

Germans 20 Miles Into Belgium

461 Planes Destroyed in Luzon Raids

The three-day air and naval strikes against Luzon, which served as a prelude to Friday's invasion of Mindoro to the south, were disclosed yesterday to have knocked out 461 Jap aircraft and sunk 28 enemy ships, including four destroyers and two destroyer escorts.

Details of the Luzon blows were given at Pearl Harbor by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz as the Mindoro invaders continued to forge ahead without meeting ground resistance. Gen. MacArthur's HQ announced, however, that 23 Jap planes were destroyed by AA fire and interceptors in attacks on the Allied beachhead and shipping.

According to official reports from the Philippines, the total of enemy planes destroyed in actions over the islands in the last week was 742. This figure includes the toll taken by both Army and Navy fliers. Maj. Richard Bong, of Poplar, Wis., top American ace, accounted for his fortieth enemy plane destroyed.

Nimitz said that another 66 ships were damaged, adding, however, that reports are still not complete concerning the raids on Manila Bay and other Luzon targets.

On Leyte, 77th Division doughboys seized an airdrome nine miles from captured Ormoc in a drive up the so-called Ormoc Corridor toward a junction with the 32nd Division, pressing south. In between the two U.S. forces are thousands of enemy troops.

Reports from Mindoro said the Yanks had counted 905 abandoned Jap dead in moving north from the San Jose beachhead which was established with what dispatches described as unprecedented ease. Capture of airfields in this area put Manila within a half-hour's flying time.

King Against Greek Regency

King George of the Hellenes, now in London, was reported Tuesday to be against the proposed regency for Greece, claiming it would be a concession to the ELAS (resistance) party. The King was said to have asked all parties to condemn the ELAS as "the rebellion of a minority," and to have suggested Greece should become a "democracy with a king."

Maj. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, was still waiting meanwhile for the long-expected ELAS reply to his peace terms.

Fighting in and around Athens continued, with the British mopping up pockets of resistance along the supply road between Athens and the port of Piraeus. The British were trying to get reinforcements to an RAF garrison, isolated and attacked by 600 ELAS men near the capital.

Draft Upped to 80,000 Monthly

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (Reuters)—The War Department has requested Selective Service Headquarters to increase the number of inductions into the Army from 60,000 to 80,000 a month for January and February, it was announced today.

GI Backfield in Motion

Yanks Bucking Siegfried Line Find It's No Picnic

By Boyd Lewis

United Press Correspondent

INSIDE GERMANY, 300 Yards From Siegfried Line, Dec. 19—You feel embarrassed dropping in on the boys at a time like this. People are dashing out of the big red-roofed house carrying maps and telephones. The lieutenant seems to have a lot on his mind and doughboys are standing around in a welter of broken glass talking with tremulous voices.

They direct you down the cellar stairs and you fumble in the dark, through a corridor where the medics are attending to one boy with a pretty bad splinter in his neck. You find the captain hunched over a field telephone just off the coal bin. He is saying, "Knocked the corner right off the command post, Sir. Broke every window in the building. With your permission, we are getting the hell out of here right now, Sir."

This is no time to be bothering the captain. The lieutenant pauses long enough to tell you, "Yes, Jerry's 300 yards down the road. Our TDs are hammering his pillboxes just down that dirt road past the pines. Yes, that's the Siegfried Line. You've found it and we're working on it. Just four minutes ago, Jerry landed a heavy-caliber shell smack on the corner of this command post."

Before you can grab his name, the

After Lunch, Germany—and No Siesta



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo
Troops of the Seventh Army gather before a huge Maginot fort near the German border north of Climbach. One in foreground, with K-rations, looks for a quiet place for lunch. Shortly after this photograph was taken the doughboys struck out through the Wissembourg Forest and entered the Reich.

B29s Strike Jap Air Plant

China-based Superforts struck in medium strength at industrial targets on Kyushu, southernmost Jap island, Tuesday, the War Department announced at Washington.

Earlier Tuesday, B29s bombed Shanghai and Nanking, obtaining hits on docks and engineering works.

It was the second successive day of B29 attacks against the enemy homeland, Saipan bombers having bombed Nagoya on Monday, when the Mitsubishi aircraft plant was hit by about 100 raiders, which were reported officially to have scored excellent results and destroyed or damaged 11 enemy planes aloft.

Tokyo radio said between 30 and 40 planes made Tuesday's raid, concentrating on the Omura area, also an aircraft center.

Jap-Made Bombs Used to Bomb Japs

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Japanese are now being hit with "Made in Japan" bombs.

Ordnance officers said some Japanese bombs captured at Tarawa have been used by American planes in raids on Nipponese islands.

Nazi Scorns U.S. Aid To PWs As 'Weakness'

BERNE, Dec. 19 (AP)—A story reaching Switzerland today told of German prisoners in France watching American medical men loading wounded on hospital planes. Noting that the most critically wounded were given priority, regardless of nationality, one of the Germans said:

"But you are loading some of our men ahead of your own. Why not let them die?"

The officer in charge said that was only human kindness.

"You Americans are crazy," the German snorted. "Your action is only a sign of democratic decadence."

Nazi Counter-Attacks Force Back 8th Army

ALLIED HQ, Italy, Dec. 19 (Reuters)—German tank-led counter-attacks against Eighth Army forces fanning out into the Lombardy plain north of Faenza forced the Allied troops back yesterday to the Rimini-Bologna railway line running north of the city.

Counter-attacks also were launched against the Canadian bridgehead over the Naviglio canal, north of Bagnacavallo,

Forts Batter Nazi Rail Points

In an effort to block choke-points on road and rail routes carrying supplies and reinforcements for counter-attacking German forces along the U.S. First Army front, more than 300 Fortresses of the Eighth Air Force attacked road and rail junctions in western Germany Tuesday.

The heavies pounded their targets, located in a line from Trier north to Gemund, in adverse weather.

Eighth Thunderbolts ran into 20 FW190s east of the Rhine and shot down three.

Also in daylight Tuesday, RAF Lancasters struck at Trier, near the frontier between Germany and Luxembourg.

MAAF heavy bombers continued their assault on German oil installations for the fourth straight day, again attacking targets at Blechhammer in Silesia.

Other heavies pounded rail yards in Germany, Austria and northern Yugoslavia, and an objective in the Vienna area.

Poles Welcome U.S. Statement

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (Reuters)—Jan Ciechanowsky, the Polish ambassador, last night welcomed the U.S. government's statement on the Russo-Polish boundary question as "entirely in line with what we had hoped for as a definition of the American attitude."

