

Daily German Lesson  
Zeigen Sie mir das Haus  
Tsaygen Zee meer dass Howws  
Show me the house

Daily French Lesson  
Je voudrais manger  
Juh voo-dray mahn-jay  
I want to eat

# Flank Attack Slows Germans

From the S & S to You Who Make Us, We Say—



There are no festive sentiments at Christmas among Allied troops fighting grimly on the Western Front. But on two continents behind the front token homage is paid to the Yule season for the children of Allied nations. Upper left, in England, Pat, a war orphan adopted by the U.S. Army PX London branch, is fed chocolate pudding by Sgt. Harrison Fillingim, of Pensacola, Fla., at a Christmas party for British war orphans. Lower center, in America, John (Putty) Powell, his classmates and kids like them all over the U.S. mail their letters to Santa Claus. Lower right, on the Continent, St. Nick greets a tiny at a Christmas party given the children of Luxemburg by U.S. soldiers. Upper right, through the pen of artist Milt Caniff, creator "Terry" and "Miss Lace," The Stars and Stripes extends its greetings to all its readers in the U.K.

## Vignette of War— He Found His Lost

21st BOMBER COMMAND HQ, Saipan, Dec. 22 (AP)—When one of his Superforts failed to return from a recent night strike against Nagoya (Japan), Lt. Col. Robert Haynes, unit commander, received permission to conduct a search for it.

Basing his course largely on luck and a good hunch Haynes found the survivors aboard rafts half an hour after he started searching. There were ten members of the lost bomber aboard the rafts, all uninjured. Two others of the crew had drowned.

Haynes circled over the rafts for three hours until the men were rescued by a destroyer.

### Bagnacavallo Falls

Canadian troops, in a two-day battle, have captured Bagnacavallo, one of the key points in the German defense of the Po Valley, Allied HQ in Italy announced yesterday.

### Mars Won—but He Lost, Too

## Death Got 1 of 2 GI Buddies, But the Bond Couldn't Be Killed

A FRONT EVACUATION HOSPITAL, inside Germany, Dec. 22 (UP)—They were buddies, these 23-year-old sergeants, one a medic and the other a doughboy, and both had served with the same armored infantry regiment for three years, seeing action from Africa to Germany.

This is the story of their friendship, told by a medical captain, who asked that the names be withheld.

In combat each had always looked out for the other. The medic inquired from the other doughboys where his friend's outfit was in action; his buddy advised the medic the best-covered routes to reach the wounded.

Mopping up in Merzenhausen, Germany, the doughboy sergeant's squad sought shelter in a brick building from mortar fire. The house was booby-trapped and a terrific explosion blew out one wall.



## Reds Open New Drives—Berlin

Two new Russian offensives, which appeared to be the opening of Marshal Stalin's winter drive on the eastern front, were launched yesterday, Berlin disclosed, one aimed at the Nazi stronghold in Latvia and the other pointed toward Austria between Lake Balaton and the Danube.

The German commentator, Col. von Hammer, admitted some Russian penetrations in the Latvian sector after Soviet forces, 27 divisions strong, supported by heavy artillery and air action, struck against the German Northern Army Corps, estimated at 30 divisions, trapped in the Baltic. Von Hammer also claimed the attack was halted by German guns.

On the Hungarian front the Russians were said to have thrown ten divisions into the battle to close the backdoor to Budapest. Berlin reported powerful Red thrusts along the railway line from Budapest to Szekesfehervar, 17 miles southwest of the Hungarian capital.

Von Hammer said the Latvian drive indicated "a large-scale counter-offensive in the near future," coinciding with an AP report from Washington that Russia had promised the Allies a powerful blow at the heart of Germany from the East. High Washington officials, however, said that any announcement of a full offensive must come from Stalin.

Moscow followed its usual practice of remaining silent on new offensives until several days after they had started.

## A New Shining Son for Flatbush

## Nazi in GI Attire Foxes All but Brooklyn Medic

By Hal Boyle  
Associated Press Correspondent

NEAR STAVELOT, Belgium, Dec. 21 (delayed) (AP)—Like all other soldiers, Capt. Fordyce Gorham, of Coudersport, Pa., had been warned to watch for enemy troops or spies in American garb, but, busy with battlefield problems, he noted only that the jeep which stopped near him had four occupants, all in U.S. uniforms, one dressed as a captain, the other three as privates, wearing sweaters and carrying rifles and carbines.

"I am from — Corps," said the strange officer, whose bars were on a mackinaw. "I am looking for my tanks. How are things going?"

"All fouled up," muttered Gorham. After a half-hour's talk, during which he grubbed a cigarette and cheered Gorham with "news" that Lt. Gen. George S. Patton had broken through with four divisions, the stranger drove away.

Later, Pvt. Theodore Watson, a medic, standing in a farmhouse as U.S. tank-destroyers moved up to engage an enemy tank, spotted two jeeps on the move. When they halted, the quartet which Gorham had seen alighted from one and four others, also in U.S. uniforms, got out of the second.

Watson, a wary Brooklynite, heard one of the men call to another in a German accent. His suspicions confirmed, Watson jumped out of his position and called to doughboys in nearby foxholes: "They're Germans!"

The strangers began running for the German lines. "Shoot them—they're Germans," cried Watson.

But because the fleeing men wore American uniforms, the doughboys hesitated. They fired just as the eight men reached the woods, wounding one of the Germans and two American soldiers nearby. All the Germans escaped.

## S & S Goes Into Limbo For a Two-Day Holiday

No editions of The Stars and Stripes will be published on Christmas Day or Boxing Day (Dec. 26), because civilian mechanical and pressroom staffs at The Times, London, which publishes this paper, will not be working. Publication of The Stars and Stripes will be resumed with the edition of Wednesday, Dec. 27.

The American Forces Network and Allied Expeditionary Forces station will be on the air continuously from 8 AM to 11 PM on Christmas and Boxing Days. Hourly news broadcasts have been scheduled by both to assure coverage of world, home and sports news over the holiday.

## Nazis Say Patton Hits On Left

An indication of Gen. Eisenhower's strategy to smash Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt's great winter offensive into Belgium and Luxemburg came last night from German News Agency, which interrupted its program with a "flash" that Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army had struck on the Nazis' left flank and succeeded in slowing down the drive into the First Army's lines.

There was no confirmation at SHAEF of this enemy report, only hinted at in previous German broadcasts, which claimed that the Americans were hitting at both flanks of the Nazi penetration along a 60-mile front stretching from Belgium to southern Luxemburg.

Telling of the fighting, German News Agency said: "A particularly grim struggle is being waged on the southern flank, where the German spearheads, heading southwest, had to defend themselves against increasingly furious counter-attacks by several divisions of the U.S. 3rd Army."

Dispatches from the 21st Army Group HQ had disclosed earlier that the Germans' deepest penetration of the lines was 40 miles, but did not mention a specific area. Thursday's reports, however, had told of a drive to Habibmont, southeast of the Allies' communications center of Liege. Last night's dispatches said the German push had been appreciably slowed in fighting on Thursday and yesterday.

Rundstedt has already cut the chief lateral supply road in eastern Belgium, and military commentators speculated that the purpose of his counter-offensive was to set up a winter line along the Meuse, northwest of the salient which reached Habibmont by noon Tuesday.

### Weather Boon to Foe

Weather conditions have served Rundstedt's purposes. The front has been shrouded for days in swirling fog, which barred Allied fighter-bombers from carrying out destructive forays.

Yesterday, with the weather clearing somewhat, Allied tactical fliers made more than 100 sorties on the northern sector, following up British heavy bomber blows against Cologne and Bonn on Thursday night.

German broadcasts said Rundstedt's troops in the northern area were 35 miles from Namur, which, like Liege, is on the Meuse, and about 60 miles from Brussels.

With the most northern prong of their drive blunted by veteran U.S. units, the main enemy effort appeared now to be in the St. Vith area, south of Malmédy. St. Vith itself was said to be still in American hands.

Battles in this general area were said to have cost the Germans 55 tanks, smashed by U.S. armor and tank-destroyers.

Some reports told of German tanks having been stranded when the enemy failed to capture needed oil supplies, the Yanks having moved back these supplies before the enemy reached them.

An American staff officer said casualties were considered light in view of the vast scale of the battle. German claims were that 25,000 Allied troops had been made prisoners and that figures for killed and wounded were greater.

## British Are Faced With New Call-Up

Britain's first special call-up of the war and a shift of certain personnel from the Royal Air Force, the Navy and Army service units into line duty, bolstering British ground forces with 250,000 replacements, were announced last night at 10, Downing St., Prime Minister Churchill's official residence.

The steps were taken, the announcement said, "in order to sustain and nourish our Army in the line."

## Turn It Into Victory—Ike

SHAEF, Dec. 22 (UP)—Gen. Eisenhower issued today an order of the day to all Allied troops. The text follows:

"The enemy is making his supreme effort to break out of the desperate plight into which you forced him by your brilliant victories of the summer and the fall. He is fighting savagely to take back all that you have won and is using every treacherous trick to deceive and kill you.

"He is gambling everything, but already in this battle your gallantry has done much to foil his plans. In the face of your proven bravery and fortitude, he will completely fail.

"But we cannot be content with his mere repulse.

"By rushing out from his fixed defenses, the enemy may give us the chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat.

"I call upon every man of all the Allies to rise now to new heights of courage, of resolution and of effort. Let everyone hold before him a single thought—to destroy the enemy on the ground, in the air, everywhere—destroy him.

"United in this determination, and with unshakable faith in the cause for which we fight, we will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory."



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

**Hospital Visits**  
Dec. 1, 1944

To the B-Bag:  
I would like to visit a hospital,  
especially during the holiday season, but  
I am at a loss as how to get about it. Can  
you help me out?  
[Your APO will locate the nearest hos-  
pital, where Red Cross personnel will help  
to arrange a visit.—Ed.]

**"We Never See Our Casualties"**  
Dec. 5, 1944

To the B-Bag:  
Not so long ago you printed an article  
written by gentlemen who had returned  
to the States and discovered things a bit  
awkward from the servicemen's point of  
view. Inasmuch as I had been overseas  
for almost 1 1/2 years, I thought I should  
like to know my wife's reaction to this  
article and sent it to her. In her reply  
I circled in ink three paragraphs which  
I believe important:

"We never see our casualties, our tanks  
smouldering, our dead lying unburied, our  
ships sinking, our sailors floundering in  
burning petrol, our planes going down  
in flame.

