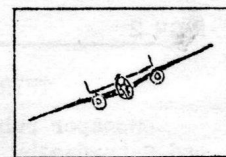


# THIRD STRIKE



VOL I, NO. 20

JUNE 16, 1943

S.W. PACIFIC

## BAILS OUT OF BOMBER

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

### REMEMBERS

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Pfc. Robert J. Byrnes of Headquarters has a memento of the war which few men can match. It is a letter to his mother, Mrs. E.J. Byrnes of Pittsburgh, Pa., from F. M. Forde, deputy prime minister of Australia and minister for the army.

When Byrnes was flying combat with the 90th he was fortunate enough to be in the crew of a plane chosen to fly the minister to a New Guinea base after it was taken from Jap hands.

#### P.M. Expresses Confidence

Mr. Forde took each crew member's name and promised that he would write their families back in the States. Still, it was a distinct surprise to Byrnes when he received from home a photostatic copy of the missive and its envelope.

Mr. Forde said, in part: "Everywhere I went in New Guinea I found a feeling of confidence amongst the men of the Allied Forces that the Japanese would never succeed in taking New Guinea."

## 18 AWARDS

THREE WINNERS NOW BACK IN STATES; ONE POSTHUMOUS AIR MEDAL

Eighteen more awards have been announced, bringing the 3rd Group total to 445.

For extraordinary achievement, Maj. Alexander G. Evanoff, Capt. Donald E. Good, 89th C.O., and Sgt. Louis E. Murphy, 13th, were awarded the DFC. Second DFC for 2

In lieu of a second DFC, an Oak Leaf Cluster was accorded Lt. Charles V. Howe, 90th, and Lt. William W. Neel, 89th.

Seven Air Medals were granted for meritorious achievements: S/Sgt. Ronald J. Allsop, 13th; Lt. William C. Clapp, 13th; Lt. William B. Long, 13th; S/Sgt.

(Continued on Page 6)

## Into Snowstorm At High Altitude

S/SGT. CROVISIER STILL MISSING FOLLOWING LEAP INTO DARKNESS

Take it from S/Sgt. Jimmy Lott, 90th radio gunner, hitting the silk at night over rugged country is not the way to grow old gracefully.

While night flying over New Guinea mountains his ship, piloted by Lt. C.L. Wonderly, with Lt. R.N. Davis as co-pilot, ran into heavy weather. There seemed to be no end to it and as they had been cruising around for a number of hours looking for a hole in the soup their gas was running a bit short. A forced landing seemed imminent and Lott and S/Sgt. Lyle Crovisier, upper gunner, were told to bail out.

Crovisier went first, Lott following  
(Continued on Page 5)

## 13th Has Own News Broadcast

To be sure every man in the 13th keeps up to date on world news and to nip any nip attempt to jam news broadcasts from the states, the squadron intelligence department, headed by Capt. Missé, now gives a 15 minute news broadcast over the public address system each evening.

Prepared like a mythical newspaper, page one is devoted to world news, page two to news from our own combat theater, page three to sports and interesting combat intelligence stories, and page four to squadron news.

#### 100 Per. Coverage Is Claimed:

Prepared by the intelligence department, announced by Lt. Fred Normeyer, Jr., and broadcast through cooperation with the squadron communications department, the program comes on each evening at 6 o'clock with the Washington Post March as its theme. As an "added service", the program ends uniquely by giving, "for all you letter writers", the exact hour and minute. The program claims 100% listening audience in the squadron.

## THIRD STRIKE

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

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

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## 'WE, THE EIGHTH'

By Sgt. Bill Swain

Out of the thundering past come ghosts of yesterday. But today they are no longer only dreams but have become a reality. For a long time we have taken a back seat and watched other squadrons blaze their names on the skies over New Guinea.

Many of our boys have seen action with the 89th Squadron without any mention of, or credit to the 8th. But today and in the near future the 8th will resume its former position as "tops" and make other outfits on this island take a back seat.

The saying, "Here comes the Eighth" will be back on every Jap's lips from Lae to Tokio, as it was early in 1942.

