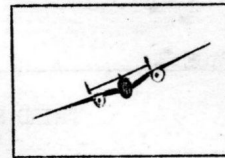


THIRD STRIKE



VOL. I, NO. 24

JUNE 30, 1943

S.W. PACIFIC

T/SGT CLARENCE E. MCCAIN DIES IN AUSTRALIA

Word came Friday of the death of T/Sgt Clarence E. McCain in a city in Australia. "Mac" had been in ill health for several months.

He was first sergeant of the 90th from Sept. 15, 1941 to Apr. 1, 1942, when he was promoted to tech sergeant. He had recently been reported to be ready to come back to his outfit and news of his death came as a shock.--AES

USO Show Slated For 3rd Group

VAUDEVILLE, INFANTRY BAND HEADLINE SHOW
--FIRST SINCE MOVE HERE

First USO show for members of Third Group since the move to this location will be given on Friday afternoon by four entertainers. Since women are not yet permitted in this area, all the entertainers will be men.

The unit includes a juggler, magician, singer and master-of-ceremonies. An infantry band also has been obtained for the occasion.

First show will be at 3 pm for the 90th Squadron at its theater and the second at 5 pm at the 13th Squadron theater for members of that outfit, the 89th, 8th and Group Headquarters.

3 SQUADRON HEADS APPOINTED MAJOR

Captains David M. Conley, AM; Donald E. Good, SS, OLC, DFC, and John P. Henobry, DFC, commanding officers of the 13th, 89th and 90th Squadrons respectively, have been promoted to major.

Maj Good joined the 3rd Group Feb. 18, 1941, Maj Conley Apr. 15, 1942, and Maj Henobry Aug. 20, 1942.

ONLY 178 DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS;
DO YOUR MAILING EARLY

The War Department has announced that Christmas packages may be sent to servicemen overseas without presentation of a request. These packages must be sent between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15, which will be designated as Christmas Mail month for overseas servicemen.--AES

Horse Races, Holiday Saturday, July 3

THIRD GROUP, AUSTRALIAN OUTFITS WILL
COMPETE IN TRACK MEET

Saturday afternoon will be a holiday for everyone--no regular work, no details--so that all may attend the first American-Australian horse races and track meet at the Soputa race track, a mile from this area. Only guards will be left in the camp area.

Paging Ralph I. Simpson!

Third Group will enter a team in the tug-of-war and also a four-man relay team. Lt Richard Rogers, group special services officer, is still seeking more entrants for the track events.

There will be eight races, starting at one o'clock, for horses, mules and ponies. Thus far, 20 horses, eight mules and an undetermined number of ponies have been entered.

Lay Your Wagers, Boys!

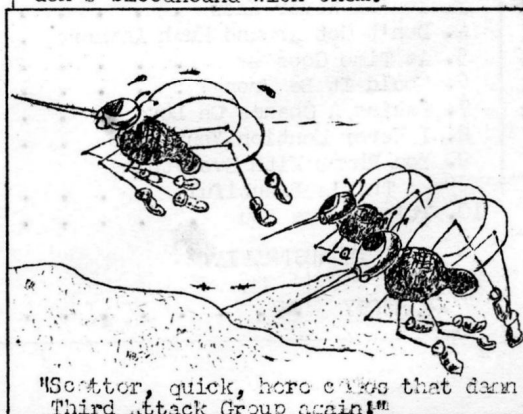
Bookmakers will not only take bets on the horse races but on the track events and tug-of-war as well.

Col F. H. Smith, Air Task Force commander, and other high-ranking American and Australian ground and air officers will attend.

Free soft drinks will be served, Lt Rogers said. Signs pointing to the track will be erected so that spectators can find it easily.

Most of the horses were British cavalry mounts captured by the Japs in Malaya and then recaptured here by the Aussies.

SEBULAN, GA. -- Two inmates who escaped from a prison camp took the warden's bloodhound with them.



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, group intelligence officer.

Third Strike receives material from Camp Newspaper Service, War Department

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Lt Selwyn Pepper.....Adviser

89TH MEDICS HAVE VICTORY GARDEN

Though Victory gardens are rare in New Guinea, Capt "Doc" Connor, 89th medical officer, and his assistants, have a fair-sized "V" garden in which are planted such vegetables as radishes onions and lettuce.

The garden, fenced in to keep out GI transgressors as well as animal transients about camp, is located just behind the medical hut. Some of the seeds are already sprouting. Members of the squadron are eyeing the plot with anticipation and watering mouths.—Sgt P. Flanjak.

SIX LEADING HITTERS IN MAJOR LEAGUES

- 1. Dahlgren, Phillies .356
2. Stevens, Browns .355
3. Hockett, Indians .351
4. McCormick, Reds .336
5. Herman, Dodgers .333
6. Wakefield, Tigers .320--AES

IF YOU THINK OF WEDDING--

Don't Do It!