"We only see the enemy. We are taught  
to ridicule the enemy. We are told that  
he is weak, we see how weak he is by the  
one-sided pictures of the war. We are  
told that such and such an engagement  
was fought with little casualties... how  
can we tell what little means. Accord-  
ing to how many men took part it may  
mean hundreds, it may mean thousands.

"Look at Leyte, we're told 'the Jap  
Navy is crushed,' and 'an invasion at  
Leyte,' 'no resistance,' 'the Japs lose  
their whole garrison,' 'they're being  
starved out'... and we have to wait  
until some annoyed Navy official  
belches forth anger at the Americans  
because of their optimism... he tells  
us the Japs are everywhere on the island,  
it will take months to clear them out, re-  
inforcements were landed... we have  
to wait until the Army or Navy  
gets ready to actually tell us what's going  
on, and then it's only given out to slap  
optimism down.

"It seems to me that it's just as much  
up to the servicemen to understand how  
little we are told, and know, and under-  
stand... as it is for us to understand  
how to treat returning vets. There has  
to be a half-way measure somewhere.  
... J.—T/A Thomas V. Owen, Port Hq.

**"We Were There"**  
Dec. 12, 1944

To the B-Bag:  
The other day we read where the Army  
is going to send 19-year-old youths into  
the front lines.

The two of us are 19, and not much  
over it, and we'd like to know who thinks  
that there are none of us up there?

We don't mind too much being up  
there, but we want people to know that  
we have been there all along.—Two  
Armored Infantry Pvis.

**Headache**  
Dec. 13, 1944

To the B-Bag,  
I think your paper is swell but it has  
caused the personnel of this Post  
Exchange plenty of headaches, and I  
suppose that we aren't the only PX either.

Here is the gripe. Cigarettes are now  
to be sold. In your paper you had this  
printed fully a week before we got official  
order to sell cigarettes. O.K., right away  
we start hearing, "Why aren't we getting  
seven packages of cigarettes?" Our  
answer is, "We must have orders to sell."  
Their reply, "Why it is in The Stars and  
Stripes, so it must be true." Well, the  
funny part is that we can't let them have  
them until we are notified to, and I don't  
mean by your paper.

Another thing: We have a certain day  
out of every two weeks to draw supplies,  
thus we can hardly give unless we have  
them to sell. But on top of that comes  
our little headache. The men think that  
it is our fault that they don't get cigarettes.  
So we have words with the men and we  
have a hell of a time trying to explain  
that it isn't our fault.

Hell, fellows, have a heart, I haven't  
a friend in the outfit. Also, why don't  
you put in a few dark things that might  
help us out, such as no back rations will  
be drawn on tobacco, cigarettes or cigars.  
As I type this, I can hear a customer  
giving one of the clerks hell because she  
couldn't get cigarettes when she was  
supposed to.

I have been in the PX for nearly a  
year and this isn't the first time this has  
happened. If this letter was printed maybe  
it would help some of the men of the  
detachment and the patients to realize  
that it isn't our fault all the time.—A  
friendly PX clerk, Sta. Hosp.

**Hash Marks**

We understand that Hitler's famed  
"Festung Europa" has been renamed  
"Festering Europa."

Who said that? What has a corporal  
to be so proud about? He's just a non-  
com with two stripes on him.

The scene is a court martial conducted  
by the Nazis. "You, the accused, have  
called our Fuehrer an idiot. You are



thereby guilty of three crimes. You have  
indulged in enemy propaganda; you have  
libelled the head of the Reich; and you  
have betrayed a military secret."

Overheard in a bistro. "I was really  
ashamed when I heard that our ack-ack  
outfits were getting their ammunition in  
the flak market."

Front-line humor. Pvt. Bernard  
Lansky sez his buddy rolls cigarettes that  
are just like a popular brand—Camels.  
His even have the humps.

Signs of the times. Sgt. Milbourne  
Christopher, magician in the GI show  
"Broadway in Khaki," sez it has become  
so difficult to get paper for his torn-paper  
trick in the show that he is currently  
using old German marks.

Bob Hope's definition of an Army  
captain: "A uniform with two chips on  
each shoulder."

Shed a tear in your beer for Pfc Joseph  
T. Joseph. In the first four Christmas  
packages he received the contents were  
in order: A can of Spam, a can of beans,  
a jar of honey and almond cream, a first-  
aid kit (and he's a medic).

After several seconds of concentration  
in the realm of serious drama a Pfc  
whose initials are CKC has evolved a  
dialogue in two languages that captures  
the essence of romance, of exhilaration,  
of life itself:

He: "We?"  
She: "Oui."  
He: "Whee!"

Advice to parents of fond offspring.  
A pat on the back develops character—



if administered often enough, young  
enough and low enough.

Comment by Lt. N. S. Rosengarten:  
"I see by your paper that the army is  
testing a plane that may dwarf the  
Superfort. What will the new plane be  
called—super-duper fort, perhaps?"  
J. C. W.

**PRIVATE BREGER**



"Si-i-i-ilent night. . ."

**To Every Mom, From Every Joe—a Xmas Wish**

Dear Mom,  
This is to wish you a Happy  
Christmas, Mom. You always  
used to say that if we were all  
right, you'd be happy. Well,  
don't worry about us, Mom.  
We're okay. Somehow, no  
matter what, we're always  
okay, knowing you're there, and  
no matter what, you're always  
there.  
God bless you and keep  
you, Mom, this Christmas and  
every Christmas.  
G & Joe



There are four gold stars on Mrs. Alben  
Borgstrom's service flag today, but it  
will be a proud and happy Christmas  
for her nevertheless. Because with her  
this Christmas, at her home in Tremon-  
ton, Utah, will be her fifth son—the  
one blue star on her flag—who has just  
been given an honorable discharge from  
the Marines after his four brothers had  
been killed in action. The letter (upper  
left), we're sure, expresses to Mrs.  
Borgstrom, as well as to every American  
mother, GI Joe's sentiments at this time.



**Doughboy**

We value life who know uncertainty,  
Who see the greedy winds of death  
sweep by,  
We see our friends embrace eternity  
And know there but for grace of God  
am I.

We clutch the ground as fragments lash  
about us;  
Then all is silent save the fading cries  
Of those who go to rendezvous without  
us,  
But still we coax our palsied limbs to rise.

And pass the boy who used to play—  
remember?  
The blues of Basin Street with loving  
hues,  
But now as shortening days admit  
December  
He lies forever far from native lands.

And there are others weathered, chaste,  
profane,  
Who left, for better realms; this vale of  
sorrow;

But still we huddle 'neath the snow and  
rain  
And pray to God to let us see tomorrow.  
Pfc Loren L. Mork.

**AFN Holiday Programs**

**American Forces Network—With the AEF  
on the Road to Berlin**

On Your Dial  
1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.  
218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.5m. 207.3m.

**Saturday, Dec. 23**

- 1200—World News.
- 1205—Duffie Bag.
- 1300—Headlines—Sports News.
- 1305—Grand Old Opry.
- 1330—Yanks Radio Edition.
- 1400—Headlines—Downbeat with Sonny Dunham.
- 1430—College of Musical Knowledge with Phil Harris.
- 1500—Headlines—American Dance Band (Sgt. Ray McKinley).
- 1530—On the Record.
- 1630—Strike up the Band.
- 1700—Headlines—Concert Hall.
- 1715—Miss Parade.
- 1745—Hawaiian Serenade.
- 1755—American Sports News.
- 1800—World News.
- 1805—Mark up the Map.
- 1810—Your State.
- 1815—Glenn Miller Sextette.
- 1830—Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin.
- 1900—Headlines—Top of the Evening.
- 1915—Music from the Movies.
- 2000—Headlines—Combat Diary.
- 2015—At Ease.
- 2030—Frank Morgan.
- 2100—World News.
- 2105—Saturday Night Serenade.
- 2130—All Time Hit Parade.
- 2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 2205—Xavier Cugat.
- 2230—Jubilee.
- 2300—Final Edition.
- 2305—Sign off until 0755 hours, Sun., Dec. 24.

**Sunday, Dec. 24**

- 0755—Sign On—Program Resume.
- 0800—Headlines—Music for Sunday.
- 0830—USAAF Band.
- 0900—World News.
- 0905—Music by Charlie Barnett.
- 0925—Family Hour.
- 1000—Headlines—Radio Chapel.
- 1030—AEF Radio Weekly.
- 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 1105—Morning After (Jubilee).
- 1135—Combined Orchestras.
- 1200—News.
- 1210—WAC's Works.
- 1225—Sports.
- 1230—Canadian Navy Show.
- 1300—Headlines—Atlantic Spotlight.
- 1330—Sammy Kaye's Sunday Serenade.
- 1400—Headlines—Music from the Pacific.
- 1425—Anne Shelton.
- 1455—Basketball Scores.
- 1500—Headlines—National Barn Dance.
- 1530—Carnival of Music.
- 1600—Headlines—New York Philharmonic Orchestra.
- 1700—Headlines—Christmas Carols.
- 1715—AEF Special.
- 1750—American Sports Roundup.
- 1800—World News.
- 1805—Mark up the Map.
- 1815—Andre Kostelanetz.
- 1845—Raymond Scott.
- 1900—Headlines—Jack Benny Show.
- 1930—Hit Parade with Mark Warnow's Orchestra and Frank Sinatra.
- 2000—Headlines—Christmas Command Performance.
- 2215—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 2220—Music by Percy Faith.
- 2230—Suspense.
- 2300—Final Edition.
- 2305—Sign off until 0755 hours, Monday, Dec. 25.

**Monday, Dec. 25**

- 0755—Sign On—Program Resume.
- 0800—Headlines—Combat Diary.
- 0815—Dinah Shore Christmas Card.
- 0830—Music in the Modern Manner.
- 0900—Headlines—Song Time.

