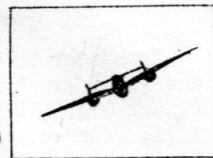


THIRD STRIKE



VOL 1, NO. 33

JULY 31, 1943

S.W. PACIFIC

HAUGLAND'S—

89th Story

—IN SAVANNAH PAPER

S/Sgt Claude Potts, Group Headquarters, has received a clipping of the Haugland dispatch on the 89th Squadron.

It appeared in a recent issue of the Savannah Morning News and though no squadron designation was used it was made plain that the outfit was an A-20 organization formerly stationed there.

The story ran 14 inches in type and appeared substantially as it did in The Third Strike.

Has More Lives Than A Cat

VETERAN OF MANY CLASHES COMES THROUGH AGAIN UNSCATHED

By Sgt Roland Guillet

The cat with its proverbial nine lives has nothing on Cpl John Simon of Philadelphia, 13th Attack Squadron gunner.

When Simon bailed out of a B-25 Wednesday afternoon it was the fifth time he had laughed at the grim reaper. Before Simon joined the army the Cub plane he was flying crashed in trees without serious injury to him. Simon joined the Air Corps in May, 1942, and while at Will Rogers Field in Oklahoma had two narrow escapes.

In February, 1943, one engine of the A-20 in which Simon was a passenger caught fire. He had to bail out. A

(Continued on Page 4)

GI RATES SELF T/7

Camp Chaffee, Ark. — "Whats the T/7 for?" asked an inspecting officer when he surveyed those numerals on the bunk card of one of the men here.

"Tank duty, sir," replied the soldier, "seven days a week."

125 MILLION DOLLAR DRIVE

NEW YORK—The national war fund will seek to raise 125 million dollars nationally and 17 million dollars in New York City for the USO and 17 other war services and relief agencies, Emil Schramm, chairman for New York, announced Wednesday.

FIELD DAY FOR THIRD ATTACK

TWO DESTROYERS, SEVERAL BARGES, TRANSPORT PLANE LIQUIDATED IN WHIRLWIND ATTACK

Led by Lt Col Hall, Maj John P. Henebry, Capt Raymond Wilkins and Capt Phil Hawkins, B-25s of three squadrons Wednesday knocked out a large destroyer, sank a smaller one and wiped out a transport plane landing on the Cape Gloucester strip. Sixteen occupants of the plane were mowed down by our murderous fire as they ran for cover.

Not content with the damage done Wednesday, our aircraft returned the next day, sank the large destroyer, aground on a reef, and messed up a number of 'camouflaged' barges on the way home.

The original intent of the first mission was to hammer enemy barges on the north coast of New Britain. When almost to the target a radio report of two enemy vessels in the vicinity was received. As our planes emerged from low-hanging storm clouds only 500 feet above the water, there lay the two destroyers. A short way off was the Cape

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IT'S IN THE BAG

Rep. Morrison (D, Ia) introduced a bill in Congress that would give members of the armed services a bonus of three years' pay if the Axis surrenders on or before April 6, 1944.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—

Fist Fight

—PUSHES WAR OFF PAGE ONE

LONDON — A fist fight between two Commons members vied with the war news for the front pages of London's newspapers Wednesday and brought smiles to the faces of a few million readers. The principals were Capt Alec Cunningham Reid, 47, and Commander Oliver Locker Lampson, 63, and they went at it busily for several minutes near the entrance to the House of Lords. Only a few members saw the milling and they called it a draw.

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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New Group Dentist

By Lieutenant Prentis

Men of our army in the Southwest Pacific are doing a multitude of jobs in our fight against the Japs, but whether they be flying or ground personnel they appreciate the efforts of the army dentist.

Lt. Frederick F. Domer is one of these. In his office in a native style hut, Lt. Domer has ingeniously arranged and improvised his equipment and surroundings to be able to give the best service possible. Supplementing basic equipment supplied to army dentists in the field, with the help of some of the men he has constructed a cuspidor with running water from a five-gallon drum and some copper tubing, as well as attaching a small motor to his foot powered drill to expedite drilling.

Pvt De Salvio, Assistant

Assisted by Pvt. Joseph G. De Salvio of Newark, N.J., Lt Domer has made over 300 fillings and extracted 100 teeth in the short time he has been with the group. Despite long hours and hard work he says, "I am glad to be over here. Conditions for dentistry are much better than could be expected in a combat area. There is a great need for dentists and it is a constant comfort to see how much the men appreciate the assistance we are trying to give them."

The lieutenant graduated from Marquette University in 1937 with Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Dental Surgery degrees. His wife Mrs. Dorothy Ann Domer lives in Milwaukee, Wis., with their two children, Frederick and Margaret Mary, who was born while he was on his way to Australia.

