



THIRD STRIKE



VOL III NO V

SATURDAY MARCH 24, 1945

IN THE PHILIPPINES

"STRIKE" Celebrates 2nd Anniversary

GROUP PAPER BEGINS ITS
THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION

This is the first issue in the beginning of a third year in the publication of the Third Strike. It is dedicated to the Officers and Men of the Third Bomb Group for their outstanding performances and achievements in combat on the Pacific War Front.

After two years of continuous publication (minus a few days elapsed due to operational moves) the Third Strike is once more celebrating its anniversary. A far cry from howling reporters, editors, linotype machines and the grinding presses the "Strike", nevertheless, has the ear marks of a great newspaper.

Founding of the Group paper took place just a couple of weeks before the famous April 12th raid on Port Moresby, (a topic that has since become unpopular with the survivors of the recent move) in a small tent under the supervision of Major Shearer, Lt. Pepper and Cpl. Byron Edgett. Edgett took over the editorship and Sgt Edmond Lewis assisted as art editor, later taking over the job when Edgett went to OCS in Australia.

This jungle tabloid was one of the first and few papers to be published by any organization in the Southwest Pacific area. The Strike has come a long way since its first issue. Although censorship regulations prohibit its circulation out of the Southwest Pacific area, it has found its way back to the States and many letters of congratulation and praise have been sent to the office. Many have requested to be put on the subscription list, including one from a German prisoner of War at a prison camp somewhere in the U.S.A.

--(Cont'd. on Page 2)



War Continues On European Front

The Siegfried line is now breaking up and the 3rd and 7th Armies are mopping up German elements in sectors recently penetrated. The number of Nazis taken in ten days totals more than 47000.

Allied bombers dropped 6,000 tons of bombs on German industrial targets in the Rhur. 1,250 American bombers struck on railways and bridges near Budapest.

Russian forces are penetrating deep into the German line on the East front and have captured several cities on the Gulf of Danzig. A large Russian drive is on.



THIRD STRIKE

Newspaper published every Saturday by and for members of 3rd PG, APO 321. Lt. Col. Richard H. Ellis, Group Commander. Maj. Ivan P. Head, Intelligence Officer.

Third Strike received material from Camp Newspaper Service, War Dept., and Army News Service.

--STAFF--

Pfc H C Hayley . . . Editor
Sgt Robert Standing. . . Asst.
Lt Robert P Smith . . . Advisor

WE'RE WAITING

Washington, D. C. -- A miniature ice cream factory for the use of tropical units have been developed that can produce approximately 2½ gallons of ice cream in 7 to 14 minutes in 120° temperature. The unit, which weighs 1,200 pounds can be transported either by truck or by plane, and has storage cabinets for 40 gallons.

ANNIVERSARY -- (Cont'd. from Page 1).

The paper started out as a bi-weekly but due to labor shortages caused by the war effort (and lack of materials) it has been put on a weekly basis. And with Edgett and Lewis working on the paper day and night, the ink was hardly dry before it was on the street each Wednesday and Saturday.

The preparation of the Third Strike is a long and tedious job. Each letter has to be counted, each line of certain length for even margins, and every cartoon carefully planned to fit within the limits of the page. After it has been checked and rechecked it is finally put on a stencil and printed by a mimeograph machine (such as George Washington used to run off his General Orders). This alone is a work of art.

Invaluable aid has been given by other members of the Group. Many suggestions have been made and adopted; for it is a paper by and for the men of the Third Group. Articles previously printed in the Third Strike have found their way into the Yank Magazine, Guinea Gold and many other such publications. Credit is given to the squadrons for their submissions of news and feature items.

Thanks must be given to the men who have done such a swell job on this paper and to those who have helped fill its pages with stories or cartoons. To Lt. Edgett and Sgt. Lewis, former editors of the Third Strike, congratulations and praises are extended for the outstanding work they have done. The present editor, Pfc. H. C. Hayley, is now at the wheel and we are sure he is capable of keeping up the standards and traditions of the Third Strike.