- 0925—Music from America.
- 1000—Headlines—Christmas Stocking.
- 1030—Strike up the Band.
- 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 1105—Duffie Bag.
- 1200—World News.
- 1205—Duffie Bag.
- 1300—Headlines—Sports News.
- 1305—Christmas Command Performance.
- 1515—Headlines—Music.
- 1530—On the Record.
- 1630—Juggler of Notre Dame.
- 1700—Headlines—Showtime with Marilyn Maxwell.
- 1715—Village Store with Joan Davis and Jack Haley.
- 1740—Novelty Time.
- 1750—Mark up the Map.
- 1755—American Sports News.
- 1800—World News.
- 1805—Canadian Band of the AEF.
- 1830—British Band of the AEF.
- 1900—Headlines—American Band of the AEF.
- 1930—Three Band Roundup.
- 2000—Headlines—Combat Diary.
- 2015—Fred Waring Christmas Show.
- 2030—Christmas Show.
- 2100—World News.
- 2105—Top Ten with the RAF Orchestra and Beryl Davis.
- 2135—Duffy's Tavern.
- 2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 2205—Listen Characters.
- 2300—Final Edition.
- 2305—Sign off until 0755 hours Tuesday, Dec. 26.

**Tuesday, Dec. 26**

- 0755—Sign On—Program Resume.
- 0800—Headlines—Combat Diary.
- 0815—Personal Album.
- 0830—Dance Music.
- 0900—World News.
- 0905—Music in the Modern Manner.
- 0925—Music America Loves Best.
- 1030—Headlines—Morning After (Duffy's Tavern).
- 1030—Strike up the Band.
- 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 1105—Duffie Bag.
- 1200—News.
- 1205—Duffie Bag.
- 1300—Headlines—Sports News.
- 1305—NBC Symphony.
- 1400—Headlines—Visiting Hour.
- 1500—Headlines—German Lesson.
- 1505—Strike up the Band.
- 1530—On the Record.
- 1625—Saludos Amigos.
- 1700—Headlines—Melody Roundup.
- 1715—Canada Guest Show.
- 1755—American Sports News.
- 1800—World News.
- 1805—Mark up the Map.
- 1810—GI Supper Club.
- 1900—Headlines—GI Journal.
- 1930—Here's to Romance.
- 2000—Headlines—Combat Diary.
- 2015—Ali Sad Sack and 40 Q.Ms.
- 2100—World News.
- 2105—Charlie McCarthy.
- 2135—Dinah Shore Show.
- 2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 2205—Listen Characters.
- 2300—Final Edition.
- 2305—Sign off until 0755 hours, Wed., Dec. 27.

**Wednesday, Dec. 27**

- 0755—Sign On—Program Resume.
- 0800—Headlines—Combat Diary.
- 0815—Personal Album.
- 0830—Music in the Modern Manner.
- 0900—World News.
- 0905—Song Time.
- 0925—Music from Canada.
- 1000—Headlines—Morning After (Major Glenn Miller).
- 1030—Strike up the Band.
- 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
- 1105—Duffie Bag.
- On the Continent listen to your favorite AFN programs over the  
Allied Expeditionary Forces Program:  
583 kc. 514m.  
Also shortwave: 6.195mc. (49m. band) between  
0800 and 1900 hours.



# Warweek

Counter-Offensive: The Big Gamble  
Germany, Back to the Wall, Digs in  
Russian Girl Tells Tale of Tyranny

Saturday, Dec. 23, 1944

## In An All-Out Effort To Stop Yank Drive, Germans Turn To COMMUNITY DIGGING

By Jack Caldwell  
Warweek Staff Writer

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY—Germany has reverted to a country of fortified villages as Schickelgruber throws in his all in a desperate bid to slow down the Allied sweep across the Reich.

Allied armor and doughs blasting deeper into the Krauts' tottering hinterland report villages in their path are ringed with fortifications thrown up by civilians armed with shovels, spades, axes and wire cutters.

The Nazis call it "community digging"—our tankers and foot sloggers say in most cases it has nuisance value, and not much more. As one tankman remarked: "It's just like trying to stop a charging bear by tossing a soap box in its path."

The civilian-built defenses are fresh evidence of the plight of the Nazis—they're not leaving one stone unturned in their feverish attempt to prolong the Reich's final collapse.

The village defenses consist of winding trenches—shoulder width and three to seven feet in depth—incorporating cellars of houses; yawning tank traps, road blocks of heaped logs wired securely together, mounds of sandbags and heaps of slag, and improvised earthworks.

### Well Dug In

Every German man, woman and child unable to shoulder a gun but still able to bend a back over a shovel has been drafted for the job of building the village fortifications. And they don't have much chance to gold brick—their Nazi straw bosses see to that.

Pfc Eddy Reizer, 25, of Chicago, Ill., CO bodyguard and runner of the 115th Infantry Regiment, said village fortifications in the 9th Army sector were first encountered around Geilenkirchen.

"From that point on," he declared, "just about every village we've taken has been well dug in. Hell, Jerry didn't put up these obstacles in a hit-and-miss way. Every trench and tank trap was neatly dug."

"The fortifications seem to be built at various echelons. For example, at Kirchberg we first had to battle our way through minefields. Then there was a line of barbed-wire entanglements, and finally trenches deep enough to conceal a standing Jerry. The trench zig-zagged its way around the outer fringes of the village, running through the cellars of homes. Yeh, they had even moved beds, chairs and tables into these cellars—those guys really believe in doing things in comfort."

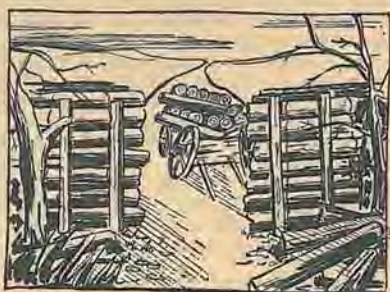
Pfc John H. Phenicie, 21, of Sylvan, Pa., 9th Army anti-tankman, said the Germans "really had an eye to the future

when they went in for community digging." He said: "In France, Jerry got the pants licked off him and was kept on the run because he didn't have any place to dig in. But now he's in his own stamping grounds—each time he falls back he has a hole already made for him to hop into."

"Yeh," interposed Reizer, "the barriers built by the civilians help us, too. Soon as we knock Jerry back, we also have a ready-made hole to jump into for coverage. Very considerate of them."

Three 3rd Army Joes—T/Sgt. Warren Hicks, 25, of Attleboro, Mass.; S/Sgt. Duke J. Wencis, 25, of Brighton, Mass., and Cpl. William J. Adair, 24, of Lancaster, Pa.—reported the Germans have thrown up every conceivable obstacle in the path of our forces.

"One of their pet tricks," declared Sgt. Hicks, weapons platoon sergeant, is to put up a blockade of logs at gaps through woods and orchards leading to their villages. The logs are piled lengthwise about six feet deep and five or six feet



high—reinforced with stakes and wire binding—with an opening in the center.

"The opening is blocked by a wagon loaded with more logs which can be rolled aside to allow their own troops and armor to pass through. The approaches to these blockades are further barred by fallen trees."

The platoon leader described as "suicide" an attempt by infantry to smash through these blockades.

"You'll be mowed down by mortar, machine-gun and rifle fire if you try to



### THE LAST DITCH

get through the barrier," he warned. "A guy's best bet is to outflank the blockade."

#### Forced-Labor Project

Hicks said he and four other men were told by a civilian woman in Sarre-Union that the Nazis used forced labor—both native and foreign—to build the village defenses.

"We had ducked into a linen shop near the square in the center of Sarre-Union after a Tiger tank blocked our path," Hicks recounted. "A woman of about 40 who spoke pretty good English greeted us inside the shop. She said she was glad to see Americans—but we took that with the usual grain of salt because every German civilian will give you the same line."

"While we were waiting for the Tiger to move on, the woman told us that she and her maid had been brought from their home across the Saar River to help dig trenches around the village. She said they had no choice in the matter—were just given shovels by a German officer—guess you'd call him the straw boss—and told to start digging."

Hicks said he and his companions barely escaped capture when a German lieutenant and five soldiers entered the shop in search for Americans.

"The woman quickly shoved us into a rear storeroom," the sergeant went on, "and then went to the door to greet the Jerries. She invited them in and poured them some schnapps. Cripe, they were so close to me I could have touched the lieutenant's shoulder. They searched just two rooms and finally took the woman's word that there were no Americans there. A few minutes later we sneaked back to our platoon."

"That was one of those very rare instances where a German civilian really came to our aid," he added. "I still don't trust any of them. Often they'll tell you their town is cleared of Nazis, and just as soon as you show your face on the street

all hell breaks loose from sneakin' Jerries hiding in the houses."

"If Hitler wants every village, town and city in Germany to be another Aachen, we'll gladly oblige," he grinned.

Sgt. Wencis, anti-tank squad leader, said civilians in the village of Molring reported being paid one mark and three cigarettes a day for community digging.

"Most of the laborers, it seems," he asserted, "were old men—but a lot of women and kids had to pitch in, too. The way they tell it they were treated not much better than slaves—were fed a cup of coffee and bread for breakfast, and soup and bread for their evening meals."

#### Hitler's Double Dig

On June 6, 1944, the Reich Holding Company experienced a stock crash that made the Wall Street eruption of '29 look like a prosperity boom. Flustered Hitler and his directors dug deep into their reserves, but the Allied tidal wave roared on like an enraged bull, blasting the Nazis back into their hinterland. The Fuhrer dug still deeper and in sheer desperation came up with a mitful of shovels and spades—it was then the tottering Reich dug in for dear life itself.

And they were confined to community lodgings while the job was in progress.

"To top off the whole stinking deal," he added, "they were charged the mark they made for a glass of cheap, watery cognac each day."

Cpl. Adair, anti-tank gunner, said grass growing on some of the earthworks built by the community diggers indicated some of the barriers were put up long before the Allies had reached German soil.

"Hitler used to boast that foreign troops would never set foot on German soil," Adair grinned. "Guess he didn't quite convince himself or he wouldn't

have gone to the trouble of fortifying every village."

The village defense lines have been taking a helluva shellacking from both our air force and artillery. During October alone, Ninth fighter-bombers blasted over 100 of the fortified towns on the First and Ninth Armies fronts.

