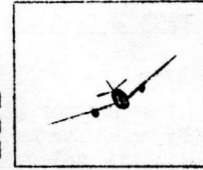




THIRD STRIKE



VOL. II, NO. 18

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1944

S.W. PACIFIC



Washington (CNS)—An anonymous pfc was a member of a band putting on a command performance at the White House. Afterwards he shook hands with the President. "You sent me greetings when I was drafted," the pfc said. "Now I'd like to return them, sir."

Jap General's Jungle Capital Found

The Marine forces advancing across western New Britain discovered a complete jungle city, the headquarters of General Ideao Matsuda, and a nerve center of the Jap forces in the western portion of the island.

It was apparent that the enemy left in a hurry. None of the buildings had been burned or otherwise destroyed. No time bombs or booby traps were encountered by the Marines in the deserted dwellings, along the railed paths, or in the gardens. Beer and coca-cola from the ravaged Philippines were found in officers' quarters. Margarine tins in the army kitchen bore Dutch labels of Batavian firms. Australian and British foods, inks, polishes, stationery supplies and toilet requisites and Javanese cocoa tins were scattered everywhere.

HEADQUARTERS

The commanding officer's headquarters had a second story bedroom complete with polished furniture and with a thick padded mattress on the bed. Below was a bamboo corridor and an arched

(Continued On Page 4)

89th Has New CO

Capt Robert N. Dow Jr., 89th Sq, has been named commanding officer replacing Major Joseph E. Moore.

Capt Dow received his commission upon graduation from advanced flight training at Williams Field, September 29, 1942 and was assigned to the 89th on October 6, 1943. Before joining the Armed Forces he worked in a newspaper and also was a sports announcer on the radio. He is married and his home is in Jacksonville, Florida.

He has been awarded the DFC and has 77 missions to his credit.

Latest Berlin Raid Cost Yanks 7 Bombers, 1 Ftr.

REDS STILL COLLECTING QUOTA OF POPULATED PLACES PER DAY

In the heaviest U.S. raid on Berlin, 1000 heavies with 800 escorting fighter planes plastered the ball bearing works on the outskirts of Berlin with 10,000 HE bombs and 350,000 incendiaries. Weather was perfect and our boys strictly on the ball. Results—fighters got 83 Nazi and the bomber tally yet to come in. We lost 38 bombers and 16 fighters.

Yesterday, another force of U.S. heavies blasted the heart of Berlin with a great bomb load. Few details have been released but it is known that the planes dropped their bombs through a heavy overcast with the aid of the new device that permits bombing obscure targets. Fire with huge columns of smoke was seen coming through the clouds. No interception was met but A/A knocked down 7 heavies and 1 fighter.

RUSSIA—Military experts in London and Washington back-patted clocklike precision of Russian offensive. Reds gave strategist something to study. With the western Ukraine push going well, Red forces massed in Krivoiroe area began

(Continued on Page 5)

— AWARDS —

The latest list of awards are as follows:

Distinguished Flying Cross: Capt. Fred T. Potter, Capt Theodore G. Fitch, Capt. Nat Gunter, Jr., Capt Gilbert A. Masden, S/Sgt. William A. Barrow and S/Sgt. Charles R. Narducci, 13th Sq; T/Sgt. Wayland E. Braswell and S/Sgt John D. Brackett, 8th Sq; 1st Lt George P. Caldwell, 1st Lt Horace B. Monroe, Capt John G. Kelly Jr., S/Sgt Joe Hogan and S/Sgt Hubert P. Sorenson, 89th Sq.

Soldier's Medal: S/Sgt Alfred E. Clark, 89th Squadron.

Purple Heart: 1st Lt James L. Folse, 2nd Lt George F. O'neal, S/Sgt Vernon T. Forman and S/Sgt George E. Morris, 89th Sq; 1st Lt Richard Greenhalgh and T/Sgt Verlon E. Woodard, 8th Sq; 1st Lt Norman J. Spitzer, T/Sgt Emmor B. Mullenhour, T/Sgt Art C. Haught and S/Sgt Doc C. Kunze, 90th Squadron, and 1st Lt William C. Mackey (missing in action) 8th Squadron. Total to date 870.

THIRD STRIKE

Newspaper published every Saturday by and for members of 3rd Bomb Group (L). Lt Col John P. Henebry, group commander; Capt Charles P. Martin, intelligence officer.

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Special Services Notes

The Special Services Department finally has some good news for the members of the group. Our movie films are not to be shared with the 345th Group on the same show nights and will start about 8 o'clock. There are some very good and recent films promised us as well as USO shows and local talent programs for the near future. On Monday, March 13th there will be a Special Services USO show come to this area to entertain us with music and laughter. It is a special unit from the States and not local talent and should prove entertaining. The exact time is not known at present but will be broadcast to the squadrons before next Monday. Also the new theater area will be in the vicinity of the 13th Squadron and it is hoped it will be finished in time for the USO show.