A DREAM OF THE FUTURE

The privates and seamen like to day-dream of civilian life. And here's their favorite:

A GOB'S FOND DREAM

When bugles sound their final notes,
And bombs explode no more,
And we return to what we did
Before we went to war,
The sudden shift of status
In the ladder of success,
Might make some worthy gentlemen
Feel like an awful mess.

Just think of some poor lieutenant
Minus all his silver bars,
Standing up behind some counter
Selling peanuts and cigars.

And think of the Lieutenant Commanders,
With the oak leaves far behind,
And the uniform they're wearing
Is the Western Union kind.

Shed a tear for some poor Captain,
If he dosen't feel himself,
Jerking sodas isn't easy
When your "eagles" on the shelf

'Tis a bitter pill to swallow,
'Tis a matter for despair,
Being messengers and clerks
again's

A mighty cross to bear.
--Houston Post.



Church Notices

The following religious services will be held in the 3rd Group Chapel during the week of March 24 to March 31

PROTESTANT

Sunday--Worship Services, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday--Mid week Fellowship Hour
7:00 p.m.
Friday--Christian Endeavor Society
7:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC

Sunday--Mass; 7:30 p.m.
Friday--Mass; 6:00 p.m.

MORMON

Sunday--Regular Service, 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday--Service at 7:30 p.m.

JEWISH

Friday--6:45 p.m. at the VEC Chapel

Troops Close On Baguio

The American troops advancing on Luzon are closing in on the famous Philippine summer resort of Baguio and are now within only six miles from what has been the seat of the Japanese puppet government.

Col. James W. Duckworth, physician and ranking American Army officer at the Cabantuan prison on Luzon said recently, "If the fighting is kept up at this rate, I see no reason why we cannot beat the Japs within perhaps a year or less. These American fellows are serious about this war. They're not laughing--they're fighting."

YALE MAN ON LUZON GREET'S UP CORRESPONDENT

Luzon (CNS)--You can never tell when or where you'll run into a Yale man.

When Frank Hewlett, UP war correspondent, halted his jeep in a village just taken by American soldiers, a barefoot Filipino approached, offered his hand and said "Yale, '36."

He was Vincente Alvarez Dizon, noted Filipino artist, faculty member of the University of the Philippines and prize winner in the art contest at the San Francisco Golden Gate exposition.

3RD GP CINEMA

Locally
Owned & Operated

Sat.-Princess and the Pirate,
Bob Hope & Virginia Mayo

Sun.-When Irish Eyes Are Smiling

Mon.-Casanova Brown, with Gary
Cooper and Tressa Wright

Wed.-To Be Announced Later.

Fri.-To Be Announced Later.

THE FUTURE...and YOU



Enroll in the Armed Forces Institute
TODAY!



Buddies Meet Again

Sergeant J.P. O'Bierne

FIFTH AIR FORCE, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS-- Standing in the chow line at an advance base in the Philippines, Staff Sergeant Delois E. DuBois thought he was seeing things when he recognized the fellow ahead of him as none other than Staff Sergeant Harvey E. Woodward, his old buddy and one time co-gunner on the same plane, in the African and Italian campaigns.

It all began in 1943, when Rommel was heading for the gates of Cairo, and the American Forces were suffering setbacks around the Kasserine Gap. The two men were members of the 47th Bomb Group at that time detailed to harrassing Hitler's supply and communication lines along the Mediterranean front. Later when the tide of battle was turned, and the chase started back towards Rome and Berlin, they saw action together in Tunisia, Sicily and high up the Italian boot towards Vesuvius. On one occasion Woodward's plane was shot down far behind the German lines and the pilot was taken prisoner. But Woodward, aided by a friendly Italian family, one of whom he still remembers as a dark eyed beauty, made his way back to allied territory. While in that theatre the two sergeants visited several places of historic interest together, including the famous Isle of Capri, Malta and Egypt.

In March, 1944, both men were returned to the States. But in January of this year, they volunteered for combat again. This time they shipped out separately, not expecting to meet again until after the war. Fortune smiled again however, and both have become members of the same unit, The Third Attack Group, better known as the "Grim Reapers."

