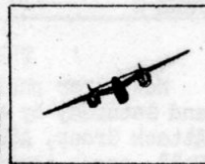


THIRD STRIKE



VOL. I, NO. 37

August 14, 1943

S.W. PACIFIC

Officers Promoted

The following officer promotions have been announced this week: 1st Lt to Capt: T. G. Fitch and W. J. Hearn of the 13th; C. L. Solomon of Hq, H. P. Panther and G. A. Sceberg of the 90th.

2nd Lt to 1st: R. N. Davis and W. T. Robinson of the 90th and B. Fendlason, C. L. Martindale and R. B. Widener of the 8th.

Nags Will Run Again at Soputa

AFTERNOON OF AUG. 21, TRACK MEET TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION

Another "Papuan Classic" race meet will be held at the Soputa courses the afternoon of Aug. 21, beginning at 12:30 p.m., under auspices of the Soputa Amateur Turf Club.

Events will consist of seven horse races with prizes ranging from one to \$10. In the track meet there will be a jeep tug-of-war, 100 yd sprint, 440 relay and 880 yd foot race for which trophies will be awarded.

Any Third Group men who wish to participate are asked to contact M/Sgt. Walters, group sergeant major, in headquarters, before noon of Aug. 16.

Soft drinks will be available and 10 bookmakers will be present to accept bets. Official programs will be available to help in choosing the winners.

WORLD NEWS

NORTH AFRICAN H.Q.--999 Axis planes were captured on Sicilian air fields.

CHINA--Chungking reports Chinese have again rejected Jap peace offers.

JAPAN--U. S. Navy department announced nine B-24s attacked Kurile island, north of Japanese mainland, recently. Five of 40 intercepting fighters were shot down. We lost two bombers.

TURKEY--Ankara reports Stalin will meet Roosevelt and Churchill, who is now in Quebec.

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Jap Ambush Is Total Failure

SUCCEEDS ONLY IN ANGERING CREWS WITH FATAL RESULT TO NIPS

Last week those nasty Nips threw a surprise party for the 90th Squadron--the last they'll stage in this world.

Five B-25's were poking about in the vicinity of Borgen bay. The shore is littered with wrecks of previously-encountered barges but there seemed to be some which might be servicable. The flight went in to have a look--see--and that is what the sons-of-heaven wanted.

Hot Reception

When the 25's were in perfect position everything let loose on the shore. It took the boys aback, but only momentarily. With the exception of Capt Phil Hawkins' plane, hit badly in the first encounter, they all returned and plastered the positions from minimum

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RADIO CLASS

SPECIALISTS WILL SPEAK AT FUTURE DATES

First of a series of classes in radio theory was held Thursday evening at 7 o'clock under direction of Cpl. Eric Bolton. He gave a brief talk on radio and electricity in general, then discussed the plan of courses for coming weeks. Texts will be secured from the Red Cross and other organizations.

Among qualified men of the group who will lecture on electricity, receivers, transmitters and antennae are Capt Langevin and Cpl. Ira B. Cohen. As the course progresses each man will have an opportunity to study some subject and give a 10- or 15-minute talk on it. It was suggested that a receiver be built to illustrate the phases as they are.

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Veterans Fly South

Two venerable 90th ships, Mortimer and Feather Merchant, have gone south to have a complete physical. Much publicized Mortimer, with over 700 hours, is the oldest B-25 in the group. Feather Merchant ranks next.

THIRD STRIKE

Newspaper published every Wednesday and Saturday by and for members of 3rd Attack Group, APO 503. Lt Col Donald P. Hall, group commander; Capt Walter W. Shegda, intelligence officer.

Third Strike receives material from Camp Newspaper Service, War Dept.

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Cpl Robert Standing.....Rewrite
Cpl Robert Burnette.....Typist
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T/Sgt Harold Plassman

Lt Richard S. Prentis.....Adviser

editorial

While visiting a squadron recently, the editor met an acquaintance about whom he had heard a rather dubious furlough story. Instead of publishing the quip, he told the lad about it in a jesting manner. Much to everyone's surprise, the doggie waxed exceedingly hot and said that if the story were published, dire consequences and strained relations between the two persons concerned might result.

This arbitrary and belligerent attitude has no place in our democratic setup. No matter if the Third Strike seems to a few to be merely a couple of pages stapled together, it has the dignity of the largest newspaper in the world. Its right to print anything humorous which does not slander the principals, its obligation to publish anything which does not give military information to the enemy--in short, anything of a caliber acceptable by journalistic standards, shall not be influenced by any threats of force. If the story in question fell within these bounds it would be published.