"The targets," declared one Ninth fighter-bomber pilot, "are extensive and closely knit, making day-by-day air attacks necessary. Some villages—Bergstein was one of them—have been bombed and strafed as many as three times between dawn and dusk."

"Close tactical support between fighter-bombers and artillery," he added, "is necessary to rout the Germans from cellars, sand-bagged trenches and other improvised fortifications. We've been pounding these community fortifications with fragmentation and incendiary bombs, as well as 500-pounders."

Another pilot said village defenses extending roughly in a southwestward direction from Erkelenz to Duren in the Roer Valley, have constituted the most severe obstacles to U.S. First and Ninth Army elements fighting toward the Cologne Plain.

"Air results are not as spectacular as in northern France when we were bombing and strafing enemy transport and armor," he declared. Now our task forces hammer away day after day in a systematic pulverization of the Siegfried Line villages."

He said the fortified villages range from a cluster of houses to small towns like Julich, Randerath and Brachelen.

"If Hitler wants every village, town and city in Germany to be another Aachen, we'll gladly oblige," he grinned.

But before that collapse comes it is evident that the fight across Germany will be a bitter one. Every hill, stone and dale; every village, town and city may well be turned into a fortress seething with desperate Germans, fanatically fighting until the very end. Under these conditions, Hitler's soldiers and civilians will make every square foot a battlefield until the Americans join hands with the Russians.

#### Aids for Doughboys

For the foot-slogging infantryman who can't put dual front wheels on his aching back, Cpl. Sigmund Jaffe suggests that modified snowshoes be worn with openings along the edges only and with a one-inch keel through the center. Jaffe says this makes mud-mobility easier.

A few other ideas, well meant but not too practical, wind up the deal.

Cpl. Gerald Varley suggests powdered cement be sprayed by plane on muddy areas. T/5 Elmer Seaburg diagrams a sort of locomotive piston attached to a wheel and paddling the mud away. Sgt. Austin Schuck and Cpl. Gerald Wolf collaborate on an idea to have steel mesh laid out in front of advancing armor by means of special wire-laying trucks. And Pvt. William G. Weber goes all out for plaster of paris dropped in mud bags, the theory being that this stuff has the property of adding water to itself to form hard gypsum. This would help harden the mud says Weber.

Here's no mud in your eye.



WEST OF WURSELIN Hitler's women and children dug these anti-tank ditches in bulge of Siegfried Line before they fled in front of American armor that crashed through.



THIRD U.S. ARMY doughboys examine battered defenses of German fortress of Koenigsmacher, 20 miles north of Metz. Community diggers helped prepare strongpoints like this.



# Out of Gutted Towns, a Crowded Freight Car and Sweaty Slave Pens Comes Her Story of the

## Nazi Labor Gang

By Nina Tverdohlib  
as told to

**John Christie**  
Warweek Staff Writer

When American troops captured Aachen, first of Hitler's cities to fall, they were faced with a two-part civilian problem. One group comprised the enemy—the German population. The other was formed of United Nations nationals—French, Dutch, Belgian, Russian, Polish and Czech.

These people were the impressed workers, the labor slaves of the Nazi war machine. They formed the first of what will probably be millions of "displaced persons"—the tragic flotsam of this war.

Sorted out from among the enemy civilians, these bitterly anti-Nazi victims of the German plan for war are returned to their homes if possible or put into refugee centers if their homes are on the other side of Germany. It was in one of these centers that Warweek Reporter John Christie encountered Nina Tverdohlib, blonde, 19-year-old fugitive from the slave pens of the Reich. This is her story, as she told it through an interpreter, only a few miles from the squalid brickyards where the Nazis had marred her beauty—but had never been able to conquer her indomitable spirit.



In the summer of 1942 I was living with my mother at our home near Rostov-on-Don in the Russian Ukraine. My brother was a soldier in the Red Army. My father is dead. I was a student nurse in the People's Hospital and my mother kept house for me and for my grandmother—who was, at that time, 73 years of age.

Early in the summer the German Fascists started their drive on our land. The Red Army men fought doggedly but they were forced back. The Germans came nearer and nearer.

In July they took Rostov. Almost in the same week their first patrols moved into our city. We had warning that they were coming and we knew what to do. Everywhere in the Soviet Union the people knew what to do when the enemy came near.

Those who were able, and who had been trained in military things by Red Army men, went into the country to form guerrilla bands. As a nurse, my place was with one of those bands.

### Join the Guerrillas

When I told my mother I was going to join the guerrillas, she insisted that she should come too.

"I can cook for the fighters," she said. "I can help you care for the wounded. See, I am strong . . ."

I argued with her, saying she should stay at home to take care of the grandmother and that the Germans would not harm her, but she would not listen.

"It is useless for you to talk," she told me. "I too, go to join the guerrillas, Nina douchka."

She was a Russian woman. I do not know what has become of her. I do not know if she still lives. I do not even know if she even found the guerrilla headquarters.

We had agreed to leave in the night, and all that day I was busy with preparations. I made two packs, with blankets and food and with my nurse's costume. It was very necessary that I take my hospital uniform because, without it, the officer might not know I was a nurse, or he might not believe that I would be of value to the guerrillas.

### Our Own Men

Most of the food in the house we left for my grandmother and I talked with our neighbors, asking them to see that nothing happened to her. Then I talked with a man in the town who knew about such things, and I got his advice as to where we would be most likely to find a band of our own men.

When it was dark we left the house and started out of the town. In spite of the sentries it was not hard to get into the country. They were on all the main roads but there were many narrow passages between the houses which they did not know about and could not see in the dark.

### Serious Matter

By midnight we were well into the country, but we had had an accident which, later, was a very serious matter. In order to reach the spot to which we had been directed it was necessary to cross a river. There were no boats and the railroad bridge had German sentries on the tracks at each end. There were

no sentries on the river bank under the bridge, however.

I told my mother that it would be possible for us to climb into the steel trestle-work, from beneath the bridge, and to cross the river that way, without the Fascists seeing us. Later they learned to always post sentries under the bridges, but in the early days they very often did not, so that the partisans were able to use them in spite of the guards.

### Through the Girders

It was not easy to climb through the girders with the packs, and my mother had trouble. About a third of the way across I told her to take off her pack with the food in it and give it to me. She was forced to hold on with one hand while she slipped her other arm out of the straps, then change her hold to the free arm. It was dark. We were standing on a narrow steel beam. Somehow the strap slipped from her hand and nearly all our food fell into the river.

The sentries did not hear the splash, however, and after a moment we made our way across the rest of the bridge. But we had almost no food left.

The rest of the night we spent in a wood, a few kilometers the other side of the river. In the morning we ate some of our food and then started on again. By afternoon we had reached the place where we should have met the partisan band. They were not there and a boy told us they had gone to another camp. He did not know where it was but he did tell us which road the guerrillas had followed. We tried to get food at a farmhouse but there was nothing which could be spared for us.

We ate the rest of the food for supper that night—all but three pieces of black bread.

### The Fascists Come

I was in the kitchen, talking with my grandmother when the Fascist patrol knocked the door open and came into the room.

The sergeant pushed my grandmother into a corner, took me by the arm and led me to the lieutenant who was in charge.

The officer asked me my name, my age and what kind of work I had done. I replied to his questions because I knew he could get the correct answers from the records at the Municipal Bureau.

"Where have you been for two days?" he asked.

I did not answer.

The sergeant shook me by the arm.

"Answer, you communist bitch," he shouted.

Still I said nothing. I was frightened, I thought they might kill me then, but one says nothing about the partisans to the Fascists in any part of the Soviet Union.

The officer nodded to the sergeant, who hit me in the face.

### Blood in My Eyes

"Now, will you answer?" said the officer.

I shook my head.

The sergeant hit me again, not once but many times.

I was thrown against the wall and I hit my head against the edge of the door, cutting it. The blood ran into my eyes so I could not see to dodge the blows they were showering on me. I fainted.

When I recovered I was lying on the floor, near the wall.

"Take her, too," I heard the lieutenant say. "She's young and she looks strong. They'll be able to use her."

They pulled me to my feet and pushed me out of the door, locking it behind them. I could see the fire burning brightly through the window and I could hear my grandmother still sobbing in the locked room.

I tried to pull away and they hit me again, from behind, so that I fell down a second time. Then they pulled me up to my feet, twisted my arm behind my back and forced me into the road and down it to where other persons were being collected in a group.

### Baby Was Asleep

Her baby was asleep in her house, alone, and no one would know about that because the woman's husband was a Red Army man and she lived alone with the baby.

At last, about midnight, the Fascists made us walk to the railway, where they had a car waiting for us. It was the kind of car which was used, before the war, to transport goods. It had sliding doors on the sides which could be locked from the outside with an iron hasp. When the doors are closed, there is no light in such a car and very little air.

One old man, he was the shoemaker, couldn't climb into the car and the Hitlerites made great sport of this, prodding him with their bayonets and laughing when he fell back to the tracks. Some boys helped him in. When we were all in the car the soldiers locked the doors.

### Fifty-two Persons

There was no food and no water in the car and, of course, no provision for either men or women to answer the calls of nature in privacy.

A few hours after daylight the train started. There were fifty-two persons in the car, including myself. For four days the train traveled across Russia and Poland. During those four days, although the train stopped many times, we were given no water and no food of any kind.

The shoemaker was the first to die. Next was another of the old men, an agricultural worker who had been in the town when the Germans came.

Their bodies lay in the car all that day because there was no way to get rid of them and the Germans never came to the car when the train stopped.

Finally two of the men discovered they could prise open one of the doors far enough so that the bodies of the shoemaker and the farmer could be pushed through the opening onto the tracks.

I, myself, was sent to a labor clearance pool at Cologne.

From there, with 18 other girls, I was assigned to work in the brickyards at Aachen. We lived in part of an old brick barracks building, no longer suitable for troops. There were big holes in the roof, and when it rained it was very difficult to find a dry place in the straw to sleep.

### Daily Routine

That is where I lived for two years, until I escaped when the city was captured by American troops.

This was our daily routine:

We got up at 6 o'clock in the morning, drank some black coffee and ate a piece of bread and then went to the brickyard for work. We had to start work at 6.30, so you can see we didn't have much time to wash, dress and have breakfast.