They may well be proud of their new outfit, for The Grim Reapers is the oldest combat team in the Fifth Air Force. Back in the dark days of 1942, when the Japanese dominated the skies over the Coral Sea and Northern Australia, and the Australian mainland was in danger of invasion, the group won world wide recognition and later was awarded a Presidential Citation for their record of destruction of enemy shipping and aircraft. Since that time they have spearheaded the 5th Air Force advance through the bloody battles of Buna, Cape Gloucester, the Bismarck Sea and Northern Solomons. Today, operating (...Cont'd. on Page 7.)

MALE CALL

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



From Hollywood

Dinah Shore has drawn her biggest film assignment to date in "Belle of the Yukon", in which she sings the old Gus Edwards-Will Cobb song, "I Don't Know Why I Love You"....Gypsy Rose Lee is dividing her time between caring for her newborn son, sewing black lace ruffles on a pair of panties for a forthcoming vaudeville tour, and toying with the outline for another murder mystery book. "Somehow," the strip-teaser complains, "I can't settle down to writing and I can't emote enough to be an actress. I'm going to make a living even if people start taking sex with an aspirin."

Film comic Eddie Bracken is gaining a good audience for his new Sunday nite radio comedy show over NBC which displaced the time held by "One Man's Family."...

The famous Fred Allen, who is confining himself to guest appearances on the air, keeps up the Jack Benny feud. He said he went to see Benny's latest picture which has 52 featured players in it. The ticket cost \$1.10. "At that rate," quipped Fred, "Benny was worth about two cents."

GI TIPS Scales of Justice

Why Kenneth Wilson failed to keep an appointment with Judge Charles S Dougherty Dec. 7, 1943, in Felony court to answer a charge of tampering with a n automobile, has been explained by Wilson to the judges' satisfaction. Recently Wilson, now a corporal, wrote Judge Dougherty from somewhere in Germany. Army duty, he explained, required his presence elsewhere on that Dec. 7. But he added, the matter had worried him: What I would like to know is what will happen to me when and if I return—because I intend to report to your court regardless, at that time."

Judge Dougherty replied that he had just written on Wilson's record sheet: "Dismissed."

The Characters

While 1st Sgt. Larson is on TD in the States, our supply sergeant, S/Sgt. Leavell will act as wheel, Sgt. Niedermeyer will take over the supply post.

There is a story going around the Squadron about a gunner who just completed his missions and is waiting to go home. It seems this gunner came very close to being a casualty the other night, first by falling into a dive-trench, and then by drowning. Of course he didn't even get wet because his would-be assassin was also his rescuer.Mighty close Bowen.

Our refrigerating plant is almost ready to operate, thanks to Lieutenants Baker and Wade. They spent practically all of the daylight hours this past week, undoing what Fleischer did. They have all worked hard and at last we are to have cold drinks.

The Squadron softball teams are under way now and there promises to be some heated contests. A nite this week Armaments "Firepowers" were thoroughly worked over by the Engineering sections "Horsepowers."

THE WOLF

by Sansone





THE Krud Klub

When life is about at its lowest and everyone is thinking of giving up, Cpl. FISHER will turn up with a few letters from the States. His latest achievement has been the distribution of water-soaked, ant and mice infested, six months old Christmas packages.....JOE CHOURA thought a tree had fallen on him the other night from behind, and was accusing someone of hitting him on the head with a club. Its strange how some muscle-bound people will react under a couple of beers.....A remark was overheard in the movie area the other night about how nice and fat the men of Hq., are getting to look. This is not due to the soft life they lead but to the extra special care received from our Mess sergeant, the Baker and the Headquarters cooks...

"Baby Ruth" BANICK in his prime condition slugged two homers in the Officers vs EM softball game and pitched his team to a winning score of 7-2. Onlookers are still trying to figure out whether "Cupey Doll" slid onto base, or if he crawled there on his hands and knees. Lt. MCGOWAN's control, good as it might have been was a scream. His overthrow at third was retrieved from the river. Lt. Col. MARTIN made the suggestion that Lt. PAST either get a refraction on his glasses or stay in the horseshoe pit during the athletic program.....Capt. SPIETH was also seen chopping at the third-one and looking like a wash woman on Saturday.