"This declaration places the whole matter in the right light and focus, because it stresses what we regard as the most important of all points, namely, that the U.S. government stands unequivocally for a strong, free and independent Polish state, with the untrammelled right for the Polish people to order their international existence as they see fit."

The U.S. position, as outlined by Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr., was that the so-called partitioning of Poland to give Russia a slice of eastern Poland would be satisfactory to America if the Poles themselves assented.

Reds on Czech Line On a 70-Mile Front

While bad weather continued to aid German defenders of Budapest, Red Army troops advancing northward through Hungary have reached the Czechoslovak border along a 70-mile front, piercing it at a number of points, the Soviet communique announced yesterday.

A Reuter dispatch reported a flying column of Red troops within 16 miles of Kosice, in eastern Slovakia, while other Russian forces moved from the south on the manufacturing town, which commands several routes to southern Poland.

1st Battles To Seal Off Holes in Line

Although the security ban on news of the First Army's counter-measures against the all-out German drive into Belgium and Luxembourg remained in effect Tuesday, reports of Allied air operations against an enemy half-track column west of Stavelot indicated that the Nazis had penetrated at least 20 miles into Belgium. Stavelot is that distance from the frontier and about 22 miles southeast of Liege.

An Associated Press dispatch from a correspondent with the First Army, filed Tuesday, said Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges had sent in infantry and tanks in a move to stabilize the front against the enemy's armored thrusts from above Monschau down to Echternach, in southern Luxembourg.

German panzers had driven a deep salient into the U.S. lines south of Monschau and were still probing into Belgium, although the attack had been held along the flanks, thus channelizing the enemy attempt, the dispatch said.

The German air force was making its greatest bid since Normandy, attacking both night and day. Allied airmen were up in force, too, scoring heavily on both enemy fliers and on ground transport and armor.

Beyond trumpeting reports that Hitler himself had planned the German counter-



offensive, enemy broadcasts contained little information of actual progress, saying only that the operation was going according to plan and that the American defenses had been disorganized. Thus, in effect, both sides were silent on what really was happening along the 60-mile front.

Resistance along both the Third and Seventh Army fronts, where the Americans were fighting into the Saar's Siegfried defenses, was reported to have stiffened.

Apparently with the purpose of keeping the Americans on the hop all along the line, the Germans were reported to be throwing everything they could at the Seventh Army, firing from pillboxes, casemates and trenches. Some pillboxes behind the first row of dragon's teeth anti-tank ditches have been knocked out by American guns. In addition to the Siegfried artillery, enemy guns on the east bank of the Rhine were reported firing against the Americans, who gave tit for tat, concentrating principally on the important Rhine center of Karlsruhe.

With the Germans flowing back into what a few days ago was "liberated" (Continued on page 4)

Norden-Sight Firm Indicted

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (UP)—A Federal grand jury has indicted the Carl Norden Co. and another engineering firm on charges of conspiring to slow down production of the Norden bomb sight and impeding supervision of its manufacture by the U.S. Navy.

The Norden company is charged with deliberately providing a sub-contractor, Remington and Rand, with incomplete and inaccurate specifications in order to retain for itself the complete manufacturing control of the bomb sight.

Four officials of the two companies also are indicted.

Carl Norden himself, inventor of the sight, is not involved. He is no longer connected with the Norden company.



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo
In the Wissembourg Forest, north of Climbach, the first men of the Seventh Army enter Germany by crossing a small stream. Thus, without drama or fanfare, the Fourth American Army entered Hitler's Reich.

lieutenant is off on urgent business, but a bunch of excited GIs, who I guess won't mind my saying that they are plenty scared because they said so themselves, helped fill the picture.

"I was just eating my chow when it landed," said Pfc Joseph Cueto, of Bridgeport, Conn. "Boy, are my ears

still ringing! It landed with a hell of a smack and a window came down all over my rations. Nuts, I says, I'll eat my Sunday dinner when we get moved to a safer place. Looks like we got a little too far forward this trip."

The communique probably will say (Continued on page 4)

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NOTE: Lack of space forces us to limit
all letters published to not more than 200
words.—Ed.

'Let's Get Tough'
Dec. 5, 1944

To the B-Bag:
Since Germany obviously intends to
contest each inch of German soil, we feel
the time has come to show them no mercy.
In the past months our Air Force has
been contented to attack military instal-
lations (oil depots, etc.), yet today we
read reports that German oil output for
November broke their records.
We do not mention this as a reflection
on our Air Force but as a proof that the
German industries must be well under-
ground or highly mobile.
The Germans have shown us the "shape
of things to come." Do we doubt for a
moment that they would give our cities
the same treatment that the English cities
have received if it were practical for them
to do so?
We propose that day after day, night
after night our planes level to the ground
those cities that lay in the path of our
ground forces.
To ease the conscience of those who
object to this plan for moral reason, we
believe that this steady, constant pressure
will result in a much speedier end to this
day-by-day loss of blood and lives.—
H. C. G., Ord. Co.

How to Lick Mud
Dec. 3, 1944

To the B-Bag:
In regard to your page-long harangue on
"General Mud," we find the suggestions
everything but useful. Such helpful hints
are perhaps of value to the driver who
occasionally skids off the Red Ball High-
way and dirties a tire, but they are almost
worthless to the driver who has to contend
with cross-country operation in water-
logged terrain.
The delivery of gas and ammunition to
tanks on the line necessitates taking fully
loaded six by six trucks through fields
where the top soil has already been
churned by tracked vehicles.
We have found a long cable and a winch
to be the only sure solution. However,
now that front line vehicles carry eight
filled sandbags on the floor of the cab,
we suggest that sufficient sandbags be
made available so that the driver need
feel no reluctance to use his full sandbags
as a means of providing roadbed in
an emergency.—Three Transportation
Officers, — Armored Regt.

Occupation Army
Dec. 18, 1944.

To the B-Bag:
Will someone please remind Dr. Ernest
A. Hooton, who proposes that men over
45 should be in an occupational army,
that the last generation has had its war.
If we have anything to say about it, our
fathers and mothers will stay in their
homes for the rest of their natural lives.
Give Dr. Hooton a medal for bravery,
but this generation can finish the war they
have been fighting.—Five Convalescents,
Armored Infantry.