Gradually we will become stronger and become part of the "Great Armada of Air Power" over New Guinea and soon, very soon, over Japan itself.

Old Men Returning

In our C.O., Major Downs, we have not only a fine leader but also a great flier and he has set an example for the rest of the pilots and the entire squadron to follow.

Recently our squadron has taken new officers and enlisted men under its wing and from these new pilots and gunners we look for great things. Many of them are pilots taken from the 8th when it was broken up. Their experience will be invaluable in enabling the 8th to resume its former enviable position.

Some of our boys recently left the outfit and their absence is keenly felt, but already the new men have taken hold where the old ones have left off.

"The throbbing sound of engines... the sporting spit of machine guns... the Eighth Squadron Flies Again!"

Lt. Neel Drops Raft  
To Stranded Flier

FIGHTER ACE SCUTTLES MENACING CROCODILE  
WITH ONE CANNON BURST

The versatility of the 89th was illustrated a few days ago when an effort was made to drop a life raft to a fighter pilot, Lt. Paul M. Yeager, stranded in a nearby lake.

While testing a P-38, the plane's engine caught fire and the pilot bailed out. His chute was observed to be hanging in a tree near the lake edge and immediately many planes went out to attempt rescue.

Japs, Crocs--No Difference

Lt. William W. Neel of the 89th dropped the raft but for some reason the shipwrecked officer could not inflate his. After some hours of maneuvering by various units, three pilots of Lt. Yeager's outfit set out by collapsible rubber boat to cross the lake, shortest route to his isolated position.

P-38s covered the advance. One of them, flown by Lt. Richard I. Bong (credited with 10 enemy aircraft), swooping low to cheer the party, saw a large 'gator closely trailing the unstable boat.

With the same expert marksmanship Lt. Bong has displayed against other reptiles in this area he blew the alligator to tatters with his cannon, thus rescuing the rescuers.

## Thumbnail Sketch

By Cpl. Lew Lehr

Unheeded by most as he performs his daily tasks, to me there is something uniquely fine, thoughtful and strong in his features. Though only five feet four, he has a boxer's physique. As he works one sees the arm muscles bulge and those of the back ripple and grow tense.

He attends Sunday service, sitting outside; a silent listener. His perfect manners, command of English, clear, rich voice and friendliness are evidence of years of mission training.

Has Dreams of Home, Too

He is miles from home and he, too, dreams about his sweetheart and his parents.

His real name is Avae, but he's better known as Albert, a native boy.

He takes his work seriously as can be seen from sparkling clothes worn by 13th officers. Albert is their laundry boy.

VERN HAUGLAND, Associated Press correspondent, who has spent a year and a half covering developments in this theater, is guest of the Third Attack Group.

Haugland expects to remain about a week. He is living with officers at "Club De Gink" in the 89th area.

Last year he spent 42 days walking through the jungle after bailing out of a plane which ran into rough weather. His weight dropped from 160 to 80 pounds. After hospitalization he returned to duty.

## SPENDS \$3.80 TO GET ZERO

CONSERVATIVE INDIANAN MAKES EVERY SHOT  
PAY \$16,000 for \$1

It has been said that farmers make the best soldiers. In support of that statement take the experience of S/Sgt Clark, 90th upper gunner, who downed a Zero on May 15, the sixteenth credited to the squadron.

Clark, whose home is on a farm near Noblesville, Ind., expended 38 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition (about \$3.80 worth) for the bag. That has been vouched for by S/Sgt Mike Wakem, armament, who reloaded the twin guns. Estimated cost of plane and pilot to the Jap government is \$60,000.

### Calm During Action

Asked what his reactions were when he engaged the Zeke, Clark said: "I saw him first and called the pilot to give him the information. At 350.-400 yards I fired a burst to keep him off but he kept boring in. I wasn't a bit nervous. In all I gave him three short bursts, the last at close range, after which I saw him continue his dive and crash into the sea. I called the pilot again so he could substantiate my claim. I felt no sense of elation, exultation or remorse."