--TILL YOU GET OFFICIAL OK

Planning on getting married? If you are, first be sure that the following directives, as called to attention by Memorandum No. 91, Advanced Echelon, Fifth Air Force, are complied with:

The commanding general of Fifth Air Force and Fifth Bomber Command will approve only applications for marriage where requirements of USAFFE Regulation No. 10-10 and Memorandum 55, Headquarters Fifth Air Force, have been met and in addition, statement has been made in writing by applicant's immediate commanding officer to the fact he has every reason to believe marriage is in all seriousness and has every reason to be successful.

Of Course, If Ya Gotta--

In cases where "extenuating circumstances" exist, application for permission to marry will be accompanied by certified statement to the fact, signed by appropriate authorities.

Anyone who marries without permission of the commanding generals of the above named commands will be liable to punishment under the 96th Article of War.

HITLER BUYS A U. S. WAR BOND

Ft. Jackson, S.C. -- Hitler has purchased a \$1,000 United States government war bond--but, wait a minute. The buyer is Capt Paul Hitler, Brooklyn, N. Y., who has been a member of the U.S. fighting forces for 31 years.

MURRAY "MUZZ" PATRICK, ex-star of the N.Y. Rangers hockey team, was recently commissioned a second lieutenant in the MPs at Fort Custer, Mich.

Table with 10 rows and 3 columns. Column 1: S, W, E, I, G, E, R, T, I, S. Column 2: IN THE STATES. Column 3: IN NEW GUINEA. Column 4: H, I, T, P, A, R, A, D, E. Row 10: MARJORY vs MARGERINE.

LATEST LURID NEWS FLASHES

As compiled by GFU LEWIS JANOFF, renowned authority on world affairs, who appears three times a day at the 89th messhall:

BERLIN: Hitler tonight, in a speech to the Allied nations, gave the world 24 hours to get out.

BERLIN: Another quote from Hitler's speech... "After this war there will be a pound of butter for every Heinie." (But there won't be any Heinies.)

RUSSIA: "The German army cannot win over Russia. We will fight them in the Pacific ocean in rowboats if we are forced from our soil."

MELBOURNE: If all the Yanks visiting Australia were laid end to end... I wouldn't be surprised.

TOKYO: The Japanese high command today said that out of 25 bombers which raided Allied positions in China, 30 returned.

ROME: The Italian fleet was inspected today by Benito Mussolini while on a tour of the Italian Mediterranean in a glass-bottomed boat.

Call For Genius

OR SHADES OF BARLOW & HIS GOAT KILLERS
Notice on 8th Attack Squadron Ordnance bulletin board -- by 1st Lt Charles N. Hager Jr., ordnance officer:

Are you a genius? Do you have ideas that every brass hat laughs at? Or are you afraid to take your ideas to said metallic domers for fear of being laughed at? If so, bring your ideas here--we're so sad that we don't laugh at anything.

Your idea, like the crazy one someone had about a technique called "skip bombing," may get this war over a little sooner.

DO YOU WANT TO DROP TACKS ON IAE
OR SNEEZING OR ITCHING POWDER DOWN
THROUGH THE ROOFS OF GEISHA HOUSES
IN RABAUL?

Have you a scheme for a bomb that can be dropped in Rabaul harbor, stop before hitting the bottom, rise to the surface and seek out battleships? If so, we want you - Uncle Sam wants you!

Write your ideas below (name included, please), whether strictly ordnance or tactical. There's no reason why the 8th Squadron shouldn't get the credit for winning the war!

San Francisco--The apartment of Police Lt. John J. Casey was robbed. The thief lifted his police revolver.

IT IS RUMORED

Ground Crews

ARE HUMAN, TOO

Too much emphasis cannot be placed on the importance of engineering crews in their relation to success of operations and safety of the men who fly in their planes. For that reason we reproduce an item from Air Force, official publication of the USAAF:

"You've heard of pilot fatigue but you've probably never stopped to think that long, gruelling stretches on the job make us subject to MECH-FATIGUE.

"Mech-fatigue - which is the mental or physical letdown from overwork or strain--can result in carelessness, forgetfulness and inaccuracy. Watch yourself on the long work stretches; ASK FOR A BREAK IF YOU FEEL IT COMING ON.

"Talk to your line chief; he'll know you are not just goldbricking.

"Adequate rest, food, recreation and exercise will help you keep yourself in good physical condition and ward off MECH-FATIGUE.

SCRUFF'S TACTFUL CHOWLINE SWEATER

Operated at a cost as low as tuppence hypny a fortn't, this marvelous machine is placed at a spot near the kitchen about three hours before each meal. There it waits patiently, happily muttering to itself and hissing steam at the kp's.