Magnetic-azimuth of an object is the compass reading expressed in degrees.

Six Stars In Radlein Window

By A.E. Sweigert

All over the United States, homes are displaying small banners containing blue stars, indicating someone of the household in the nations armed forces.

At the Radlein home in Chicago, Ill, mom and little sis are proudly displaying a banner studded with six blue stars for their six boys in the service

The seventh boy of the family is engaged in defense work at the Goodyear plant as an engineer and is awaiting his commission in the United States Navy.

Kenneth, 24, a member of the 90th, is at present the only one overseas but two of his brothers are expecting to go to foreign lands soon. His other brothers in the service are: Robert, 18, aviation cadet; Raymond, 21, in the Medics; Larry, 26, Infantry; George, 28, Quartermaster Corps; James, 31, Anti Tank Corps; and Alex with Goodyear.

THAT, CERTAINLY, IS A FIGHTING AMERICAN FAMILY.

LL45 CONTRIBUTED FOR—

Buna Mission

--BY E.M. OF 2 SQUADRONS

Group headquarters and 8th enlisted men contributed a total of LL45, 2d. to the Buna Mission fund. The 8th squadron contributed L85, 3s., 1d., and headquarters contributed L59, 17s., 1d.

Opportunity to subscribe to this cause will be given to both officers and men who have not yet contributed.

CHURCH NOTICES

Sunday, Aug. 1, 1943

Roman Catholic
Confessions and Mass, 8:45 pm,
89th Mess Hall.

Protestant
General Worship Service, 10:15,
am, 8th Mess Hall.
Song - worship hour, 6:45 pm.
13th Mess Hall.

Tuesday, Aug. 3, 1943

Roman Catholic
Confessions and Mass, 6:45 pm,
89th Mess Hall.

Thursday, Aug. 5, 1943

Protestant
Bible Class, 6:30 pm, Chap-
lain's Hut, group headquarters.

Friday, Aug. 6, 1943

Jewish
Regular service, 6:30 pm, 43rd
Engrs. Mess Hall.

'Sack Time' Explained

One of the boys received a letter from the heart - throb asking what was meant by the facetious army phrase, 'hitting the sack'? Naturally, the GI, wishing to display his intelligence, wrote, "Darling....Whenever you hear a GI asking someone for the time and simultaneously trying to evade his daily duties while the top-kick is away, you can bet your next new hat that that GI is contemplating hitting his sack (going to/bed) and lying there until the worst is over."—Flanjak.

Destroyers - (Continued From Page 1)

Gloucester strip and just landing on it was a transport plane escorted by 20 Zeros. Major Henebry's element peeled off and made a run on the unfortunate aircraft. Behind them came Colonel Hall's element and they made certain there were no survivors.

While other planes of the formation were sinking the smaller destroyer, Colonel Hall's and Major Henebry's elements raced for the larger. The colonel placed the first bombs in her, one at waterline and another 10 feet up the side. Lt Donald MacLellan of the 90th put a 500-pounder right on the deck and wiped it clean. More bomb hits were registered and when our planes left the target the smaller destroyer had sunk and the large one was listing badly.

Many Bombs Find Mark

Though only a few hits are mentioned here, dozens were scored and countless thousand rounds of ammunition found their mark.

Because of heavy weather encountered on the first mission, our fighter escort was forced to turn back before reaching the objective. Consequently Zeros gave the B-25s a bit of trouble. Lt Nuchols' (13th) ship had the tail section nearly shot away forcing the pilot and crew to abandon it near the home base. Two Zeros have been claimed destroyed.

Col Hall Hit By Shrapnel

On the second day, Colonel Hall was wounded when a half-pound piece of shrapnel entered the pilot's compartment, narrowly missed other occupants and struck him on the right arm and hand. His injuries are not serious.

Colonel Hall spoke glowingly of the co-ordination shown in the attacks. A telegram of congratulation on the sinkings has been received from General Ramey of Fifth Bomber Command.

It should be stressed that this stroke is exclusively a Third Group affair. Pictures taken during the action bear out all claims that were made.

GROUPINGS

S/Sgt. Robert R. Darke of W. Decatur, Pa., member of the 89th personnel section since Aug. 25, has recently been transferred to Group personnel. He was stationed at Bolling Field, D.C.

M/Sgt Aubrey Putnam also has transferred from the 89th to head group communications. This is his second time in that position, having been section chief when the group came overseas.

T/Sgt. Harold B. Oliver, on return from furlough, reports love in bloom down under, in some cases conspicuously. However, the navy has landed and the sityashun is all that stuff.