May 15 was Clark's brother's birthday and he wrote him: "I got you a

birthday present today but you'll never see it and I hope you never see one like it." Clark holds the Air Medal for his part in the Bismarck Sea battle and has two other "probable" Zeros to his credit.

—  
Lt. Col.  
STRICKLAND  
Home  
—

Lt. Col. Robert Strickland, DSC, former 3rd Group commander, is home and enjoying a rest, the Atlanta, (Ga.) Journal reports. The colonel is reluctant to talk of experiences in New Guinea, preferring to renew acquaintance with his 2½-year-old son whom he has not seen for 16 months. Driving on the left of the road has left its mark on him, too, and he insists his wife drive till he again becomes accustomed to American traffic.

# FLASH!

## Adams, Perkins, Kundel Ordered to States

Those three fellows cavorting about the camp area giving away their personal possessions are not exactly mad—it is just that they have received word of their appointment to flying cadet school BACK IN THE STATES.

The lucky "birds" are S/Sgt Johnny Adams, Janesville, Wis., S/Sgt Raymond Perkins, Providence, R.I., and Pfc J. Kundel, Ayrshire, Ia.

All of them applied for school last January at the first opportunity given overseas men to become pilots. It looked for a long time as though their applications had been sidetracked but they never gave up hope.

### From Kitchen to Cockpit

Adams, 25, married, has nearly two years in the army, coming from the U. S. as a member of the original Third Group. In civil life he was a construction contractor. His army time has been spent as cook and clerk.

Kundel, 22, single, was an electrician before the war. His 17 months of service have been divided between the line and kitchen.

Perkins, 24, single, was a member of the 27th Group, left behind when the outfit was dissolved. He is a graduate of AM school and of late has been in personnel section of the 8th Squadron.

### Hope to Return to 3rd

Adams was first to get the news, at 9:30 Tuesday night. He ran to the 89th messhall to tell Kundel, who wouldn't believe it. Adams was so happy he was incoherent and Kundel said his knees wobbled so much he could hardly walk. NEITHER OF THEM SLEPT MUCH THAT NIGHT.

Asked about their feelings toward the 3rd Group, both said, "It's a G-d'd good outfit and we hope we'll be back in it one of these days flying A-20s!" Kundel remarked, "Tell the boys I think it easier to make cadet than corporal."



# 5<sup>th</sup> AIR FORCE ADOPTS NEW INSIGNIA

## PLANE BUILDER JOINS UP, FLIES PLANE HE MADE

La Junta, Col.—Alvin O. Broden helped build airplanes in the Curtiss-Wright factory at Lambert, Mo. Later he entered the Air Force and took up flight training. He won his wings here on one of the planes he had helped build.

## WANTED - MUSIC TO FIT LYRICS

By Sgt. Roland Guillet

Do you want a few lines of poetry to send your girl friend or some rhyme of greeting to your mother? If you do, Sgt. Boleslaus Maniak of the 13th Squadron is the man to see for he can turn out a little ditty with no trouble at all.

It all started when, one day in Savannah (in those dear dim days) he was challenged by some of the boys who were trying to write little rhymes to "see if he could do any better."

### A Poet Is Born

He did so well that he was flooded with requests and soon wrote longer poems and lyrics for songs, but as he can't write music his lyrics are wasted.

"Chow Call" is meant to be a song but even without music it makes a significant rhyme.

### CHOW CALL

Oh you busy men—drop your picks  
and drop your shovels,  
Oh you lazy men—get out of your holes  
and put away your novels,  
It's chow call.

Come all a'runnin' to the kitchen,  
Now's the time to start your bitchin'  
It's chow call.

The menu is the best on the island—  
you've no reason for grief,  
It's hard to see the steak 'cause  
it's bully beef.  
The spuds you eat taste like  
tin that's corrugated.  
They taste so good because  
they're dehydrated.

So come a'runnin' to the kitchen,  
Now's the time to start your bitchin'  
It's chow call!

—Sgt. Boleslaus Maniak

A moron took a bottle of liquor to bed with him because his mother told him to sleep tight.