For New Veterans' Group
Dec. 9, 1944

To the B-Bag:
Thanks to the naval lieutenant for his
endorsement and enthusiasm for a new
veterans' group and for his submission
of "The Crusaders" as a name.
If we, the men of this war, can sponsor
such a program for ourselves, we will not
only have something in common with the
veterans of other wars, but we will have
a new group founded on ideas generated
from men of this war and functioning for
the benefit of the men of this war and
their families.
I propose an authorization from proper
officials for an undertaking of such a
movement.
Here is a suggestion for a slogan or
motto for such an organization, "Dum
Vivimus, Vivamus," from the Latin mean-
ing, "While we live, let us live." Also I
think this would be a good name,
"Veteran American Vanguarders" (VAV).

'Hash Marks'
Dec. 14, 1944.

To the B-Bag:
For several months I have been
bothered by the non-existent deliveries
of several magazines which I am a sub-
scriber of, to wit: Readers' Digest, New
Yorker, &c. No doubt thousands of The
Stars and Stripes readers are plagued with
the same trouble.
To all of you, and countless other
potential subscribers, heed my advice:
Read "Hash Marks" and you won't miss
a thing.—Sgt. Benjamin Sirota, — Bomb
Sq.

Hash Marks

Paris-simile. As pointless as yelling
"Take it off" at the Folies Bergere.
* * *
Fun at the front. A general sent his
helmet to a utility section to have it
varnished and polished. The GIs worked
like beavers on the steel chapeau but the
general wasn't satisfied—he called for
"more polish." "Sir, that's as slick as
we can get it," said one GI. At that
moment a fly lit on the helmet—slid and
broke four legs. The general accepted the
helmet.
* * *
How to lick combat fatigue. We
dropped into a French barber shop for a
quick haircut and next to us sat a rough,



tough sergeant just in on pass from his
combat outfit. And he was really shoot-
ing the works. Haircut, shave, oil
shampoo, manicure—and when we left,
a lovely blonde was applying a green mud-
pack to his ruddy puss.
* * *
Booby trap: "Oh, come on, buddy, sit
in for a few hands. We only play for
low stakes."
* * *
The sergeant was putting his men
through an extra-long, extra-vigorous
period of calisthenics. During a tiresome
arm exercise a mournful voice whispered,
"What does this develop?" "Hatred,"
boomed a voice in the rear.
* * *
Secret weapon department. Cpl.
Everetts Wixie and Pfc Stubblefield of a
field artillery battalion have a suggested



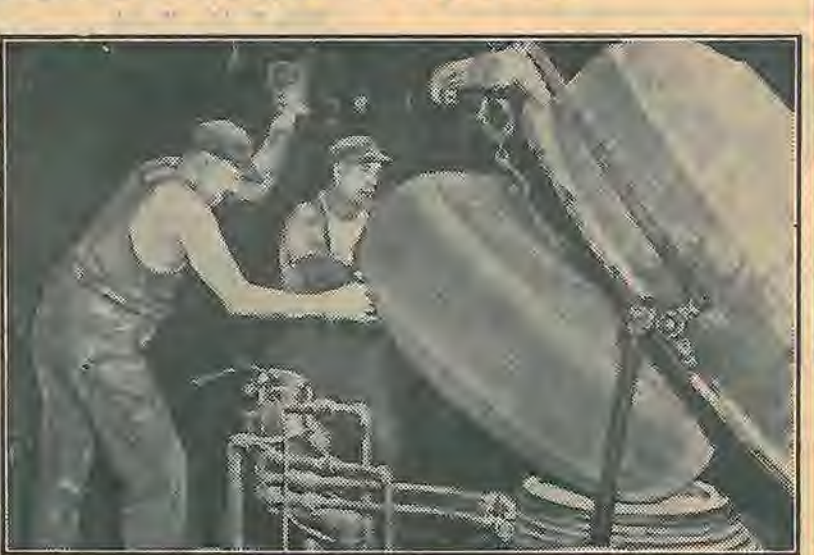
improvement on existing bombs and
robot bombs. While opening heated
cans of C-rations they frequently find that
the explosion is so great that the escaping
steam forces the can on a mid-air flight.
They recommend arming Cub planes
with C-ration cans under each wing—
ready to fire armor-piercing beans at any
target.
* * *
Comment by a guy gnawing on canned
rations: "A girl friend of mine is down
in the dumps—and eating better than I
am."
J. C. W.

UP FRONT WITH MAULDIN



"Tell them prisoners to ack sloppier in front of th' lieutenant. He might start gittin' ideas."

Home Sweat Home



TALKING about rumor, the
home front has come in for
its share. We've heard about
strikes letting the soldier down.
About labor lousing up supply.
About the boys and gals on the
assembly lines goofing off and
gold-bricking behind the tool shed.
About the night clubs booming,
the wives playing, the customers
bitching. About ornery no-account
4Fs holding down soft berths and
drawing folding dough while we
sweat it out over here.
* * *
Maybe some of us are building
up a fat little grudge against Rosie
the riveter, Bill the business man
and Fred the farmer. If so, maybe
we ought to check the rumors
against the truth, and see whether
our gripes come out of real life or
Joe Goebbels' latrine.
* * *
We think the facts are on every
road from Cherbourg, Rouen and
Antwerp to the front. They're in the
air above. They're out in the open for
every fair-minded man to see. In a
four-year record of toil and
sweat. A record that, stripped of
rumor and writing, reads like this:
* * *
Planes More than
Tanks 250,000
Trucks 100,000
Small arms ammo 40,000,000 rounds
Machine guns 2,000,000
Rifles and carbines 10,000,000
Sub-machine guns 2,000,000
Aircraft bombs 3,500,000 tons
Artillery ammo 2,500,000 tons
* * *
American farms—manned by a
million fewer workers—produced
28 per cent more food in 1943 than
before the war—and 45 per cent
more food than farmers produced
in World War I.
* * *
Shipworkers are producing
22,000,000 tons of ships a year—
they've trebled their output since
1942.
* * *
Strikers didn't produce the ton
of supplies per man per month re-
ported the other day by Gen. Ross,
ETO Transportation Chief. Gold-
bricks didn't turn out the six
million long tons of food, weapons,
vehicles and ammo discharged in
2,800 cargo ships, according to his
report. Night club nifties and
lounge lizards didn't help to out-
produce the Axis four to one. The
102,000 workers didn't die and
350,000 weren't disabled playing
the horses.
* * *
The record shows that rumors

To the Men of the 8th AF Nissen Shanty, a Chanty
A Tune for the Unsung Service Commandos

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
EIGHTH AIR FORCE SERVICE
COMMAND HQ, Dec. 19—When you
see what these guys do around here you
wonder why in hell somebody hasn't
told you more about them. These "service
commandos," as they like to call them-
selves, do just about everything that needs
doing to keep the Eighth Air Force's
planes in the air and abattling. Which,
when you realize what the Eighth Air
Force is doing, is no small job.
These "service commandos" also like
to think of themselves as just about the
biggest undercover outfit in the war. They
don't yap about their job, and nobody
else yaps about it for them. Which is
all right with them. They have their own
feeling of pride in being the unsung,
unbemedaled, almost unknown heroes
behind the big show of the Eighth Air
Force.
For every Eighth Air Force plane in
the air there are 22 Service Command
personnel on the ground. They stick to
the ground—so that the planes can keep
to the air. They fall out of their Nissen
huts in the early dawn—and often it's



Col. James F. Early, of Worcester, Mass., a West Pointer, '23, who has just been assigned as commanding officer of Eighth Air Force Service Command.