Cpl Arpad W. Hayes brings lurid tales from the frozen south where he furloughed recently. Take the case of the case of champagne he was bringing back: Due to difficulty of making contact on the return journey it evaporated. Tsk, tsk, Arp!

The G.I. 50-50 show will be staged tonight and tomorrow night at the 49th Fighter theater. Transportation will be furnished.

Sgt. Glenn Lower claims the third best thing he did on furlough was eat chicken--ordered four at a time.

WANT ADS

ESTATE--TRADE OR EXCHANGE

Beautiful Papuan Property at corner of Demoralized Avenue and Pistoff Lane, 3/4 acre of timber covered land, 4 pyramidal bungalows with showers (when it rains); 1 Papuan style house with palm thatched roof, 1 each gun repair shop complete with spare parts (and headaches); beautiful 1942 model bomb lorries, 1 1941 1/2-ton lorry (well beat up), 1 well used Jeep (practically deceased); 1 Victory Garden complete with bugs and some vegetables. This property is near a good movie and other amusements. All livestock, such as rats, birds, ants, chiggers, snakes, etc., thrown in.

Will trade for any old abandoned sewage disposal plant, latrine or outhouse in the USA., or "Ark". This opportunity is open till December 7, 1948 to any USO Commandos, Jap Slappers, Stage Door Canteen Boys, or Eager Beavers. Reason for wanting to trade, our health (teeth and hair falling out). Apply: Replacements Wanted; Ordnance Section, 89th Attack Squadron, c/o Third Strike.

MOTORCYCLE, BSA 1940, good rubber, good working condition; L50. T/Sgt Perkins, Group Headquarters.

GROUP ADJUTANT BACK

Maj William C. Hood Jr., has returned from leave in Australia. He accompanied Steak and Eggs on one of her trips south and was delayed in returning because of engine changes.

The first engine change was within hours of completion when orders were received to remove it and put in its place an experimental engine.

The major didn't mind in the least the delay—it was his first furlough in 10 months and he reports a very interesting time.

During his absence the duties of group adjutant were assumed by Capt Edward Keszler, 89th adjutant.

Not Like Year Ago

S. W. PACIFIC — Heavies destroyed a Japanese warship and a cargo vessel near Cape Gloucester; hits were also scored on a transport near Manokwari, New Guinea.

Forty-seven tons of bombs were dropped on Munda, New Georgia, in a recent raid. Americans have encircled the base and are slowly strangling it.

Nine P-38s tangled with 15 Zeros, near Rein Bay, New Britain, shot down six and probably destroyed two more.

Many barges along New Guinea and New Britain coasts have been destroyed.

SIMON (Continued From Page 1)

couple weeks later, Simon was again in an A-20 in which both engines cut out at 2,000 feet. The pilot made a dead stick landing in what Simon recalls as his most harrowing experience.

2 Narrow Squeaks in a Week

Simon has had two more narrow escapes since joining the 13th in May. First was last week while on Lt Solomon's B-25 which came back on one engine and had to crash land.

The latest was Wednesday's experience when the plane in which he was flying was set upon by Zeros near Cape Gloucester. The electrical system was immediately shot out and the guns couldn't function. Though Zeros attacked the plane continuously for 10 minutes, making a sieve of it, they managed to join the formation and returned to the base. The aircraft was so badly damaged it couldn't be landed and the crew had to bail out. Cpl Simon was the first to get back to camp, apparently no worse for his experience.

The rest of the crew of this B-25, Lt Nichols, Lt Shaw and Cpl Parma, are reported safe. The plane was completely demolished as it crashed in an open field not far from here.

SPORTSHORTS

NEW PHILLIE BOSS

ST. LOUIS—Freddy Fitzsimmons, facing the serious responsibility of managing the fading Philadelphia Phillies, took over his new job Wednesday still somewhat dazed over his sudden appointment to succeed Bucky Harris. The forty-two year-old pitcher who may continue to take the mound occasionally said he would make no plans for the Phillies until he had conferred with President Bill Cox.

The first division hopes of the Philadelphia Phillies were dealt a hard blow recently when Ellsworth (Babe) Dahlgren, first baseman extraordinary who has been cavorting at short for the Phils most of this season, passed his Army physical and will soon enter the service.

MANHATTAN DROPS FOOTBALL

NEW YORK—Manhattan College Wednesday joined the long list of schools which have dropped football for the duration.

TUESDAY SECOND GAMES

National League
St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 2.
American League
Chicago 6, Washington 5.

WEDNESDAY

National League
Brooklyn 7, Chicago 8.
American League
Boston 4, Detroit 1.
Cleveland 6, New York 2.