The morning work was from 6.30 to 12. Then we had a half-hour period for dinner, usually soup and some more bread.

My job was to carry bags of coal from the coal-supply dump to the kilns where the bricks were baked. This work was very hard and not interesting in any way. Besides, it gave no opportunities whatever to sabotage the enemy. A mechanic, for instance, working on motors in a factory, has many chances for sabotage. All we could do was to work as slowly as possible so that, at the end of the day, we had carried a few less bags of coal than normal.

The day's work ended, for us, at 6.30 in the evening. Our last meal of the day was more soup, sometimes with small bits of meat in it, and more black bread. After carrying coal for 12 hours we were too tired to do anything but fall asleep as quickly as possible.

Once, when our midday meal of spinach soup was absolutely unfit to eat, I told the girls who worked with me that we should remain away during the afternoon. We slipped out of the work place and took the afternoon off. As soon as we were missed the Gestapo was called and a hunt was begun for us. They decided that I had been the organizer of the plan, although none of the girls told them anything.

I was called into the office of the commandant. The Gestapo men were there. They questioned me. It was like the night that they came into my grandmother's

kitchen, far away in our home in the Ukraine.

They beat me, cursed at me and threw me to the floor.

I wouldn't tell them anything, except to say that we were unable to work because we had no food which was fit to eat. At last, when they saw that they would gain nothing that way, they left me alone. Three other girls and myself were later transferred to another brickyard. The work was the same and the conditions were even harder.

### Impressed Workers

At this new place there were a number of men whose status was the same as ours. They were impressed workers from Poland, Russia and Czechoslovakia. It was harder for them to slow down their work than it was for us, but they invented a way of doing it.

What they did was this: With a safety-razor blade they would make a fairly deep cut on one hand, from the base of the thumb to the base of the forefinger. Into this cut they would rub dirt and all manner of refuse so that it looked as if it was very sore and infected.

This would be enough to convince the Germans that the man couldn't do a day's work and gave him an opportunity to slow down. The Hitlerites were always trying to find out what kind of work it was that resulted in so many cut hands.

When the doctor asked the men how they hurt their hands he would get many

*Continued on page iv*





# When the Showdown is Near, Wehrmacht Bets the Pot on a Counter Offensive!

Ludendorff Gambled in 1918  
And Lost the War; Rundstedt  
Tried It Last Week and ???

By France Herron

Warweek Staff Writer



FINAL GERMAN OFFENSIVE of World War I was launched March 21, 1918. It was a showdown bet and Gen. Erich von Ludendorff lost.

**H**OLLOW-EYED Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt, once given the boot by Hitler because of "inefficiency," turned loose his legions a week ago in the Luxemburg-Belgium sector in a sky-high bid to crash the Allied forward line and stretch what appeared to be Germany's last mile into a long, bitter fight.

His surprise, phantom-like dash through the shadowy Ardennes—the very same path over which the Wehrmacht struck in 1940—brought down a veil of censorship in Axis and Allied press alike, and with it some feverish speculation as to the plight of Hitler's weakening fortress.

Some viewed Rundstedt's counter-drive with a wide eye and a cocked ear, and whispered: "This is Ludendorff's 1918 scrap all over again." Out came the history books and the World War I summaries. Bar-room strategists and genuine field quarterbacks delved into maps and figures to see if this might possibly be a repeat of the last time, when Kaiser Wilhelm's Germany made a final fling to win all before collapsing like a deflated lung.

The first battle of the Somme in 1916 tore great gaps in the German ranks and weakened the enemy considerably. Falkenhayn, German high chief who had fought more for a draw than actual victory, was replaced by ambitious Gen. Erich von Ludendorff, who was a Prussian nut on efficiency and military tradition.

## The Big Gamble

When Ludendorff arrived at the front as Falkenhayn's successor, he took one look at the remnants of the Kaiser's once husky army and said: "The future looks dark. The army has been fought to a standstill and is utterly worn out."

But Ludendorff was a gambler—with a little of the bluffer's blood in him.

He got chummy with Adm. von Holtzendorff, chief of the naval staff, who guaranteed that if he could get his U-boats into unrestricted warfare by Feb. 1, 1917, "Britain will sue for peace by Aug. 1."

Then Ludendorff prepared his famous rear line of defense, the Hindenburg Line or Siegfried-Stellung. Next, he instituted a new system of defense in depth, which saved Germany from getting knocked out in 1917.

Aided by Ludendorff's tactical genius and a few Allied blunders, the German

Army survived several offensives, including the Aisne, Arras, Messines, Ypres and Cambrai. Better than merely surviving, Germany even gained superiority of numbers on the Western Front after the Russian Armistice of Brest-Litovsk.

Now was his chance, thought Ludendorff. Now he would rout the Allied armies. There was still a smell of victory in the air.

## The Date: March 21, 1918

The Germans launched their great Somme offensive on March 21, 1918. Next came the Lys drive in April and the Aisne in May. They struck out again on the Metz offensive on June 9, and all proved to be terrific blows to the Allies.

Ludendorff was going great guns.

The Paris-Chalons railway—main east and west artery—was cut at Chateau-Thierry; the Amiens-Paris railway was brought under artillery fire, and the northern system about Hazebrouck was dislocated. This left the Allied armies under a heavy strain—their supply lines were practically shattered.

But this was where the Germans erred. Ludendorff—"infallible"—Ludendorff—had undertaken the Aisne offensive to defeat the French reserves, which had been coming to the aid of the British. With these French reserves out of the way, it was his plan to transfer his Aisne strength to the north for a savage assault on the British in Flanders.

But this plan ran afoul.

The Germans hit a snag when Marshal Foch struck hard with a punch that threw the enemy back to the Aisne and the Vesle, leaving 30,000 prisoners and 800 guns behind. This counter-stroke by Foch—in mid-July—was the first Allied victory of 1918. It took the initiative away from Ludendorff.

## The Allies Hit Back

The Allies followed up with a drive launched south of Albert on Aug. 8, with the freeing of the Amiens-Paris railway

the objective. Thirteen days later the British opened an attack around Bapaume, while the French struck south of the Oise and gained valuable ground near Soissons.

The Germans were falling back.

On Sept. 2, the British cracked the Drocourt-Queant line which forced Germany to make more withdrawals, abandoning gains which had been made in the Lys offensive in Flanders. This freed the Hazebrouck railway system, captured 130,000 enemy prisoners and 1,800 enemy guns in seven weeks' time.

Before Ludendorff could catch his breath the Americans hit hard at Saint Mihiel on Sept. 12, where they smashed a German salient, took 16,000 prisoners and 450 guns. This freed the Paris-Avrucourt railway, and was quickly unravelling all of Ludendorff's spring offensive gains.

The Allied drives gained momentum.



Here are four shots of two German generals whose military gambles may have been similar. The world awaits the answer as America's doughboys slug it out with the Wehrmacht. Top, Erich von Ludendorff, the World War I character. (Below) Gerd von Rundstedt, present field marshal of German forces on the Western Front. (Right) Ludendorff is pictured with Prince Heinrich of Prussia, brother of the ex-Kaiser.

In the early hours of Nov. 7 a message came through from Germany stating that her envoys would like to pass through the lines and sue for an Armistice.

## The Enemy Camp: 1918

It was learned soon after the war that all was not rosy in the German camp during the final few months. Ludendorff, on Aug. 12, had told Col. von Haeflton, representative of the high command, that "there is no more hope for the offensive; the generals have lost their foothold."

The Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, a field marshal, wrote a letter on August 15, which said, "I no longer believe that we can hold out over the winter; it is even possible that a catastrophe will occur even earlier. . . ."

And Hindenburg himself wrote a letter to the Kaiser on Oct. 3, saying, "Germany's cause was lost, and that 'It is imperative to stop fighting in order to spare the German people and its allies further useless sacrifices. Every day lost costs thousands of brave soldiers' lives. . . ."

That was how things stood in 1918—

even before hostilities ceased. The High Command prodded the Army to keep fighting, and the Army insisted that the war was already lost.

This time—1944—there has been some evidence that dissension again has sprung up between the German high command and army. When von Brauchitsch loused up the Russian campaign he was canned. Gen. Werner von Fritsch, who mapped the downfall of Poland, was later announced as "dead" by the Nazis—and von Fritsch was admittedly in the Nazi black book.

Then Rundstedt was fired, but he came back again. Other army leaders were erased by Himmler, who said it was army men who tried to bomb Hitler last July.

Other than those few incidents, the news from Germany has been stifled. No one knows just what German army leaders are thinking today—just as no one knew in 1918 what Ludendorff and Hindenburg were thinking.

This week the experts held the history books and the summaries. They watched Rundstedt's dash across the Ardennes with interest. And they wondered.





## GI JERRY

by Lt. Dave Breger

## Nazi Guide-Book

Part XXV



Lt. Dave Breger

WE KNOW  
YOU LOOK SILLY AS HELL,  
BUT IN THESE  
CRITICAL TIMES  
WE HAVE TO  
KEEP UP THE  
PEOPLE'S  
FAITH!



"We believe in God in heaven who has sent you to become our Fuehrer and liberate Germany. That is our faith." DR. ROBERT LEY, SEPT. 11, 1936  
"With all our power we will endeavour to be worthy of the Fuehrer that you, O Lord, have sent us!" RUDOLF HESS, APR. 21, 1938  
"We know that the Fuehrer in all these years, since he became our leader, always and everywhere has done the right thing. During all these years Almighty God has blessed him and the nation time and again." In the Fuehrer He has sent us the Saviour."  
HERMANN GOERING, SEPT. 10, 1938



NOW, I ASK YOU, DEAR  
READER, WHAT BETTER  
PROOF DO YOU NEED OF  
THE EVIL JEWISH  
INFLUENCE ON THEM?

"The Jews have taught the Germans to smoke tobacco in order to destroy the German nation and simultaneously to make money."  
JULIUS STREICHER, NOV. 7, 1938

HERE, YOUR EXCELLENCY —  
STOLEN SECRET MICROSCOPIC STUDY  
OF JEWISH BLOOD CORPUSCLES,  
MAGNIFIED 35,000 TIMES!