One, they supply the Eighth Air Force.
Two, they maintain and repair all Eighth
Air Force planes and other equipment.
Simple. Supply means nothing more

AFN Radio Program

- On Your Dial**
1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.
218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.
Wednesday, Dec. 20
1200—World News.
1205—Duffie Bag.
1300—Headlines—Sports News.
1305—This is the Story.
1330—Downbeat, with Gordon Jenkins.
1400—Headlines—Visiting Hour.
1500—Headlines—German Lesson.
1505—Strike up the Band.
1530—On the Record.
1630—Great Moments in Music.
1700—Headlines—Melody Roundup.
1715—Amos 'n' Andy.
1740—Music in Three-Quarter Time.
1755—American Sports News.
1800—World News.
1805—Mark up the Map.
1810—GI Supper Club.
1900—Headlines—Take the Air (Eighth Air Force).
1930—Bandwagon.
1945—Strings With Wings.
2000—Headlines—Combat Diary.
2015—Johnny Mercer's Music Shop.
2030—British Band of the AEF.
2100—World News.
2105—Eddie Condon's Jazz Session.
2130—Bob Hope with Frances Langford, Jerry Colonna and Skinny Ennis.
2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
2205—Listen Characters.
2300—Final Edition.
Thursday, Dec. 21
0755—Sign On—Program Resume.
0800—Headlines—Combat Diary.
0815—Personal Album with Pinky Tomlin.
0830—Palm Court Orchestra.
0900—World News.
0905—Music in the Modern Manner.
0925—Waltz Time with Abe Lyman's Orchestra.
1000—Headlines—Morning After (Bob Hope).
1030—Strike up the Band.
1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
1105—Duffie Bag.

about the home front are mostly
unfounded. That strikes have cost
the war effort less than one-tenth
of 1 per cent of the total labor time
available since Dec. 7, 1941.
* * *
Next time we read about strikes
in the paper, let's remember that
old newspaper adage—"When man
bites dog it's news."
* * *
Next time we snipe at the folks
at home, let's think for a moment
whom we mean. Our fathers and
mothers, sisters and brothers, pals
and gals. As American as we are.
As eager to finish this war. As
famished for us as we are for
them.
* * *
Next time we wind up and let
fly at the home front, better duck.
Otherwise we're apt to clout our-
selves on the jaw.

than everything—from the tiniest screw
to a Flying Fortress completely equipped,
from flying suits and radio sets to medical
supplies and bombs.

Repair is just as simple. Two groups
of "service commandos" perform this
function. One group includes those sta-
tioned at operational bases. The other
comprises those working at large Service
Command depots. Minor repair jobs
are done at the bases. The tough jobs are
done at the depots.

In addition to its bases and depots in
the U.K., the Eighth Air Force Service
Command maintains air strips on the
Continent, not far behind the front lines.
Planes forced down for one reason or
another are given quick emergency ser-
vice or repair at these strips, which are
skeleton depots manned by mobile repair
units.

One character you don't meet up with
these days is the greaseball of the last
war, the baby who could repair any part
of an airplane from tip to tail. The com-
plex fighting machine of the air today
requires specialists in a hundred or more
fields—and these "service commandos"
are all specialists.

Early in the war, because of lack of
replacements through normal supply
channels, Service Command had to make
all wing repairs. From this grew the
policy of manufacturing wings at Ser-
vice Command depots here. No B17
wings ever have been shipped here from
the States. They have been built right
here, many of them from salvage. Thus,
precious cargo space is saved. Taper pins
—that hold the wings to the plane—are
one of the other many items manufactured
here.

Summing it all up, sort of, is a verse
one of the GIs here perpetrated.

Oh, we are the Service Commandos,
Grounded we are, but not cryin'.
For what good's the guy who has to fly
If we don't keep him flyin'?

Newman's
Yankee Doodles

'WHATCHA GONNA DO
AFTER THE WAR?



"I know what I'm gonna do—Raise a lot of spuds?"

Once Over Lightly

By Andy Rooney

NEW YORK, Dec. 19—This is the time of year when all sports columnists should curl up and maybe not die but at least hibernate and turn the space they have been using over to a good comic strip. Football is over and baseball hasn't started yet; basketball players are beginning to take their mid-year exams in college so few games are scheduled, and Gunder Haegg doesn't open his track season in the United States until Jan. 21 in Philly.

The only thing for sports writers to do is start reminiscing about Knute Rockne or Honus Wagner and hope someone is interested in hearing about the old boys until the curtain goes up again on the current sports stage. Here is everything we've heard about sports since the football season ended over the weekend:

WEST Point officials gave a wrist watch to every coach and player on the Army football team as a memento of the national championship. . . . Bob Hope paired with Olin Dutra to beat Bing Crosby and Willie Hunter four and three on the Long Beach (Cal.) golf course Sunday. . . . The Mike Delia-Cleo Shans bout was stopped in the seventh round and declared no contest in Hollywood night before last because they weren't fighting. . . . The Green Bay Packers each got slightly more than \$1,300 as their share of the championship money.

Curly Lambeau, Packer coach who is reported wanting to retire to the pipe, armchair and slipper life, may be sup-



Curly Lambeau

planted by End Don Hutson, who helped coach the Packers while he played this year. . . . Eugene Rogers, Columbia student, won the Metropolitan AAU 100 free-style swim title in 53.8 seconds and the 150 backstroke in 1:40.6 seconds.