The following is a schedule of the movies for the coming week:

Sunday, March 12--Above Suspicion with Joan Crawford and Fred MacMurray.

Tuesday, March 14--Madam Curie. Walter Pidgeon and Greer Garson.

Church Notices

WEEK OF MARCH 12-19, 1944

PROTESTANT

Sunday--Worship, 9:30 a.m. 345th Group Mess Hall.

Sunday--Worship, 7:00 p.m., Gp. Hq. Mess Hall.

Thursday--Bible Class, 7:15 p.m. Gp. Hq. Mess Hall.

CATHOLIC

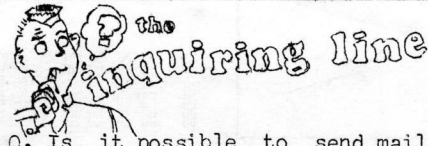
Sunday--Mass, 7:15 p.m., 89th Squadron Mess Hall.

MORMON

Monday--Regular Service, 7:30 p.m., Gp. Hq. Mess Hall.

JEWISH

Friday--Regular Service, 7:00 p.m., 433rd Troop Carrier Chapel.



Q. Is it possible to send mail to prisoners of war. And are they permitted to answer your letters?

A. Of course you can send mail to prisoners. In fact, this practice is encouraged. The mailing address of a prisoner of war is forwarded by Red Cross authorities through the Government's Prisoner of War Information Bureau. Most prisoners, however, are strictly limited in the amount of mail they send out, so you may not hear from them for many months, if at all.

Q. When I was drafted last year, I named my mother as beneficiary of my National Service Life Insurance. She has since died, however, and now I want to name my father beneficiary. He is a resident of Cuba. Is this okay?

A. In most cases, it is acceptable to name a person living outside the U. S. as beneficiary. If your father were a resident of Germany, or some other Axis nation, however, payments to him would be held up until end of the war.

Q. I was inducted last year and will be 38 next month. Will I then be eligible for an over-age discharge?

A. No. Only those men who reached their 38th birthday on or before Feb. 28, 1943, were eligible for discharge as over-age. At present it is the policy of the Army to keep everyone in service who can be useful in any manner.

Promotions & Transfers

3 S/Sgts, 7 Cpls, 2 Pfc's made in Gp this past week.

S/Sgt: William A. Wright, Ottis Cunnagin and Ralph H. Combs, 8th Sq.

Cpl: Morris L. Patterson, Paul G. Olivas, James E. Murdock, Draiemann Uphoff and Donald W. Villadsen, 8th Sq; Frank S. Banach and Ralph Redmer, Hq.

Pfc: Horace S. Ward, 8th Sq. and Russell H. Ackerman, 89th Sq.

Transfers made in the group during the past week include:

Capt Ocal P. Jones, 89th Sq to Hq. and assigned as Assistant Gp. Adjutant; Capt Alfred E. Baucom, 90th Sq to 13th Sq and assigned as commanding officer; Capt Wendell J. Martin, to 89th Sq and assigned as Intelligence Officer; 1st Lt Claude McAden, 90th Sq to Hq and assigned Assistant Operations Officer; 1st Lt Donald T. Lees, 13th Sq to Hq and assigned as Assistant Operations officer; Pvt William R. Diamond and Pvt John I. Wheeler, 8th to Hq.

Major Richard H. Ellis has been relieved as Group Ground Air Support Control officer and been appointed Air Inspector Deputy Commander.

THE WOLF

by Sansone

(In Hawaii)



"If that's basic English he's teaching them, I'm 4-F!"

UNFAITHFUL WIVES WORRY GIs ABROAD

Washington (CNS)--Unfaithful wives and sweethearts are one of the biggest causes of worry amongst U.S. fighting men overseas, according to Maj John H. Garrenton, a chaplain with the China-India-Burma wing of the Army Air Transport Command, who recently returned to Washington.

"My own personal opinion," said Maj Garrenton, "is that any woman with a husband overseas wading through hell, sweat and blood who is playing around over here with another man is about the lowest thing I know. And about the next lowest thing I know is the man who plays around with her."

GI PRISONERS AID MP GUARDING THEM

Camp Kelmer, N. J. (CNS)--A couple of GI prisoners were picking up papers on the post. An MP was guarding them, his rifle on his shoulder. Suddenly he fell to the ground. He had fainted.

The paper pickers looked at each other. They jumped on the MP and snatched his gun. Then they picked him up and carried him to the dispensary, telephoned the provost marshal and asked to be sent another guard because "this one isn't any good any more."

News From Home

By Camp Newspaper Service

East Haddam, Conn.--A local housewife has managed to keep her new maid content by sitting up one night a week with the maid's baby.