By the time the usual chowhounds have formed the line, "Scruff's Tactful Chowline Sweater" is startled into movement by the sound of cooks bawling "Hot Stuff!" as they swing the pots onto the serving line. Scruff's Tactful Chow...you know what ... immediately goes into action.

Trapdoors swing open and seven mailed fists begin flailing the air in all directions with razor-sharp 12-inch knives. An eighth hand grasps the mutilated bodies of the first three chowhounds and thrusts them aside, as the whole machine tactfully steps in at the head of the line.

When Pfc Scruff approaches, oblivious of the howls of an irate mess sergeant chaffing over the mess caused on the kitchen floor, the machine snaps to attention, salutes and steps out of line to give him, Scruff, the place of honor.

The deluxe model of this invention is equipped with nostrils and a siren to warn Scruff away when corned beef is being served.--V Fighter Cover.

ONE-LEGGED MARINE WINS JITTERBUG CONTEST

San Francisco--A marine with an artificial leg won a jitterbug contest at a nearby navy yard recently. After the dance number was finished he and his young lady friend sat down and he rolled up his trousers to display the unusual member.

SLAP HAPPY PAPPY CAPPY

Within less than a month two ships of former Lt William H. Webster's convoy have come into port. The first was an 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. job launched in the States right on War Production Board schedule by the home unit of the Webster Productions Pty., Ltd. The Ltd. refers to the fact that further production is now limited for the time being. "Hank" Jr. was faster than the U.S. mails and so the big black cigars were not passed out until a week or so after the news.

"Pappy" Webster's brand new nickname was quickly changed to "Cappy," for he was waked up late at night June 24 to be given the second barrel of the good news gun, promotion to captain. After a second round of the cigars "Pappy-Cappy" was irrepressible. Now he plays five positions on the volley ball court instead of only his usual three - and sometimes even hits it back from the other side.

Star Athlete at Cornell

Capt Webster, 22, is from Hinsdale, Ill. He married Miss Betty Baldwin of Muskogee, Okla., in May, 1942. The son and heir, William Henry Webster III, arrived May 16. Web attended Cornell U where he won four freshman numerals and later made C's playing basketball and football.

He graduated from Kelly Field on Dec. 12, 1941, and joined the 8th Squadron, of which he is now assistant operations officer and flight leader, in Australia in October, 1942.

"Cappy" is also athletic officer and was recently elevated to assistant mess officer in the hope of pulling the rest of the 8th up to his standard of the "body beautiful." After the war Web expects to "handle" Charles Atlas' feminine division.

Captain Webster's most publicized exploits have been his tangle with Jap AA over Buna last fall, resulting in three casualties (his front teeth) and his recent bite at "General" Taylor's orders that he attack a Nip battleship off the northern shore of New Guinea with a Bowie knife.

* * * *

The writer does not want his name published for "personal security reasons"--Editor.

Pearl Harbor Eyewitnesses

F/O Monroe on CQ, F/O Caldwell in Tower
At Hickam Field

By Sgt Peter Flanjak

Flight Officers Horace B. Monroe and George P. Caldwell, now of the 89th Attack Squadron, were eyewitnesses to the Pearl Harbor tragedy of Dec. 7, 1941.

Serving a three-year enlistment from 1939 to 1942, F/O Monroe (then sergeant) was assigned to a pursuit squadron then stationed at Wheeler Field, Hawaii, as an aircraft mechanic.

On Sunday, Dec. 7, he was detailed as charge of quarters when a formation of 50 or more Jap light bombers approached the field, circled, peeled off simultaneously and released their deadly cargo.

The earth seemed to tremble and rock, Monroe said, and the impact of the bursting bombs was so great that all the pursuit planes, lined up wing to wing for the usual weekend inspection, were blown to bits and the entire airfield left a shambles. Damage, according to Monroe, was greater than at first estimated.

"All Hell Broke Loose"

There were many casualties, Monroe said, and everyone was shocked at the treachery of the Japs. A few minutes later the Nips continued their methodic devastation of Pearl Harbor, approximately seven miles from Wheeler. It was as though "all hell broke loose."

F/O Caldwell, on the other hand, was a radio operator atop a tower at Hickam Field, several miles away.

Monroe sailed for the States in April, 1942, for flight training. He attended Santa Ana and other flying schools in western California. He again sailed for foreign service in April, 1943, this time headed for New Guinea, where he joined the 3rd Group May 22.

Likes A-20s

Monroe likes the A-20 and is proud to be a member of the 89th. He said: "I'm sure glad as hell I'm flying A-20s 'cause now I can really HIT 'EM HARD AND WHERE IT HURTS THE MOST! I'm going to even a score with those yellow Nips if it's the last thing I do. There are many buddies of mine back there at Wheeler Field who will never again see the light of this world, and it's for them that I'm dead set on repaying the rat Tojo that debt...and with interest, too!"