GLENN Davis, the great Army All-America back who busted out of the Academy last December and got back in, has been told to confine his sports activities for the winter to track rather than basketball, which takes too much time from his studies. Dean Sensenbaur, former Ohio Stater with West Point, is also on the scholastic danger lists. . . . Al Helfer, who used to help Red Barber with the Dodger baseball broadcasts, has been discharged from the Navy as a lieutenant commander and has signed to a seven-year Hollywood contract. . . . Branch Rickey wouldn't let the Brooklyn Tiger football team accept liquor ads in its programs. . . . Red Grange got the highest salary ever paid a professional football player when they forked out \$100,000 the year he got out of Illinois.

Some are suggesting the football time limit should be removed and, as a substitute, limit the teams to 40 plays each period. . . . Maj. Frederic McLaughlin, former husband of Dancer Irene Castle, died Sunday in Chicago. In his youth he was quite a polo player and had been a great sportsman all his life. . . . Ray Robinson, late of the Army, fights with his fists against George Martin in the Boston Garden Friday night. . . . John Strzykowski, of the Second Air Force Superbombers, was in the Polo Grounds once before Saturday's game. The last time he was there he ran 93 yards for a Marquette touchdown against Manhattan in 1942.

CAGE RESULTS

Bowling Green 65, Romulus A. Base 50
Bunker Hill 43, Loras 40
Concordia 27, Waupun 22
DePaul 66, Chicago Navy Radio 28
Drake 63, Carleton 23
Hamline 66, River Falls Teachers 29
Haverford 55, Johns Hopkins 37
Kansas State 65, Rockhurst 35
Missouri 50, Westminster 35
Ohio State 64, Utah 36
St. George 43, Joliet 33

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, The Stars and Stripes, 37, Upper Brook St., London, W.1, or APO 413, U.S. Army. Telephone U.K. Base HQ, Ext. 2131.

APOs Wanted

HUBERT JOHNSON: Aubrey KEAGH, Scotland Neck, N.C.; S/Sgt. Jim McGAHEY, Pic Arthur, SPITLER, L. Howard H. WEXLER, Los Angeles; Sgt. Steven MILETICH, Minnesota; S/Sgt. Arthur KIRKICK, Mechanicville, N.Y.; WAC Yvonne LAURENT, Albany, N.Y.; Sgt. Paul POLLIO: S/Sgt. Raymond TALLMAN, Ridgefield, Wash.; Lt. John HARMON, Cleveland; Lt. Wilman EAGLIN, ANC, Madison, Ind.; S/Sgt. John H. JOHNSON, St. Louis, Mo.; Harry EASLEY, Chicago.

Wanted

GOOD exposure meter—Weston or GE preferred.—Cpl. Robinson.
Overcoat Mix-up
WILL Sgt. Clifford W. Anderson please contact me concerning overcoat mix-up at Hans Crescent Club.—Sgt. William D. Rogers.

Found

A. Boris Bernstein, portfolio containing personal papers and photographs has been found belonging to you. American Red Cross, Royal West of England Academy, Queen's Road, Bristol 8.

Rose Bowl Routine for Them



These three stalwarts on the Southern California team will be answering the whistle for the second time when this year's Rose Bowl game against Tennessee gets underway. All were on the Trojan starting lineup last year. Left to right are: Duane Whitehead, fullback; John Ferraro, left tackle, and Jim Callanan, right end.

Blue Devils, Despite Record, Threat to Tide in Sugar Bowl

RALEIGH, N.C., Dec. 19—The Duke Blue Devils are the first football team in bowl history to be invited to a post-season game with four defeats on their record, but at that they are going into the Sugar Bowl game at New Orleans as the favorite over Alabama's Crimson Tide.

After weathering the toughest football schedule played by any college team all year, Coach Eddie Cameron's eleven poses a neat problem for

Alabama's Frank Thomas because, despite defeats by Army, Navy, North Carolina Pre-Flight and Penn, they have no outstanding weakness.

Except when overwhelmed by Army or Navy manpower, the Duke line held its own all year. And in Duke's high-geared backfield Alabama will have to keep close watch on "Doctor" Gordon Carver and Tom Davis, both of whom have been given honorable mention on several All-America elevens this year.

Tom Davis, considered the south's best back by many, is a veteran of Duke's 1942 transplanted Rose Bowl game against Oregon State at Durham. He was a unanimous choice for the All-Southern backfield, won the Southern Conference blocking trophy, had a 40-yard punting average, completed half his passes and scored 48 points. His average gain was 3.4 yards in 137 rushing attempts.

Other backs in the starting lineup are plunger Johnny Kriska and George Clark, a speedster. Clark averaged six and a half yards per try, while Kriska is the most dependable first-down gainer.

From end to end the line is strong and has drawn praise from Army and Navy mentors, who know a good line when they see one.

Nelson Voted 'Athlete of Year'

NEW YORK, Dec. 19—Byron Nelson, Toledo, Ohio, golf professional, today was voted the athlete of the year by 79 sports writers polled by the Associated Press.

Although the scribes scattered their votes among 40 different athletes, 16 first-place votes were cast for Nelson, who in 78 rounds of golf this year has averaged slightly under 70 strokes. Martin "Slat" Marion, sensational shortstop of the St. Louis Cardinals, gave Nelson the closest run, polling 14 first-place ballots. Other members of the "Big Ten" finished in the following order: Les Horvath, Ohio State quarterback; Hal Newhouser, Detroit pitcher; Buddy Young, Illinois sprinter and football player; Felix Blanchard, Army fullback; Arne Anderson, Swedish runner; Don Hutson, Green Bay end; Glenn Davis, Army halfback; and Bill Dudley, Randolph Field back.



BYRON NELSON

Adam Walsh Takes Notre Dame Football Post

BRUNSWICK, Me., Dec. 19—Adam Walsh, head football coach at Bowdoin College, said today he would go to Notre Dame as assistant line coach next year, but would return to Bowdoin as soon as the war is over. The former great Notre Dame center said the leave of absence granted him by Bowdoin last fall had been continued, and that he would teach in the physical education department at Bowdoin when not at South Bend.

Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune



Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features



L.A. Pro Eleven Signs Bertelli

HOLYOKE, Mass., Dec. 19—Angello Bertelli, who sparked Notre Dame's T-formation attack in '43 and is now a Marine lieutenant in the South Pacific, has signed to play professional football with the Los Angeles club of the All-America Conference after the war. Bertelli was signed by the Boston Yankees of the National League, but entered the service before he had a chance to strut his stuff with the pros.

Bertelli, in a letter to his wife here, said he had accepted a lucrative contract from the Los Angeles club when the Yanks failed to contact him.

Cifers, Madarik to Play Post-War Ball With Lions

DETROIT, Dec. 19—The Detroit Lions of the National Football League have signed Backs Bobby Cifers and Elmer Madarik to post-war contracts. Both were members of Randolph Field's undefeated team this season.