## Southern Cross Inspires Artist

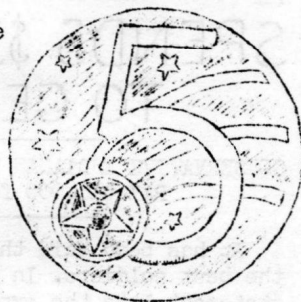
DESIGNED BY LIEUTENANT, WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON TO PERSONNEL

Men of the Fifth Air Force in the Southwest Pacific will be immediately identifiable by the new shoulder sleeve insignia recently authorized to be worn in lieu of the Air Corps patch depicting the star with extended wings.

Each part of the new insignia means something that Southwest Pacific men will remember in days to come. The large figure "5" represents the Fifth; five stars were inspired by the Southern Cross. Three comet trails leading to the Air Corps star are interpreted to represent bomber, fighter and transport.

### No Purchases

The insignia was designed by Lt. Al Haemer, Fifth Air Force Hq, former New York artist. It will be available to all personnel in the near future but until that time no purchases of it will be made by enlisted men.



### JAP HAPPY

Back on furlough from Guadalcanal, William M. Volland, 42, "Seabee," received \$260 from his brother-in-law for the 26 Japs he had made heroes. He had promised him an "X" a head and made good his offer.

### Headline Slants

DOTTIE LAMOUR WEDS AF CAPTAIN

—Nothing sa - rong about that.

LIQUOR BEING RATIONED

—Isn't it, though?

MAX SCHMELING REPORTED WOUNDED AND A

POW IN RUSSIA—He vas fouled, no doubt

HOPES TROOPS WILL BE HOME FOR WORLD

SERIES—We're in it.

WAR HAS CLOSED 564 CLEVELAND RESTAU-

RANTS—What's a restaurant?

## ANDY ANOPHELES



"He's been like that ever since he bit MacArthur"

## Lott -

(Continued From Page 1)

closely behind. At 18,000 feet the weather, even over New Guinea, is not exactly summery and Jimmy found himself enveloped in a snowstorm. Immediately after his 'chute opened he started calling for Crovisier and continued shouting until almost to the ground.

Thought Back Broken

It was deathly still up there and black as pitch. He had no idea how close to the earth he was till he felt leaves brush his face. The shock of landing came immediately and a paralyzing pain in his chest and back led him to believe his back was broken.

He had fallen across a log and lay there all night in the rain. In the morning he felt better and started to look about.

Found Native Track

He had narrowly missed falling in trees, alighting in a small clearing in a ravine. Thinking the pilot and copilot, as well as Crovisier, must be somewhere about, he again began calling for them. He shouted till hoarse and decided it was no use.

Lott climbed out of the ravine, finally found a trail and two days later was picked up by natives sent out to search for him and his upper gunner.

It took seven days, walking part of the way and being carried the rest, to get to a point 70 miles from base, from where he was taken to hospital by Piper Cub.

Asked whether he and Crovisier said goodbye before they jumped, Lott replied, "Hell, no! I thought we'd be together going down and I'd see him when we hit. But there was no Crovisier-- in fact no matches, no cigarettes, gun, knife or any of the other things I could very well have used. It might be a good idea for other combat men to keep this in mind and always have those items on their persons."

When the 'chute opened, Lott said he

## Infantryman Visits Relative in Hq.

ONE OF BOYS WHO TOOK THIS AREA OUT OF JAP HANDS; ROUGH GOING

By Lewis Janoff

Last week the 3rd Attack Group Headquarters had a very unusual visitor. . . unusual meaning that it is the first time that anyone has come here on a three-day pass.

The guest, an infantry man, is the brother-in-law of Walter Hoshosky and is a member of the outfit that won the land upon which we now live.

Many of his experiences were told and by summing them up one can tell just what the boys went through.

Corn Willy, Too

When asked what he thought of our chow he replied, "It is OK but our cooks can really prepare a meal." Asked what kind of food the cooks gave them, the reply was, "Corn willy in three different styles."

It was not unusual to find a Nip sitting in the same foxhole with you about midnight and many boys had that experience. Of course the Nip didn't sit in one piece long, as some of the boys were ex-subway fixtures and knew what to do in a situation like this.

