enjoying the ride. According to our guide, passengers have first priority in unloading at the docks, shile mail, ammunition, medical supplies, and food follow closely in that order. Two small transports are used to shuttle men from here to Naples and to France. Hospital ships have their own berth, which is kept open for them at all times.

From the port, we could plainly see the 12th with its two reddish-orange water towers. The island visible from here is called Gargano and is about 15 miles out; on a clear day and from an elevated point Elba can be seen with ease. On the whole, our afternoon proved to be a pleasant one, and the tourists returned to the post with sunburned faces and sharpened appetites.

I & E (Cont'd from Page 6)

on the increase, duty time is being utilized to this same end in the creation and operation of a Unit School offering thirty-six classes in twenty-two different subjects. Included, of course, in the educational function, is guidance, both vocational and educational.

Finally, who does this? YOU do, obviously, for there is no success in this program without participation by the individual! YOU are the one who acquires education by taking full advantage of the opportunities offered and entering enthusiastically into the program. YOU are the one who gains information by active and diligent seeking after the truth. As in every department, however, there must be an organization to keep the ball rolling. Since its inception in this hospital, the department has been hadd by Lt Nichols. His first and able assistant was Jim Brown, lately transferréd to the 114th Station Hospital— and a real loss to the department. His present assistants in the I&E Office are newcomers, Edwin F. Hensel and Albert N. Sanchez; in the Unit School, T/3 Henry A. Ortel, T/5 Harry L. Bainaka, and Pfc Harold J. Coapland. This credit could not possibly be complete without mention of USAFI's Registrar, Captain Wolf and the large number of personnel who have made a valuable contribution by their teaching in the unit school, for without their help this last ambitious project would have come to just exactly nothing!