Cifers, former Tennessee star, shared a halfback spot with Bill Dudley, and Madarik, who played at Detroit University under Gus Dorais, present Lions' coach, was a starter. Both will join the Lions at the conclusion of their military service.

Steelers Hold Dudley

NEW YORK, Dec. 19—Bert Bell of the National Football League's Pittsburgh Steelers, who combined this season with the Chicago Cardinals, announced today that Randolph Field's great Bill Dudley had signed another contract with the Steelers and would report after the war. Dudley played one year with Pittsburgh before entering the Army.

No Player Draft for U.S. Loop

AKRON, Ohio, Dec. 19—An entirely new procedure in the distribution of talent to member teams will be followed by the United States Football League, Harold "Red" Grange, league president, said today. The loop will maintain a scouting staff and all newly-signed players will go into a pool for distribution to different teams.

"We propose to establish a central scouting system, and scouts will select players and distribute them to various teams in the circuit with the main thought of keeping an even balance of power," the former Illinois Galloping Ghost said. "Under this plan of signing players the

league has abandoned the draft system which has worked to the disadvantage of professional football," Grange added.

Members agreed not to tamper with any player under contract to a team in the National Football League, but said they considered the National League's reserve list "open territory."

Five of the six teams in the loop—New York, Honolulu, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Chicago—are expected to start operating next fall with Washington entering action the following year. The Honolulu gridders probably will play out of Buffalo or Cincinnati until the end of the war.

By Chester Gould



By Al Capp



Walters Wins National League Mound Honors

NEW YORK, Dec. 19—Bucky Walters, Cincinnati Reds' right-handed pitcher, is generally regarded as the best night ball twirler in the business, and figures released today by the National League point up the fact that the past season he was about the best pitcher, day or night, in the circuit. Along with leading the National loop in victories for the third time this reformed infielder was the second best by .02 in the all-important earned-run averages.



The mainstay of the Rhineland pitching staff since '39 BUCKY WALTERS won 23 games in '44 and had an earned-run average of 2.40, second to Ed Heusser, who allowed 2.38 while racking up 13 victories and 11 defeats. Walters, with only eight setbacks, one of which was a three-hitter, duplicated his performances of '39 and '40, when he led the loop in victories.

Ace Adams, New York Giants' iron man from Iron City, Ga., paced the league's fingers in number of games pitched, appearing in 65 games, five fewer than his record of 70 in '43, while Bill Voiselle, Giant rookie from South Carolina, started the most games (41), pitched the most innings (313), faced the most batters (1,327), and fanned the most (161).

Card Staff Yielded 2.67 Earned Runs
The champion St. Louis Cardinals' staff led the circuit in earned runs with 2.67, while the Reds were next with 2.97.

Hal Gregg of Brooklyn had an imposing record of ineptitude. Gregg hit nine batters, walked 137, made ten wild pitches, allowed 142 runs, 120 of which were earned, and had a nine-game losing streak. Each of these performances set a league stan-

dard for the year. Ken Raffensburger of the Phillies lost 20 games to cart away the honors in that department.

Other marks: Mort Cooper of the Cards had the most shutouts (7); Jim Tobin of Boston hurled two no-hitters; Ted Wilks set a new rookie record with 11 straight victories while winning 17 and losing four to top the league in percentages with .810.

Sauerland Rainbow Victor

Fresh from a first-round kayo victory at Salisbury Friday night, Pvt. Erwin Sauerland, 180-pounder from Pittsburgh, took a hard-earned decision over Paratrooper Pvt. Bliss Croft, of Newark, N.J., 188-lb. in the feature event of last night's seven-bout Rainbow Corner ring show.

Pvt. Vince Padilla, San Bernardino, Cal., 127-pounder, notched his fourth straight Corner triumph in the co-feature, outpointing T/5 Louis Casiana, of New York, 130. And in the middleweight event Pvt. William Torrence, of Iowa City, Iowa, 169, had too much power for Pvt. Frank Brown of McAllister, Okla., 164.

Only bout which failed to go the limit saw Cpl. Ben Starns, 142-pounder from Monroe, N.C., TKO Cpl. Angelo Gallo, of New York, 140, when Gallo was unable to come out for the second.

In other bouts: Pvt. James Newell, Salem, Mass., 124, outpointed Pvt. LeRoy Richards, St. Joseph, Mo., 120.

Pvt. Charles Wells, Louisville, Ky., 137, outpointed Pfc Richard Eccard, Circleville, Ohio, 140.

Cpl. Roger Welty, Dubuque, Iowa, 153, outpointed Sgt. Roy Swann, Newport, Ark., 154.

In a wrestling match S/Sgt. Mike Meisnerich, Columbus, Ohio, 185, drew with Sgt. Tony Enos, New Bedford, Mass., 190.

Draft System Change Aids Pro Elevens

NEW YORK, Dec. 19—The National Football League, meeting in its annual post-playoff conclave, yesterday ironed out a few kinks in its system and made ready for the formal league get-together Jan. 10.

Principal action at today's meeting was changing the system whereby the low-ranking clubs get a better shake than the winning teams in the player draft. Hereafter, only clubs which failed to win four games will participate in the second and fourth round drafts.

First choice in next year's draft will be decided by the flip of a coin among the Pittsburgh Steelers, Chicago Cardinals and Brooklyn Tigers. The Card-Pitts combination was automatically dissolved when the season ended.

Elmer Layden, league commissioner, termed the action by baseball men last week in barring professional football from major league ballparks before the conclusion of the baseball season, "just a formal declaration of what had been an informal policy."

Back From the 'Dead'



International News Photo
Marine Sgt. Edward F. McQuillen is very much alive and glad to be back with his family. Here he fondly watches his mother iron his shirt. He was erroneously reported by the Navy Department as killed in action in the South Pacific when a fellow Marine was fatally injured by a mortar shell explosion in the foxhole which McQuillen had just vacated.

Life in Those United States

War Outlook Brings A Stock Market Boom

By Joe Fleming
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Dec. 19—The stock market, paced by aircraft, railroads and other "war babies," has smashed all records in the last few weeks and prices now are reported at a seven-year high peak.

Reason for the boom, according to observers, is the fact that the war looks like it will last through the winter, thus postponing the industrial peace reconversion. In contrast to the 1928-29 boom, when people bought chiefly on the margin, the greatest cash total in history is behind the present market.