The Motor Pool Boys are doing a nice job of keeping the few beat-up vehicles in shape. They do so well, in fact, that the other night when a jeep was stolen from the pool, it was discovered there was no radiator or fan on the thing. We are still wondering how far it got!

90th Chippo & Chatter

UN-INCORPORATED: "Turkington Enterprises" has now grown from one hen to three--two roosters & one monkey. Wonder what he will guise next? Ask the Voice.

WHO-WHAT: Which Captain seen playing with his "Yo-Yo", received in a Xmas package, was told he is an astute player at same. (Could it be the Adj?)

HOT SHOT: The "Tom Edison" of the electrical department seems to be deriving his power from silver and gold league since he is seen quite often in the company of same. The three stitches were acquired how? Must have been due to the stoppage of some high frequency. Watch out for your nose next time Sarg.

CAN'T WAIT: Sgt. Gunter of the culinary seems to be sweating out his "abdominal supporter". And if it dosen't arrive soon he may sweat that extra pouch away!

AWARDED: Sgt. Patliwitz has finally received his "Oat Meal Medal" with the "3 Raisin Clusters" and is awaiting his next campaign. One more such participation in the mess and he will be entitled to the "Coffee Drip Citation." Good luck Sgt.--a better "drip" cannot be found.

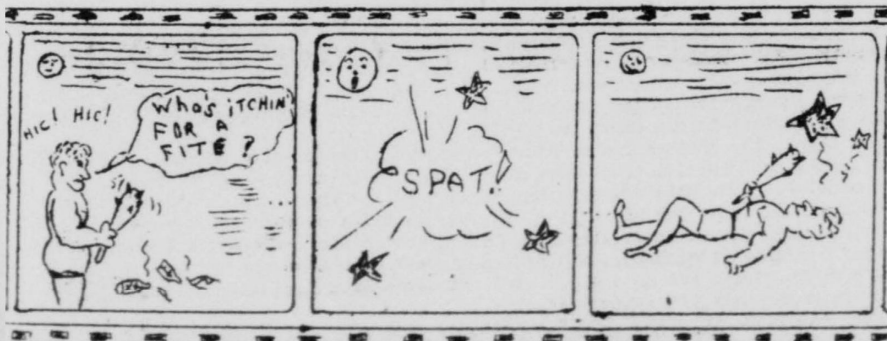
OLD STORY: "Orderly Room" Ashcroft has been heard bellowing forth once again. This time giving T/Sgt. Freedman the tin ear on the subject or going home. The "Wise Owl" says wise-up Ash, your turn will come...

FLASH!! "Revetment time Loretta" takes to the air while crew chief Singleton dreams of seeing three football games in one night. Any scores Sgt?

HAPPY RETURNS: I was asked to insert this anniversary request for T/Sgt. Freedman for his three years overseas completed and his fourthcoming birthday soon. Will someone send him a replacement so he can go home?

LITTLE JOE, The Pittsburgh Kid " OPEN CITY " By Whozit

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CONTEST WINNER: POEM

The Captain said "Ah-tanchion":
 You boys fall in line,
 You're here six months Plus-
 To take orders of mine.
 They call us mechanics;
 The name is just right,
 We don't do much working,
 But how we can Gripe!
 They give us such numbers
 As convicts should wear--
 They work us like slaves
 And raise "h_l" if we care.

So give me my airplane,
 And I'll work away;
 To earn my one dollar
 And three meals a day.

I went up to the Colonel
 To ask for a leave;
 To go to Manila,
 And get on a hot spree.
 The Colonel then answered,
 "Your duties are here,
 To work in the kitchen-
 And not to drink Beer."

I have counted the trees,
 I've counted the stars--
 I've saluted ten-million
 Of those little brass bars.
 When I was still working,
 I said to my Boss,
 "I will come back to you
 When the dew turns to Frost."