Sportsmanship is an essential part of the American makeup. When the laugh is on you--take it. When you look back on the episode in later years perhaps it will seem funny, even to you--unless you have permitted your blood to turn to vinegar.

Out of the population of any community, most of them can lick the editor. But we know of no instance, in more than 20 years of association with newspapers, where so doing gave the brawny party any satisfaction.

The Third Strike will continue to print what it considers NEWS.

editorial

Water and light, in our highly civilized mother country, are two things which are accepted as a matter of course. In the well developed public utilities system of the United States there is seldom a failure, so we may go blithely through life without realizing how much effort is put forth to bring them constantly to our homes.

In the field, however, we become increasingly conscious of the vital part played by clean drinking water and sufficient light. Without them, effort lags and morale drops. When they fail we ask for reasons and throw in a few epithets.

Headquarters men noticed recently that more power for lighting was being delivered. This is not accidental but a part of a well-planned system, drawn by Capt Langevin and executed by Cpls Ira B. Cohen and J. I. Winn.

The generator, a 19KVA Diesel type, has been relocated nearer the center of the area it lights. Lines to the three squadrons it serves have thus been shortened and each outfit receives the full output of electricity. Maintenance is in charge of Sgt Russell.

Water is the biggest boon, and can be the biggest bane, to human existence. Major Gillmore fights to keep it from stagnating and breeding mosquitoes, Cpl Stanley Levandoski and Pvt Paul Campeau work many hours a day to keep tanks full for drinking and showers.

New storage tanks are being built in the 8th Squadron area pumping station. When they are completed the plant should have a capacity of 4,100 gallons. The water is pumped for a quarter mile through 2-inch pipes to the first storage tank where much of the silt in suspension settles. Then it is pumped through a mixing chamber which admits a set amount of alum and chlorine, after which it is forced through an 8-bladed filter. Alum is used to soften the water and precipitate remaining impurities. The chlorine kills all bacteria.

In its final state the water is so clear one can see the bottom of a full 1,500-gallon tank to which very little light is admitted. When the filter is opened for cleaning the blades are covered with sediment. In the case of an 800-gallon run there was one-eighth of an inch on each blade. This would amount to 288 cubic inches of foreign matter in that amount of water.

So it is with the men on the ground who are seldom given credit for keeping the planes in the air. Their work is dedicated to every member of the group and you can do your part by being conservative with benefits they bring you.

13th potpourri

By Sgt Roland Guillet

FOUND: In the moving picture area of the 13th Squadron, a dark brown wallet containing identification card bearing the name of F/O I.J. Weidler. The same can be had by the owner if he calls at the 13th orderly room.

Sgt Stanley Gubala is assigned to the Wright Overhaul school, Australia.

M/Sgt Simpers has forsaken his flight chief job temporarily to superintend the squadron area road construction project.

Our new doctor, Lt Brown, and his medical department are doing fine work toward clearing breeding places of the dread malaria mosquito. Puddles have been filled with dirt and large water holes have had oil sprayed on them. The area has taken on a bright, clean, well brushed appearance. In addition, Lt Brown is giving a highly instructive weekly lecture on the dangers and control of malaria.

The evening news broadcast has been resumed. Newscaster Lt Newmeyer of intelligence has returned refreshed with new ideas picked up during his ten-day stay in the south.

Never hit a man when he's down. He might get back up.

More About Malaria (FOURTH OF A SERIES)

By Major John Gilmore

The actual organism causing malaria is called the plasmodium parasite. When a person who has malaria is bitten by the anopheline mosquito, the parasite is taken into the mosquito's system with the blood. There it undergoes development, penetrates the wall of the mosquito's stomach and finally reaches salivary glands where it is ready to be injected into another person with the next bite. This cycle takes about 14 days. Thus two weeks must elapse between bites before the mosquito can transmit malaria.

The parasites harbor'd in one mosquito number into the thousands and not just a few. There is no evidence to indicate that the mosquito's life is shortened by the parasite. I've never seen one with a chill.

On injection into the human blood stream, the plasmodium again multiplies and develops. After reaching a certain stage it enters the red blood cells and

WORLD NEWS

(Continued From Page 1)

SICILY--German evacuation of Sicily has begun. Under a heavy screen of ack ack, escape boats are plying the Strait of Messina, meeting intense opposition from air and naval units. German casualties are reported high. Americans are using same infiltration tactics the Japs employed in Malaya, to the utter confusion of the desperate Nazis. When the last enemy bastion of Randazzo falls, organized resistance in Sicily will be impossible.