Japs Speak English

One hears talk about a good part of the Jap army being educated in U.C.L.A. Our friend thought this was a rumor till he heard Nip officers yelling commands in English. But you could tell they were Japs because they spoke good English.

The going was tough every inch of the way and when they had covered all of the land inches between them and Nippie the fun started . . . by taking pot shots at them as they were swimming out in the bay.

It was rumored that it was the first time they had taken a bath since they left the homeland.

OWENSVILLE, IND.--Miss Mary Christmas has joined the WAVES.

couldn't help thinking kindly of Sgt Steve Flaherty, 90th parachute man, and offering up a little prayer of thanksgiving.

A few minutes after the crew had bailed out, Lt. Wonderly brought the plane out of the storm, found his bearings and proceeded to base without further incident. Crovisier has not yet been located.

Lott, former 13th man, has over a hundred combat hours and has been forced down in the Coral Sea.

## Bootlegs Cocker Across Pacific

NEARLY LOST HIM IN AUSTRALIA, CREW TO  
RESCUE; PAL COULDN'T TAKE IT

There's a golden cocker spaniel that looks slightly out of place as it frolics around the 89th mess hall in the jungle each day with the local dogs. "Ugly," the cocker, was brought here in style by plane all the way from San Francisco.

Lt. Thomas R. Waddell Jr. of Sarasota Springs, Fla., a pilot, bought the pooch in San Francisco when it was eight weeks old, just before he took off for Australia. He thinks it's probably the only golden cocker spaniel in all of New Guinea.

### Housebroken Enroute

Smuggling it across the oceans was not a hard job but getting "Ugly" housebroken in the plane was quite difficult, Lt. Waddell related. He put a small box in one corner of the plane and taught the cocker to whine every time it had to go.

Until the plane took off, Lt. Waddell carried the pup snuggled between his summer khakis and his flying suit. Once they were on their way he let "Ugly" scamper around the transport since the crew wasn't likely to stop to put off the stowaway.

### Quarantine Trouble

On landing in Australia a captain got wind of the dog's arrival and wanted to put the pooch in quarantine for 120 days. Lt. Waddell turned "Ugly" over to his crew members for safe-keeping until the storm blew over. When the new pilot joined the 3rd Group here recently, "Ugly" was tagging at his heels.

The cocker has a great fondness for sticking his nose in the drain and lapping up the soapy water as his master shaves at the wash stand near the mess hall. For a brief period "Ugly" had a playmate from the States, also smuggled across in the plane, but the playmate became ill and had to be sent south to recuperate.

CPL. BILLY CONN, former boxer, has been transferred from Camp Lee, Va., to Camp Campbell, Ky. Bill will assist the athletic officer.

## Awards-

(Continued from Page 1)

Raymond G. Rowland, 90th, and Lt. W. L. Nichols, S/Sgt. Edward D. Connor, Jr., and Brewster M. Land, Jr., 13th.

Lt. Hayes D. Brown, 89th, received two Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal. T/Sgt. Luther B. Ford, Jr., 90th, and Capt. Jacob A. Hutchison and S/Sgt. Clarence C. Moreau, 13th, were also awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster.

Sgt. Harris H. Coffey, 90th, was awarded the Air Medal posthumously.

Lt. Clapp, Capt. Hutchison and S/Sgt. Connor have returned to the U.S.A.

PRIVATE IN 90TH--

## Mac Makes Good

--MASTER SERGEANT IN 63RD

M/Sgt. Allen A. MacMonamy, formerly with the 90th Squadron, lately a member of the 63rd Squadron, 43rd Group, and now on his way home, has been awarded the DFC and Air Medal.

The DFC he won for "extraordinary achievement" in making four very near misses on a 10,000-ton transport while being attacked by 10 Zeros.

The Air Medal was awarded for dropping bombs on a 6-8,000-ton transport, one of which was a direct hit, the other was a very near miss. This was accomplished in spite of adverse weather conditions.



"Why do you always drop in so late!!"