But promise me Darling,
 That you will be mine--
 Six months plus Duration,
 Is a mighty long time!
 --Sgt. Edward C. Olds.

"DEVIL'S OWN"

IT'S A FACT: There is a certain gunner (S/Sgt) that while awaiting orders home to come thru, has been seen selling shoe laces. All that we have been wondering is if he takes his customers inside to show the French Post Cards.

POST WAR PLANS: T/Sgt. Joe Burns and Pfc Bill Bailey plan on selling eels in Greasy Ridge, Ohio. It is the result of having been sold by a Boob McNutt. We believe the boys have at long last found their niche, and their Post War problem has been solved.

SWEET THINGS: The latest fade has resulted in the blossoming out of several Kharacters in Blue that would put the Sky to shame. But wait, don't jump the gun--we could be wrong! Their entré in Lavender Pants will be the clincher.

BAY WINDOWS: The others in Cpl. E. Heliste's tent have been sweating out that Bay Window since he has been noticed reading The Ladies Home Journal.

BOBBY SOCKS: For membership in the Frank Sinatra Club see Sgt. R. Tibbetts who has written numerous fan letters on the subject; the latest to Life.

HUMERS: Sgt Chas. (Hairless) Gillim, the Kentucky moonshiner and Cpl. Norman (Silent) Berube, New Hampshire's gift to the women, have been harmonizing duet style as Blues Singers. "Hum 'em boys."

CHANEY CHASES CHUMPS, CHICANERY IS CHARGED: Lt. R.E (Luck not Lon) Chaney the dog fancier, has been pulling in the pots in those social games that take place each evening--also won the toss for the chance to go to Sidney. Lt E. Alley was the chap who came out 2nd best.....

Immortal Characters of World War II

Here, according to The Jungle Echo, is a description of types to be found in every outfit. The Echo describes 'em and says every man can fit names of his own knowledge:

The cigarette moocher who dosen't smoke enough to buy a pack...the guy who receives so much mail that you suspect he writes to himself...the handshaker who "airs" the officers to the n'th degree....the incorrigible crasher of chow lines.

The Bunk Fatigue Expert who outdoes Rip Van Winkle...the spinner of tall tales about mythical blondes, free scotch and super roadsters...the rumor monger who bores you with his latest private info...The "fade away" artist from details..the politician who cultivates the important non-coms....the Perennial Private who rejected six stripes in his previous outfit.

THEN theres the collector who flashes numerous bathing suit snapshots hijacked from unwilling girls....the cheerful personality in the ranks at reville....the bored oldster...the Whiskerless youngster...the Joe whose new stripes blind him to old friends....the Chronic Griper who relates tales of relentless persecution.

The sickbock equestrian....the Big-Time-Operator who's always just winning or dropping a couple of hundred...the Stooge who's the butt of all the wisecracks...the guy who's always got an angle....And the frustrated Casanova who can't figure out these unfriendly (Filipino?) gals....

[If you're an honest GI, you'll probably find yourself in this list.]

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BUDDIES MEET - (Cont'd. from Page 3)
 from Philippine bases, the "Reapers" in their familiar A-20 Boston attack planes are a pleasant sight to their brothers-in-arms, the Infantry, who are slugging it out along the far flung battle front from Mindanao to Formosa.

Before joining the Air Corps in August, '41, DuBois lived with his parents in Mishawaka, Ind. He wears the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the European-African-Middle East Campaign Ribbon with four bronze stars, and the American Defense Service Ribbon.

Sgt. Woodward is from Fort Stockton, Texas. He joined the Air Corps in January, 1942, and for his former overseas service wears the Air Medal with Silver Cluster, and the European-African-Middle East Campaign Ribbon with Silver Star. For their service in this theater both men will wear the South West Pacific Campaign Ribbon and Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

BEHIND THE SCENES

The personality kid, Glickman, is susceptible to rumors, since Plumley has left. Meyer is wide open, but, beware, the contagion can spread. So lay off the bait.

"Static" still has only the one mission to his credit, since he no longer rides to the line.