"The blood particles of a Jew are completely different from those of a Nordic man. Hitherto one has prevented this fact being proved by microscopic investigation."  
JULIUS STREICHER, MAR. 1, 1935



"With a nation emphasizing race principles as strongly as the new Germany does, it is self-evident that the race restrictions also are extended to man's most faithful companion, the dog. Here most urgently a change must be brought about."  
"DER BERLINER TIERFREUND," JAN. 1933

## More About

## Nazi Labor Gang

Continued from page ii

different answers. Some said the rough edges of the bricks had cut them. Others blamed the tools, saying the handles were rough and full of splinters. One man even told the doctor, with a perfectly straight face, that he had cut his hand on a spoon while eating his noon-day soup.

## Other Women

There were a number of other women in addition to the three girls who had been transferred to this place with me. The Hitlerites were very cruel toward them.

Women who were pregnant were forced to work right up to the last day before their babies were born and then, after only a few days, had to return to their labors. They were given only a very short time each day to be with their babies and to care for them. The rest of the time these very young children were left alone and unattended in the barracks. Many became ill but the Fascists seemed to have no pity, even for the sick little children.

There were some of the women workers who could not stand it and who sought by any means to make their lot better. The factory superintendent realized this and any attractive young girl who was willing to sell herself for better rations, easier work or a few extra articles of clothing had the opportunity of arranging such transactions. There were not many—but there were some.

All through this summer there was a mounting sense of excitement among the impressed workers in the brickyard. We learned of the American landings from the conversation of the soldiers and of the officials of the place where we worked.

At first they were very contemptuous about the American troops who had landed in Normandy.

"Wait until we counter-attack," they said. "Then we will drive the Americans and British back into the sea. Days went by and sometimes when we asked about the counter-attack and how it was going the Hitlerites would become very angry. They would curse us, saying:

"Silence, communist dogs. When the Fuehrer is ready to attack, then we will attack. The Fuehrer knows."

But we could see that they were beginning to get worried.

Then in August the whole atmosphere changed. That was when the Germans finally started their attack and, in the brickyard, they were excited and anxious, boastful and nervous at the same time.

For several days things were uncertain and the Germans grew more and more difficult. A word called for a blow and there was much punishment given out.

Then, suddenly, we knew that their big counter-attack had failed and for the first time in more than two years I really began to believe that we should be freed. I made up my mind to escape to the American lines if the opportunity ever came.

Through the latter part of the summer things grew much worse. There was much bombing from the American and British planes and the brickyard sometimes had to shut down because of the lack of coal or other materials. The character of the German troops was changing, too.

## March to Dusseldorf

Toward the end of October it became clear, even to us, that Aachen was the principal object of an attack. Then, one day, we were ordered to pack up what belongings we had and to be ready to start a march to Dusseldorf. The Americans were close and all civilians were being taken to the rear. We foreign workers were known to be hostile to Germany and they did not want us in the city if there was to be a battle there.

Most of the people saw nothing else to do but to obey. I, however, had made up my mind to escape. I spoke with several of my comrades who I thought could be trusted, and we agreed to try to get through the German lines together.

We waited for our opportunity, first arranging that our names would be answered when the roll was called. Then we hid, in the same place as that which we had used after the affair of the spinach soup. It really was not necessary for us to have made the arrangements about the roll call because, when it was time for the people to go, there was an American air raid on the railroad yards near the brickyard and the Germans just hurried the workers into ranks and marched them off as fast as they could. They didn't even bother to call out the names of the persons who were going to Dusseldorf.

## A German Soldier

We were hiding in the cellar of a disused building when a German soldier came down the steps and saw us.

"Well, here we are," I said. "What are you going to do?"

All he did was stand there a moment, his eyes blinking in the half light. Then he said:

"You're escaping, aren't you? So am I. I have had enough of this. I am going

to give myself up to the Americans. But it is dangerous here. You must find another place. Go to the woods, you will be safer there."

"I . . . I am sorry for you. I can do nothing. But it is not safe here. You must go."

He turned and ran up the steps.

He did not understand that he and all the other little Germans, carrying their machine pistols and wearing their steel battle helmets, are the people who permitted this war. He probably knows now.

After the German had gone we waited for perhaps an hour. There was a lull in the bombing then and we agreed that it would be safe to leave the cellar.

Nevertheless we hurried when we reached the open, running across the ground where there was no protection and then walking close to walls where they offered protection. So we got out of the city. There was much movement in the larger streets. German vehicles were driving toward the rear and foot-soldiers were moving into their defense positions. They were expecting an attack at any moment. It did not come for several days and during that period the Hitlerites became more and more desperate.

After we got out of the city itself, we went in the direction of some woods where we would be out of range when the bombers came again. Inside the woods the trees gave a feeling of security. We knew they would offer little protection against bombs or artillery fire, but it was a good feeling to be out of sight. Ever since I had been taken, so many months before, I had always been where someone could see me. At work, in the barracks—one was never alone. There, under the wet trees, it was almost like being a little child again. I could imagine I was drawing the trees over me, like the hood of a cloak, and that they would protect me from the eyes of the enemy as a hood protects from the rain. It was a very nice feeling.

## Firing Was Heavy

Bullets came through the forest, clipping small branches from the trees and sending down brown, dried leaves which had not already fallen.

We found a hollow in the ground, where the stray bullets could not hit us, and stayed there all day. We were very hungry. In the late afternoon we decided that the firing was getting too heavy and that it would be safer to return to the cellar during the next lull.

This was a very dangerous move, but fortunately no one was hit. We all reached the cellar safely and prepared to spend our second night of freedom there. All through the first part of the night there was a great deal of firing going on. We could hear heavy explosions in the direction of the center of the city. One of the girls said the Germans were blowing up buildings. Another said the explosions were caused by aerial bombs. A third insisted they came from shells.

We did not know what that meant and we decided that we might be able to get to a well on the other side of the brickyard. We were all very thirsty, not having had anything to drink for nearly two days.

We found an old, rusty iron can, like a small barrel, which had been thrown into the cellar after it had been emptied of paint.

This, we thought, would do very well to carry the water in.

It was a distance of about 500 meters from the cellar where we had taken shelter to the well. The path ran along the side of our building and then across an open space, around the end of another building, and then between some stacks of materials to an angle in the fence surrounding the place.

Here there was a small cottage, where an old watchman lived. He had a small garden and a well. This was where we

were going to get the water.

We tiptoed along, in the grey early-morning light, and we were very much afraid. We thought of turning back, but we were so thirsty we had to continue. It was very quiet. The firing had ended, except for shells which were bursting on some high ground on the other side of the city, several kilometers away.

When we got to the corner we waited a moment, getting up our courage to cross the open. I started across first. One of the other girls, carrying the can, was a few meters behind me. The others waited to see that we got across safely.

I had almost reached the end of the open space when I heard a voice. A man was calling to me, softly, from the piles of timber and other materials in the yard. I could not understand what he was saying, but when I saw him I realized he was an American soldier.

I have seen many soldiers, our own Red Army, the Germans, the Poles, even some Italians. I have seen French prisoners. This man was unlike them all but he looked more like our own soldiers in Russia than he did any of the others. I remember thinking:

"He looks like one of ours. . . . He looks like one of our men," as I walked toward him.

He motioned me into a dark corner, with his rifle. I stood quietly and then, when the other girl had joined me, I tried to tell him there were three more of us, behind the building. He did not understand. Then I made signs with my hands and he finally nodded.

More soldiers were coming into the brickyard all the time so that at last they were behind every building and every pile of timber and brick. There was no shooting, it was quite light by now. Then a sergeant came and then an officer and we were told to go with one of the men.

That is all I know. That is my story. That is how I came to be in the German brick factory at Aachen, and that is how it is that I am now here, in this Belgian convent, where there is food and water for washing. I want only two things now that I am away from the Hitlerites:

I would like to be a nurse again and I want to go back to my village in the Ukraine.





## The Ball's the Object



Bill Rosenblatt of Brooklyn College (left), and Don Grogget of Western Michigan both feel they have claim on the ball—if possession means ownership. Action took place at Madison Square Garden with Michigan edging the Kingsmen, 58-52.

## Behind the Sports Headlines

**LOS ANGELES**—Connie Mack is celebrating his 82nd birthday quietly here today with his thoughts, unlike those of so many his age, concentrated on the future. Regardless of war-time restrictions, a man-power shortages and everything else, Mr. Mack thinks there will be some improvement in the fortunes of his Athletics and that "the splendid fans of Philadelphia will be surprised. Connie's health? "My health has been pretty good all my life," the old man smiled. "Right now I'm happy to report that it's real good."

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.**—Gov. Prentice Cooper will be Tennessee's official representative when the Vols play Southern Cal in the Rose Bowl. The state's chief executive is traveling with the team. . . . **SAN FRANCISCO**—Alfred Masters, general manager of athletics at Stanford, killed two rumors yesterday. One was that Stanford would have a football team next year and two was that Buck Shaw, former Santa Clara coach, would be hired. Said Masters, "We won't have the first so we won't need the second."

**STILLWATER, Okla.**—Mack Creager, who boots the extra points for the Cotton Bowl-bound Oklahoma Aggies, was advised two years ago to give up football because of a heart murmur. When an Oklahoma scribe asked him for the story recently Creager, who is also sports editor of the school paper, supplied the details only on the condition that the paper use the head thought up by Creager, "Kicker's Ticker Starts to Flicker." . . . **BOSTON**—Johnny Kelley, winner of the Berwick marathon and second-place finisher in the Boston AA grind, was yesterday presented the New England AAU award as the outstanding athlete of the year.