ITALY--British cruisers and destroyers attacked targets around the bay of Naples, destroying vital industries and military installations. Targets in central Italy, tank and motor factories, rubber and plastic plants and a government arsenal were shown by photos to be destroyed after RAF raids on Milan, Turin and Genoa.

WESTERN EUROPE--RAF dropped 1,500 tons of bombs on the southern German city of Nuremburg Thursday. Sixteen British bombers were lost. U.S. B-17s in "large numbers" hit Gelsenkirchen, Rondorf and Bonn the same day. Twenty German fighters were dropped by Fortress gunners; top cover accounted for three more. Twenty-five B-17s were lost. Twenty German raiders struck at a town in southwest England. One was knocked down.

continue to multiply. Eventually the number becomes so great that the red cells rupture, discharging their contents into the blood stream. This phenomenon produces the actual MALARIA CHILL. The time elapsed between the injection by the mosquito and occurrence of the chill averages about 17 days, but this is variable. Thus, 17 days after the mosquito bites you get the chill. The severity of the chill depends on the number of parasites present. It is estimated that 150,000,000 must be present before an attack can occur.

You can keep this number low by taking ATABRINE regularly.

There once was a dog-face named guys
Who was thought of as terribly wise.
But malaria fever,
Made him a believer.
From now on he'll atabrinize.

--V.F.C.

Don't worry about your dogs getting malaria. It occurs in lower animals but the type of parasite is different. Human malaria can be transmitted only with difficulty to monkeys. The disease has even been found in birds but of a different type.

JAPS LOSE, 6 TO 1

SWPA--199 Jap planes were destroyed in the first ten days of the Solomons offensive which started June 30, a ratio of 6 to 1 in favor of the U.S. Sixteen Jap bombers raided Woodlark island north of New Guinea without success.

Radio Class (Continued From Page 1)

discussed. Arrangements for learning and practice of code will be made.

Meetings will be held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Most men present were not connected with communications sections but have shown interest in radio and are anxious to study and learn more about it.

Men of all squadrons are invited.

Ambush- (Continued From Page 1)

altitude. Lt Rosebush dropped three 300 pounders in the laps of one gun crew; other hot spots must have been dealt with equally well as a mission the following day encountered no ack-ack.

Sgt Robert Berube, photo, had a chance for a perfect shot of bombing results but because of technical difficulties had to pass it up.

Lt J.E. Ranson, flying as navigator with Capt Hawkins, for the second time in his career had an opportunity to demonstrate ability in first aid when S/Sgt R.C. Rowland, gunner, received shrapnel wounds about the legs.

Sgt Campbell, Fifth AF photographer, accompanied the mission and filmed the action for prospective newsreels.

"The Wolf"



This 'n That

TO THE LADIES

FOUR THAT CUP of rationed coffee in a crisp morning frock and see if it doesn't taste better to the fellow who is off to work overtime.--L.A. Times. (We'll still take ours in a cup.)

* * * *

PERK PERKINS

T/SGT PERKINS recently advertised a motorcycle for sale--and sold it. Incidentally, it was the ninth bike he has owned or controlled in his 13 years of cycling.

Perkins doesn't admit having any serious crashes in that length of time. Of course there was the time he plowed through the fence in a race, the incident in CT when he fractured his skull, among other things, and the time he skidded on wet car tracks and sprawled in front of the local police station.

The last accident wouldn't have been so embarrassing except that he had a gal riding behind him. She wound up on her nether underneath a parked car with only her chin and elbows protruding, rested on the running board. She was content to remain that way, too, as the friction of her slide had subtracted the rear of her apparel.

Underlying all this remains the fact that Third Strike want ads deliver the goods -- and so far there is no charge for publication.

90TH CHIPS & CHATTER

Despite the differential of standards of living between Australia and America, M/Sgt Wheel Hastings wouldn't say that transportation in the former country is exactly cheap. While on a tour of outlying districts near the rest area, Wheel turned out to let a bridge go by. Result--one door got off and took up a position by the roadside. A conscientious sort of person, Hastings turned around and went back to pick it up. In the middle of the same bridge on the return trip, out of nowhere, appeared another car. Hastings bowed from the waist, very courteously and gave the oncoming vehicle half the road -- one quarter on the right side and one quarter on the left. Assessment of final damage left Hastings with a receipt for £21. Bloody narrow bridges, aren't they Cliff?

Pfc Ralph Cora and Pfc H. J. Bogucki of the 8th Squadron are somewhere in the south attending school. Cora is taking a course in teletype, Bogucki a radio course.