"Tiger" McCaskey, besides the horrible job of sweating out the mail, is doing a bit of wondering also. The most current thought is his doubtfulness of not hearing from "Billie". The impression he left with her must have ascertained him as a low-lifer.

Boys in Tent D-4, woke up in heaven, or so they thought, the other morning when two lovely Filipino belles stood just outside. The girls were waiting on their brother to finish his chores; and the house boy surprised the foursome by saying "I got five sisters". Ulmer's description of the female company still brings a deep sigh.

The Officers volleyball team beat the 90th Officers on their own court. Vice-versa were the results last week, so it looks like the feud is on.

UNITED STATES CONGRESSMEN WILL STUDY PERMANENT PACIFIC BASES

A congressional study of America's post-war defense needs in the Pacific has been voted by the house naval affairs committee. A seven man subcommittee was appointed to survey all island bases with particular attention to those which have been operated under Japanese mandate since World War I.

SAFETY FIRST





News Parade

South Bend, Ind.--Melvin Thornton, 68, was told to prove his citizenship when he applied for a war plant job here. From his pocket he whipped out a copy of the Declaration of Independence, signed by his great grandfather, Mathew Thornton.

Brooklyn--Mrs. Danny Tierney lost an assault case against her husband after testifying in court he had slammed her in the face with a 5-pound steak. "Here's the evidence?" the judge demanded of her. "The children retrieved and ate it," admitted Mrs. Tierney. "Case dismissed," ruled the judge.

Bridgeport, Conn.--John Plavkin, a weary retail butcher, hung a cow's tail above his refrigerator and attached a sign announcing: "That's all that's left of the cow. No meat--But plenty of potatoes."

Freeport, Ill.--William Ott, 86, has written a will asking that he be cremated and his ashes buried in an old tomato can alongside the graves of his two pet dogs. Ott is considered an eccentric down Freeport way because during 60 years in the tobacco business, he has never sold a cigarette. "I just don't like the damn things; that's all," he says frequently.

Hornell, N.Y.--A local gentleman applied for a marriage license here. But when he was informed that the license cost \$2, however, he changed his mind. "Taint worth it," he remarked!

SPORTS SECTION

It Joseph R Hunt, USN, 1943 national men's singles tennis champion, was killed recently when his fighter plane crashed at sea off Daytona Beach, Fla., during a routine gunnery practice flight. Naval officials reported that Hunt's F6F went into a spin from 10,000 feet while he was making a run on a target pulled by another plane. He never came out of the spin...

Walker Cooper, Cardinal catcher, was accepted for military service at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, and is awaiting his call...

Welterweight "Sugar" Ray Robinson, 148, scored a unanimous ten-round decision over middleweight Jake Lamotta, 158, in Madison Square Garden, for Sugar's third win in their four meetings. Lamotta handed him his only defeat two years ago...

McGonigle Brannick, genial secretary of the New York Giants, who's been rooting for that club since it moved into New York, predicted that Carl Hubbell, greatest lefthander in the team's history, is on the brink of an entire new career. Brannick says the old screwballer is destined to become one of the game's top farm executives.

.....(CNS)



Cock Fights

The 89th scored a giant comeback in last weeks cock fight results taking three wins out of four entries.

In the first match, Tramp Tom inflicted his Irish Meschete into the 89th rooster in the first few seconds of the fight. The bout was called due to the undue advantage claimed by TT's owner.

The next two bouts also went to the Co-Op Farm taking wins over Capt. Robinsons bird who dissappeared under the fence and Cpl. Wrights "Grim Reaper", who staged a poor comeback.

The fourth fight between "Champ" of the Co-Op Farm clipped "Robbie" of Gp., although he received "congratulatory honors, posthumously".

The sad Group betters in an outrageous force of betting power, placed all money left (including poker antes) on the "Colonel", against the entry from the 503rd paratrooper unit. Thanks to the eventual change of affairs, betters 'welled' themselves in the final bout of the day.

B-L-U-E-B-E-A-R-D

F Van '12, 58, a street car conductor currently under the glass for morbid polygamy, said all he was looking for "was a home and contentment" when he married eight wives... "or maybe 11."