**MEXICO CITY**—Coach George Hoban of Mexico University has named the 35-man squad which will embark for

### 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**  
PVT. Elsie ALLEN, Hemstead, L.I.; Cpl. Carl Alvin BULLOCK; Sgt. W. C. BISHOP, Spartanburg, S.C.; Myron BROCKMAN, 36296440, Madison, Wisc.; Lt. Marian CLARK, Chicago; Pfc Francis DAYTON, Thomaston, Conn.; Major Joe G. FELLOWS, Ames, Iowa; Carl FEITLER, Lt. William C. FLAHERTY, 8th Air Force; Sam GUERRERA, Brooklyn; Alvin HOEHENDORF, Detroit, Mich.; M/Sgt. Charles K. HOPKINS, Cal.; Frank IKEND, Indianapolis; Lt. Mitchell JULIUSSEN, Chicago; Cpl. Robert A. JAMES, Toledo, Ohio; WAC S/Sgt. Anna KANSAS, Colliers, W. Va.; Pvt. Maurice KERR, Cleveland Hts., Ohio; Lt. Max H. LANE, Hamilton, Ill.; Pvt. Laura LYONS, Frostburg, Md.; T/S Walter F. McMANUS, East Lynn, Mass.; 3/c Joseph MATURO, New Haven, Conn.; Lt. Kenneth A. MORRELL; Lt. Thomas J. MINGEY, Yeadon, Pa.; Lt. Harry MURPHY, New Jersey.

**Personal**  
KUPPENHEIMER—Will the officer of that name who inadvertently exchanged trousers with me at Washington or Lincoln House, London, Dec. 15, please contact me through this department?—Lt. Hoyle E. Brewer.

**West Point Remin**  
WEST POINT Class of Jan., '43, will hold a reunion Jan. 18 in London. All who can make it to be at the bar of the Grosvenor House Officers' Mess at 6 PM.—Major Bonham.

the Sun Bowl game at El Paso against Southeastern of Texas. The Mexicans' first string averages 165 pounds with the line averaging 169. Hoban said, "When we make substitutions the weight of the team drops sharply." . . . **LUFKIN, Tex.**—Coach Dutch Meyer of Texas Christian, watching Lufkin's Harmon Carswell in action today, called the 18-year-old "the greatest young passer I ever saw." Carswell completed 130 of 231 passes for 1,700 yards this year.

**LEXINGTON, Ky.**—Adolph Rupp has another fine basketball team at Kentucky. Rupp is calling 18-year-old Alex Groza the greatest pivot man to play in the Southeastern Conference in years. . . . **ST. PAUL, Minn.**—War-time eligibility rules alone could be responsible for this. When Hamline University takes on City College in Madison Square Garden Dec. 28 its center will be Howard "Stretch" Schultz, Brooklyn Dodger first-baseman. Schultz, signed by the Dodgers while still in school, returns every winter to complete a degree, and it will take him six years.

**BUFFALO**—Gus Lesnevich, light heavyweight champ on furlough after overseas duty with the Coast Guard, will make his first professional ring appearance in three years against Phil Muscato in Buffalo Dec. 27, but his title won't be at stake. Lesnevich fought last in Mar., 1942, decisioning Jimmy Bivins. . . . **CHICAGO**—Bowlers who get more of a bang out of making a seven-ten split than a strike need not feel bad when they miss. According to ABC figures, of nearly 150,000 teams bowling, only 15 such splits were made last year compared to 25 perfect games.

**Dick Tracy**  
By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune



## T Is for Tucker, Army's '45 Quarter

**NEW YORK, Dec. 22 (AP)**—Y. Arnold Tucker, the last man to handle the ball in the historic Army-Navy classic, will be Army's sleight-of-hand expert on the gridiron next fall. He'll do the signal calling from the deceptive T formation quarterback spot so ably filled in 1944 by Doug Kenna and Tom Lombardo.

The No. 1 football game of the year, or the decade, if you prefer, was hardly over when some of the press box pundits began shouting praises of the Army teams to come.

"But," said someone with half a mind on the future, "Kenna and Lombardo will be graduated next June. That leaves Army without a first-class football field general. Who will replace them?"

It didn't take us long to remind them that Army's national champions also had a third signal caller, a plebe named Tucker from Miami, Fla., who was good enough to break in with a couple of seniors almost every game.

Lt. Col. Andy Gustafson, the backfield coach who had just been promoted from a mayor, was hunted down. He reiterated something he had said months before:

"Tucker is one of the finest T prospects we have."



Y. Arnold Tucker

Tucker was one of the most jubilant Army players on the spacious Municipal Stadium turf when he ended the game by intercepting a pass intended for Navy end, Ben Martin, on Army's 30.

You see, Bruce Smith, Navy back,

threw the pass and Bruce and Arnold were 1942 teammates at Miami High, Smith captaining the eleven in his final year when Tucker ran up 122 points in nine games.

Both chose military life, but Smith got to Annapolis a year before Tucker's entrance to West Point, Tucker meanwhile putting in a year of studying and a season of football as a Navy V-12—yes Navy!—at Miami University in 1943.

Tucker still is a comparative unknown in connection with Army football, though in 47 high school and college contests only twice has he been on the losing side.

He knows how to handle the pigskin, as witness a few of his feats:

Aeried 12 yards to Barney Poole on the goal line and passed 42 to Bob Chabot on the nine against Penn.

Passed 37 to John Sauer, who ran 14 for a score; interception and 34-yard run for touchdown against Villanova.

Passed 22 to Tom Hayes in end zone against Pitt.

So you see, he can throw 'em or catch 'em. And down around Miami they consider him the ultimate in runners.

## Red Wings Rout Rangers, 11-3

**DETROIT, Dec. 22**—The Detroit Red Wings defeated the New York Rangers, 11-3, here last night before a slim

### Hockey League Standings

	W	L	T	P		W	L	T	P
Montreal	13	4	2	28	Boston	8	11	1	17
Detroit	11	5	3	25	New York	3	11	4	10
Toronto	10	6	2	22	Chicago	3	11	2	8

gathering of 7,000. Flash Hollett turned the hat trick as his mates rolled up the biggest victory margin of the current National Hockey League campaign.

Mud Bruneteau scored twice for the Wings in the first period, Hollett and Don Grosso once while Grant Warwick tallied for the Rangers, and in the second stanza the Wings busted the nightmare loose by banging home five goals.

Fred Thurier and Ab Demarco provided the final goals for the Rangers.

## All Work, Little Play For Tennessee Eleven

**PASADENA, Cal., Dec. 22**—John Barnhill, coach of the Tennessee football team which meets Southern California here in the Rose Bowl New Year's Day, has cancelled all sight-seeing and movie studio trips for his athletes until a couple of days before the game.

Barnhill looked over his 38-man squad today and announced that all hands are in good shape except End Roy Cross, whose early season arm fracture is still knitting.

The Trojans worked out both physically and mentally today. After a skull session stressing defense, the Southern Cal. squad had a one-hour workout with George Murphy, second-string quarterback, tossing passes just for insurance against any mishap to Jim Hardy.

## East's Squad Starts Shrine Game Workouts

**SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22**—Bernie Bierman and George Hauser of Minnesota

and Andy Kerr of Colgate sent their 23-man Eastern Football squad through a workout here today almost immediately after the team got off the train, and the coaches said they would keep the men busy until two days before their Shrine game with the West on New Year's Day.

The 24th member of the squad, Ohio State's All-American Les Horvath, stayed back in Columbus to catch up on his studies and will leave for the west Sunday.



LES HORVATH

## 'FFFs' Carry TCU Hopes Against Aggies in Cotton Bowl

Special to The Stars and Stripes

**FORT WORTH, Tex., Dec. 22**—The "FFF" or Fifteen Fighting Frogs will carry the hopes of Texas Christian for an upset victory over Oklahoma A and M in the Cotton Bowl at Dallas on New Year's Day.

They are the boys who carried the load for Texas Christian's lightly-manned team through most of the season and were dubbed the "FFF" by campus cohorts who think they may be good for one more surprise victory. Seven are 17-year-olds, six are military service men with medical discharges, one is 4-F and one is a Navy V-12.

Four starters were named on all-conference teams, and Captain Clyde Flowers, a tackle, received All-America mention. Other all-conference players picked on various teams were Center Jimmy Cooper, who has discharges from both the Army and Navy; End Merle Gibson, second leading scorer in the conference, and Fullback Norman Cox, the team's most dependable first-down man.

Cox operates with three 17-year-olds in the starting backfield—Halfbacks Bobby Huff and Randy Rogers, and Quarterback Jim Busby. Typically rangy Texans, all are over six feet.

Herman Smith, an old-fashioned "watch charm" guard who weighs only 170 and is five-feet-eight, and John Cooke, 186-pounder from Dallas, flank Cooper at center. Flowers' running mate at tackle is Harry Baxter, from Ashland, Ohio, while Floyd Chroister, a Kansan from Coffeyville, is the other starting end.

Coach Dutch Meyer thinks it was sheer fight that kept the Christians going to seven victories, two defeats and one tie this season and says the boys "may have one more good upset left in them."

## Sewellmen Staged No. 1 Comeback of '44

**NEW YORK, Dec. 22**—Polls conducted by the Associated Press and released day by day have become a virtual rout for the St. Louis Browns. They've just been voted 1944's number one comeback team after having been selected as sportdom's number one surprise, both honors resulting from their winning the American League pennant for the first time in history.

They previously had placed high in the poll for the year's number one flop because of their futility in the World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals.

Sammy Sneed's successful return to big money golf was voted the second most startling comeback and Charlie Grimm's job of managing the Chicago Cubs was ranked third.

### No Time Limit Match

**RENO, Nev., Dec. 22**—Wladyslaw Talun, gigantic Polish wrestler, can get in his training without even leaving the old fireside from now on. Today he married Edith Thomas, a woman wrestler from Buffalo, N.Y.



Jim Cooper  
Horned Frogs' Hustling Center

## Illness Causes Luisetti To Quit Sports for Good

**NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 22**—Angelo "Hank" Luisetti, one of the greatest basketball players in history while at Stanford seven years ago, has shot his last goal.

Luisetti, now a Navy lieutenant, was stricken recently with spinal meningitis and the medication necessary has so affected him that physicians have ordered him to leave athletics alone.

## Milwaukee Brewers Sign Cullop to Succeed Stengel

**MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 22**—The Milwaukee Brewers have announced that Nick Cullop, who resigned as manager of the Columbus Redbirds, had been signed to succeed Manager Casey Stengel, who resigned at the end of the past season.

Cullop, who played with the Yankees, Reds and Senators in the majors, brought Columbus in third in the American Association in '43 and they defeated Milwaukee in the playoffs before winning the Little World Series against Syracuse. The Redbirds didn't make the playoffs last season, finishing fifth while the Brewers were winning the pennant.