Hollywood--Frank Sinatra has been requested by his Beverly Hills hotel to dissuade his admirers from fainting in the lobby.

Rockford Corners, Mass.--New traffic regulations have been adopted here to provide for fining horses caught speeding through the main streets.

Bridgeport, Conn.--Mrs. Arpad Kansco was seeking a divorce on the grounds that her husband was living with another woman. "Have you any children?" asked the judge. "Yes," admitted Mrs. Kansco, "Seventeen."

Cheyenne, Wyo.--"Stew" Forsyth is the proprietor of a local liquor store. Name of the store--"D.T.'s."

New York--Harry Shipman was depressed. He flunked his Army physical, was fired from his defense job and got thrown out of a saloon in the same afternoon. So, a doleful man in a woe-ful world, he turned in a false fire alarm and didn't even bother to run away when the fire trucks arrived. Then given his choice of \$25 fine or five days in jail, he took the five days. "I'm glad this day is over," he remarked as he was led to his cell.

New York--Five dishwashers in a mid-town restaurant were hospitalized for imbibing too freely of a "garbage julep" they had mixed in a dishpan from all the drinks customers left standing on tables.

Washington--Louis Saunders, 33, told a Federal District Court he failed to report for induction into the armed forces because he was "reborn" as a Moslem and is only 13 years old.

MALE CALL by Milton Caniff

R.H.I.P. (RANK HINDERS IMPROMPTU PROPOSITIONS)



"REST" LEAVE TO SIDNEY

By Lt. R. Long, GP Communications



89th Reports

By Sgt Flanjak

COMMANDO NOTES: S/Sgt George J. Hall formerly of the 89th Squadron, who recently returned to the States has this to report:

"Everything in general back here in the USA is about the same as we expected it to be but as a whole most of the fellows would like to return for overseas duty again as the entire set-up is a bit tiresome and somewhat on the dull side, if you get what I mean!" George goes on to say that, "several of the old timers have already volunteered for foreign service again."

* * * *

It was learned recently that Capt Neel, who is now back in the good old USA, and a member of the 46th Bomb Gp stationed at Morris Field, Charlotte, N.C., had rather a harrowing experience when he brought in a burning B-25 and belly landed the ship safely.

* * * *

One of the fellas here in the squadron, while working on a plane, narrowly escaped injury when the bombay doors of the ship became suddenly released and began closing on him.

* * * *

Corrections from last week's column.

Our new intelligence officers are: Capt Wendell J. Martin and Lt Stephen Stuntz, (instead of Spence) as was originally published.

Lost And Found

LOST--Brown Collie pup. About 4 or 5 months old. Long snout and ears that droop. Has white chest and white collar of hair around neck. His front left paw is slightly crooked. Will answer to name "Rex". At the time he was lost had a leaky nose. Has been missing about 10 days. Reward--name your price. Contact Capt John M. O'Brien, 345th BG, 500BS.

FOUND---Three bladed pocket knife with 2 Yale keys attached. Also set of keys, 2 Rite and 1 Yale, with card attached having number 955 on it. These articles were found in Gp Hq movie area and owners may have same by calling at Public Relations Office.

Doyle Foils Father Time

Many are the stories told of war correspondents, but one that stems of good spirited originality is told of the action of Robert Doyle (Milwaukee Journal, Detroit News) on New Year's Eve. It was the night before the landing at Saidor, and once again Bob Doyle was with his buddies of the Red Arrow Division. The men were milling around the boat checking their equipment, wondering as to the morrow's action and Doyle reasoned that something ought to be done to greet the New Year at least in some small way. Searching in his field bag he found a small sample bottle of scotch his father had sent him for Christmas. With the aid of the medical department on board ship, he obtained an atomizer and proceeded to spray the throats of a hundred veterans of jungle warfare with this fire-water. Once again Americans toasted the New Year, this time not filled with the usual festive liquor of the occasion, but of laughter provided by a correspondent who is liked and respected by all in this theater.

Gunners Bag Limit

Britain---T/Sgt Thomas Dye of Steubenville washed out of air gunnery school because he had an "unskilled shooting eye."

Since then Dye, who is a radio operator most of the time but a tail gunner in emergencies has shot down eight enemy planes and wears the Distinguished Flying Cross and three OLC's to the AM.

S/Sgt Donald W. Crossley of Wellsburg, W. Va. is the highest scoring aerial gunner in the European theater with 12 German planes to his credit.

Jap General (Cont'd From Page 1)

prayer room, an altar facing the setting sun. Floors were made of planes lumber. Below the prayer room was a reception room and elaborate toilet facilities. Under all this was an air raid shelter. Judging by the half-burned candles, dishes and remnants of food, it had been occupied quite frequently.