The money, set aside as reserves to back bonds, &c., plus that in bank deposits, may bring to around \$90,000,000,000 the total in idle funds by the end of the year—almost twice the sum at the time of Pearl Harbor. It is estimated that cash in circulation now tops \$25,000,000,000.

Meantime, Christmas trade is reaching peak levels. Luxury goods particularly are in strong demand, while fashion accessories and apparel were reported registering the large sales gains over 1943.

Other items in heavy demand are costume and fine jewelry, lingerie, toys, handbags, gloves, hosiery, candy and food.

Cold Wave in East

NEW YORK, Dec. 19—Snow fell along most of the Eastern seaboard and was accompanied by freezing temperatures.

Unanimity

CUNDIYO, N.M., Dec. 19 (ANS)—Every family here—and there are only 20—bought a War Bond in the drive which ended Sunday.

Clean Songs Win Borderline Case for Polly

DERBY LINE, Vt., Dec. 19—Polly, the loquacious but non-cussing parrot of Mr. and Mrs. Ulric Cordeau, whose house stands squarely astride the U.S.-Canadian border, will be able to move from her Canadian kitchen to the family's American living room.

Mrs. Cordeau wrote the U.S. Public Health service asking permission to move Polly from kitchen to living room without violating quarantine regulations every time she did it. The law says parrots must be examined for communicable diseases before they are brought across the border.

"Because there isn't an off-color word in the aged parrot's large vocabulary, and because of her ability to sing snatches of popular songs, the bird will be welcomed into Derby Line as an exemplary citizen," local residents remarked.

Like and Dislike

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19 (ANS)—The Women's Press Club announced today its nominations for the best and least liked movie personalities.



BETTY GRABLE

Eligible for the club's golden-apple award were Marie Montez, Betty Hutton, Lucille Ball, Humphrey Bogart, Alan Ladd and Gregory Pick. Named as "non-co-operative and brush-offs" were Sonja Henie, Veronica Lake, Betty Grable, Lana Turner, Fred MacMurray, Errol Flynn and Walter Pidgeon.

'Twas the Drop Before Xmas—and Santa Made It

DETROIT, Dec. 19 (AP)—Army authorities here played Santa Claus today and gave Mrs. Barbara DeQuin a Christmas package from her soldier-husband in New Guinea. The package, bearing Mrs. DeQuin's address and attached to a small nylon parachute, apparently was dropped from a plane as it flew over Detroit.

The Army said Pvt. DeQuin apparently had given the parachute parcel to an unidentified pilot to drop over his home city.

The package contained a camera, a locket, two prayer books and a note saying, "Hi, sweetheart. I am sorry, but this will have to do as part of your Christmas present—I love you."

Ghost Town Loses Headstone

BOSSBURG, Wash., Dec. 19 (ANS)—This ghost mining town is to be denied of the companionship even of its dead. The village cemetery will be moved shortly by order of U.S. road engineers because of cave-ins along a river bank flanking the cemetery.

Youths Oppose Peace Draft

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (ANS)—More than 400 youths, aged 13-17, attending the New York Mirror's second annual youth forum voiced strong opposition yesterday to compulsory peace-time military training. At the same time, they demanded voting rights for 18-year-olds.

Big Jap Bag Balloons Into Montana Mystery

KALISPELL, Mont., Dec. 19 (AP)—The FBI admitted today it was baffled over a large Japanese balloon, found by a rancher in the snow near here. Made of paper, the balloon was 33½ feet in diameter and had a carrying capacity of 800 pounds.

Jap characters inscribed on the side indicated the balloon came out of a factory Oct. 31. The FBI said free-riding balloons had been known to travel 200 miles an hour, and winds in this area recently have been from the west and northwest.

Roosevelt Back After Vacation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19—President Roosevelt returned to the White House today a few pounds heavier and well tanned after three weeks' vacation at Warm Springs, Ga.

One of his first actions today was to intervene on the question in the current dispute over six State Department appointments now before the Senate. He spoke to opposition leaders, telling them he would renominate the same men, even if the Senate withheld confirmation.

Sen. Claude Pepper (D.-Fla.) disclosed later that Mr. Roosevelt had promised that any nominee who did not carry out Presidential policy would be removed instantly.

"In view of the President's assurance," Pepper said, "we feel nothing is to be gained by prolonging the discussions on these nominations."

Confirmation of the six, headed by Joseph E. Grew as undersecretary, was expected to be forthcoming within 24 hours.

Paulus in Plea To Germans

Field Marshal Friedrich von Paulus, Nazi commander captured at Stalingrad, and 49 other German general officers, in a message addressed to the people of the Reich, declared Tuesday that Germany had lost the war, Moscow Radio reported. The message, read over the Free German Committee's station in Russia, said:

"For the future of our fatherland we German generals, in the name of hundreds of thousands of German officers, are appealing to you, the German people, at the eleventh hour.

"We are following with great sorrow your desperate efforts and your costly defensive battles.

"Our whole nation has been thrown into this destructive battle. Never has a war brought so many misfortunes to our fatherland. Hitler has deceived our people with national and social promises and we, too, were deceived by him.

"We, too, were his blind instruments and became his victims. Since Stalingrad Hitler has brought us defeat after defeat. No hope is left for a change in the hopeless situation.

"Germany has lost the war."

8th AF Strategists Get Star Promotions

Promotion of two Eighth Air Force officers who help plan U.S. air strategy was announced last night at USSTAF headquarters. Orvil A. Anderson, 49, deputy commander for operations, becomes a major general, and Walter E. Todd, 37, deputy chief of staff for operations, a brigadier general.

Flat on His Back, Wounded GI Does a Sgt. York

Tall Talk Nets a Flock of Germans and Three Halftracks

By Earl Mazo
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THIRD ARMY, Dec. 19—If Cpl. Bill Barrett kept a diary of his tank destroyer activities in Europe his most eventful 24 hours would read something like this:

"Tonight a buddy and I were sleeping side by side when a mortar shell came in, killing him and cutting me up a little. I did not want the other fellows to come after me, because the shells were dropping plenty thick and they might get killed, so I played dead and they let me be.

"Late tonight a German patrol came along, though, and took me in. They put me on a tank which was soon knocked out. So I was carried to a ditch and put alongside a wounded German captain who looked like a sensible guy. He talked English, so I said, 'Look here, Mac, this fighting is over for you birds. You know both you and I would be much better off in American hands!'

"He thought about it for a while, then a report came that our men to throw away their guns and told me they were all my up his mind. The captain handed me his luger, called to his men to throw away their guns and told me they were all my prisoners.

"I waved my white undershirt and a bunch of Yanks came over and seemed surprised as hell when I told them that, while lying on my back, I had captured all these Germans and their three half-tracks."

Terry and the Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



SGT. JANE ALLEN OF THE AMERICAN WAC, YOUR ATTEMPTS TO CONVINCE ME THAT YOU ARE REALLY WILLOW BELINDA, CIVILIAN, WERE INTERESTING, BUT FUTILE!

SURELY TERRY AND THE POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR ME! TIME IS WHAT I NEED NOW!

AS THE COLONEL'S SECRETARY, YOU KNOW THE DETAILS OF AMERICAN OPERATION ST... OAKN WILL RECORD YOUR RECITAL OF THOSE DETAILS... HAVE A TASTE OF WHAT AWAITS YOU IF YOU HESITATE!

OH!

IF I CAN JUST REMEMBER HOW THE MEN AT THE JUNGLE FIELD TALKED ABOUT MILITARY OPERATIONS! I SUPPOSE YOU ALREADY KNOW ALL ABOUT THIS OPERATION ST, AS YOU CALL IT—

AND YOU'RE JUST USING ME TO CORROBORATE IT... SO I MIGHT AS WELL AND TORTURE BY TELLING THE TRUTH! OPERATION ST WAS THE CONVERSATIONAL DESIGNATION OF THE PROJECT! IN THE BOOK IT IS NUMBER SIX—THE SUM OF THE TWO DIGITS!

WE ARE IN LUCK!—ALL WE KNEW WAS THE NUMBER 51! THE WOMAN OBVIOUSLY WILL TELL US THE REMAINDER!

Rush Order Fulfilled, and GIs Get Snow Capes on West Front

By Dan Regan
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE FIRST ARMY, Dec. 19—The early winter snows caused staff officers of Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army to seek a hasty solution to the problem of soldiers in dark ODs presenting excellent targets for German guns as they lay against the white snow background.

The job of securing snow capes was given to Lt. Col. Robert E. Kearney's 602nd Engineer Camouflage Battalion. Kearney is a former Hollywood movie director.

In typical movie fashion, within 24 hours a snow cape had been designed, a local factory requisitioned, white muslin flown from England and local girls hired to sew. Thirty-six hours after the original order the first cape came off the assembly line.

By Milton Caniff



WE ARE IN LUCK!—ALL WE KNEW WAS THE NUMBER 51! THE WOMAN OBVIOUSLY WILL TELL US THE REMAINDER!

Servers Served



Associated Press Photo
Arthur Treacher, movie actor best known for his butler roles, serves biscuits to James D. Crawford, pipe welder at the California Shipbuilding Corp. Treacher agreed to act as butler for the yard's biggest bond buyer during a noon-hour rally for the Sixth War Loan Drive.

Nazi Activity In Spain Bared

Describing Spain as "practically a semi-occupied country" during the greater part of the five years he spent there as British ambassador, Viscount Templewood—formerly Sir Samuel Hoare—told the House of Lords yesterday of the extent of Nazi influence in Spanish affairs.

"Although Spain was not militarily occupied for those early years of the war she was morally occupied," he said, adding that the Nazis "had great influence in the police and in the press."

He revealed that Gestapo agents seized men and women in Spanish territory and took them into Germany or occupied countries to be killed or tortured. The Gestapo also watched his movements and sought to suborn his domestic staff, he said.

Because of the German crime of studied destruction of all the moral values of Europe," the Viscount said that he welcomed the Anglo-Russian treaty and the Franco-Russian treaty as steps "against the possibility of revival of military aggression."

Siegfried - - -

(Continued from page 1)

something like this: "The village of Berg, northeast of Lauterbourg, was occupied and cleared against moderate resistance." I would like to testify for the boys who are bucking the first pillboxes of the Siegfried just up the road from that one-street town, for the doughboys crouching in basements under heavy-caliber shellfire from the Siegfried and beyond, and the lads barely showing their noses, machine-guns and carbines over the edges of a line of foxholes just beyond Berg, that it is no picnic ground here in the first stage of the 7th Army's invasion of Germany.

But the knowledge that we are actually fighting in Germany seems to infect everyone with enthusiasm, from the grimy engineers tamping rocks beside a bridge across the Lauter River to a one-star general with a broad grin on his face, who stands snapping a candid photo of a huge sign which reads: "You are now entering Germany by courtesy of the 75th Division."

Jobs-for-All Plan Ready For Congress

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (ANS)—A bill seeking to make full employment a reality by co-ordinated planning before jobs became scarce was outlined today by the War Contracts Subcommittee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

The measure would require the President to submit to the opening session of each Congress an employment budget specifying the number of jobs needed in the ensuing period and the amount of investment and expenditure necessary to create them. Congress then would act to make up the prospective deficiencies.

Sen. James E. Murray (D.-Mont.), head of the group proposing the bill, said it would be introduced in the new Congress which will have as one of its first tasks to guarantee President Roosevelt's proposal of 60,000,000 post-war jobs, or whatever number is needed for full employment.

The bill would assign to the government ultimate responsibility for assuring full employment. Deficiencies would be tackled first by stimulating non-federal expenditures and second through increased Federal investment and expenditure.

Peace Draft Hearings Slated

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (ANS)—Chairman Andrew J. May (D.-Ky.), of the House Military Affairs Committee, disclosed today that the "War Department wants and we propose to give legislation for straight military training for a year for young men eligible" in stating that hearings would begin next month in Congress on peace-time military training.

Nelson Back in U.S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (ANS)—Donald M. Nelson, ex-War Production Board chief and now personal assistant to President Roosevelt with the equivalent rank of a Cabinet member, returned to the Capital today from his second mission to China. Nelson said he would have nothing to reveal until after seeing the President.

While absent from here Nelson also visited Australia and New Zealand.

First Battles To Seal Holes

(Continued from page 1)

territory, the Belgians in the threatened areas looked rather worried, dispatches said. Anti-Nazi slogans were being scrubbed off the walls—out of fear of expected German reprisals.

SHAEP authorities in Brussels banned all travel in Belgium except for those on business concerning the war effort.

Overshadowed by the developments along the southern range of the First Army front was the crossing by some of Hodges' units of the Roer River into the city of Duren. The crossing was made Monday, a field dispatch said, but gave no other details. Prior to the German lunge into Belgium, the Roer had occupied the spotlight as the most likely site of bitter fighting for the Ruhr industrial zone.

On Monday it was announced the Ninth Army, on the First's left flank, captured both Wurm and Mullenden, above Geilenkirchen.