## Joe Tinker Hospitalized With High Blood Pressure

**ORLANDO, Fla., Dec. 22**—Joe Tinker, former shortstop of the Chicago Cubs' famous Tinker to Evers to Chance double play combination who was admitted to the Orange General Hospital here Tuesday night, was reported today "resting comfortably."

Tinker, who was seriously ill last winter with pneumonia but pulled through after a siege in an oxygen tent, is suffering from high blood pressure.

## All-America Loop Signs McNally

**PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22**—Vince McNally, assistant football coach at Holy Cross, has signed with the San Francisco club of the All-America professional football conference to serve as eastern representative and scout. He declined an offer to return to Holy Cross.

By Chester Gould



By Al Capp





# ETO Christmas Never So Rough That Some GIs Haven't Known Rougher



Pfc WAYNE SAMPLES (left), of Van Buren, Ark.: "My buddy, Wright, and I spent the last two Christmases together in the Aleutians as riflemen in an infantry division, and, brother, it was cold. I had the regular Army Christmas menu, and I'm hoping to better it here in England."

Pfc SHELDON B. WRIGHT, of Houston, Tex.: "On Christmas, 1943, I was stranded in a snowstorm near Dutch Harbor and ate a dinner of canned sardines. Believe me, I'm going to put on the feed bag to make up for it. Plan to spend most of my spare time dining out, too."



T/Sgt. FRANCIS L. SMITH, of Kansas City, Kan.: "I was a medic for the last three Christmases in Hawaii, and in that warm climate Christmas never seemed quite real. This year it will be more like a real Christmas with this cold weather, and best of all, I'll be able to get a drink."



T/5 CECIL FARRIS, of St. Louis, Mo.: "I spent Christmas of '41, '42, and '43 as a medic in Alaska—brrr. I got married to an Army nurse there. I'm hoping she'll be here by Christmas as she was at a POE in the States when I last heard from her. And we'll have a real feed to celebrate."



Cpl. WILLIAM C. COX, Freeman, W.Va.: "At Christmas, '43, I was at Galapagos Island, Panama Canal Defense Zone, with an infantry outfit. I unloaded myself and supplies there before Christmas, 1942. I'm looking forward to the holiday here, which I plan to celebrate with English children."

## Life in Those United States May Have to Re-Equip 1st Army, Krug Warns

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (ANS)—Chairman Julius A. Krug of the War Production Board told a press conference today that it might be necessary to re-equip the 1st Army, then added: "The Allies must be prepared to fight the kind of war we have been fighting for the last months for the next year—or as long as it takes."

Pointing out that it was "inevitable" that the German spearhead would destroy large quantities of Allied supplies, Krug said that "these must be promptly made up." He further declared that the "Army needs will be greatly increased as a result of the German counter-offensive."

Meantime, Samuel W. Anderson, vice-chairman of WPB, said the "present military situation in Europe will come back and hit us between the eyes in various ways—at present unknown." The further prolonging of already-imposed restrictions on civil production was seen by Anderson.

CAPITAL SIDESHOW: Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, of New York, the defeated Republican Presidential candidate, probably will get to the White House after all. . . . Dewey has been invited with the chief executive of each state to attend the inauguration of President Roosevelt, Jan. 20.

The infantry now is getting, not only the most, but the best of the Army's manpower, Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, head of the Ground Forces, said. . . . More adequate staffing of committees by experts in subjects which come under their jurisdictions is a featured item in the proposed plan to "streamline" Congress.



GOV. DEWEY

## Eleanor's Column Is 'Different'—FDR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—President Roosevelt today described newspaper columnists as an unnecessary excrescence on civilization—but quickly added that Mrs. Roosevelt's column "My Day," is different.

The question arose during a discussion at the President's press conference of joint chiefs of staff to handle political and economic matters for the Allies, and he was asked if that was contemplated.

Answering, he said he believed columnists suggested it—adding that his wife's column is a bit different because mostly it is a diary.

## USAAF Band Opens Concert Tour Today

The U.S. Army Air Forces band, recently arrived in the U.K., will open a 60-day concert tour of 17 cities and 45 air bases in England with a concert open to the public at the Royal Albert Hall, London, at 2.30 PM today.

Receipts from public concerts will go to the RAF Benevolent Fund.

## FDR Salutes the Forces For Restoring 'Spirit of Xmas'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—Christmas messages of hope and gratitude, including two from President Roosevelt, have been sent by the nation's leaders to the men and women of the U.S. armed forces throughout the world.

To "our ill and wounded fighters," the President declared: "With a deep personal sense of obligation, I welcome the privilege of sending to you . . . a message of admiration and affection. You have given of your blood and health to restore to Christmas its meaning and to make the spirit of Christmas genuinely prevail throughout the world. . . . We would not cheapen your hours of heroism by wishing you a 'Merry Christmas,' but we wish you to know that we are with you in spirit, in comradeship and in faith."

To all members of the armed forces the President said:

"With solemn pride . . . I salute those



PRES. ROOSEVELT

who stand in the forefront of the struggle to bring back to a suffering world the way of life symbolized by the spirit of Christmas."

Stimson Expresses Gratitude  
Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson expressed the "admiration of a grateful nation for your courage and fortitude."

Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff, sent the nation's thanks "for victories of recent months and for the magnificent work and sacrifice of the men in the field."

Secretary of Navy James V. Forrestal said: "Your efforts have brought us all nearer to the day of victory—to the day when we shall again know 'peace on earth.'"

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific naval commander-in-chief, expressed hope, saying:

"We may look forward to this new year assured it will see new and more powerful blows dealt the enemy and that it will bring us closer to victory and peace. That is the priceless gift you are earning for your loved ones and all future generations."

Japs Give U.S. PW's Parcels  
Parcels for American prisoners of war in Japan are now being distributed among U.S. prisoners in Korea and other provinces, a Japanese spokesman declared yesterday over Tokyo Radio.



FORRESTAL

**They'll Bare Up**  
HELENA, Mont., Dec. 22 (ANS)—There's a safety pin shortage here and the WPB has suggested that "babies will have to stop swallowing safety pins and mothers will have to be more careful if they hope to get through the critical period without embarrassment."

**Harry Langdon Dead**  
HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22 (UP)—Stage and film comedian, Harry Langdon, died of a cerebral haemorrhage today. He was 60.

## Most Papers 'Hit' Readers Between Eyes

NEW YORK, Dec. 22 (ANS)—Black headlines—most of them two inches high—startled the American people yesterday as the German offensive rolled on. Some editors appeared to be trying to put the best face on things, but more seemed to have adopted the policy of giving it to their readers right between the eyes.

Many papers approached the story the way The New York World Telegram headlined it: "Yank Rally Slows Nazis." The majority, however, went along with The New York Post's "Greatest Battle of War," and The New York Sun's "Nazis Still Gain."

In Chicago, The Sun screamed in its biggest type: "Nazis Gaining in Luxembourg; U.S. Losses Worst Since Bataan." The Detroit News said: "Nazi Push Slakens"; The Cleveland Plain Dealer—"Nazi Offensive Grows in Fury"; The Wyoming State Tribune—"Eisenhower Timetable Wrecked as Nazis Plunge Deeper into First Army Lines."

**Output on Schedule**  
PAWTUCKET, R.I., Dec. 22 (ANS)—Keeping abreast with their lifelong habit of doing things on the same days, Mrs. John J. Weeks and Mrs. Charles Perry, twin sisters, gave birth to daughters on the same day. Both mothers are married to Navy men serving overseas.

## At Front, No Qualms Joes Demand U.S. Use 'V1'

WITH U.S. FORCES, Germany, Dec. 22 (AP)—Allied troops being pounded by German V-weapons want to know when they are going to start sending a few flying bombs back.

"If we build a better flying bomb, why the hell aren't we using it?" asked one GI after reading a story in The Stars and Stripes to the effect that the American buzz-bomb was better than the German model.

Fighting men know German secret weapons cannot be dismissed with a shrug. Arguments that these weapons are indiscriminate do not impress the man in a foxhole.

In recent weeks, British and American troops in the rear areas have been attacked with V1s and V2s and the latest V-weapons, which has been likened to heavy artillery. Men who hear these droning over the lines to the rear would very much like to hear them going the other way.

**Cupid Darts—With Dough**  
CHICAGO, Dec. 22 (ANS)—Mrs. Mary Phelps was granted a divorce today after testifying how, after a whirlwind courtship and honeymoon in New York in 1939, her husband left her in Grand Central Terminal while "he made hotel reservations." She said she hadn't seen him since, nor the \$15,000 she gave him.

**Col. McCormick Married**  
CHICAGO, Dec. 22 (ANS)—Col. Robert R. McCormick, 64, publisher of the Chicago Tribune, was married to Mrs. Maryland Mathison Hooper yesterday.

**Still Privacy, but New Locale**  
CAMP MYLES STANDISH, Dec. 22 (ANS)—Pvt. Alphonse Bingle will spend Christmas in the guardhouse here. MPs seized Bingle at the Brockton (Mass.) apartment of his sister, Mrs. Malvina Strolo, where he had hidden—without leaving—for 18 months.

## ARC Features Yule Programs

Red Cross clubs throughout London will serve a free turkey dinner to troops on Christmas Day, either at noon or in the evening, while other Yule activities, ranging from children's parties to dances and shows, will be featured in most of the clubs over the holiday week-end. Full schedules of entertainment and religious services can be obtained at all clubs.

Highlighting the day's attractions, a 50-voice carol group of American soldiers will sing before the King and Prime Minister at Buckingham Palace and 10. Downing Street during their all-day carolling tour. The group will also carol at St. Paul's Cathedral at 3 o'clock on Boxing Day, Dec. 26. A performance of the "Messiah" will be given at the Royal Albert Hall at 2.30 PM on Dec. 26, tickets for which are obtainable at Red Cross clubs.

Christmas pantomimes, highly revered in England and played by popular British actors, will be offered at the Palace, Stoll, Winter Garden and Coliseum theaters.

## She Who Danced as Benito Fiddled Juggled for 30 years

Cornelia Tanzi, poetess who wrote ecstatic lines about Benito Mussolini's fiddling in the days when she danced while he played, was sentenced in Rome yesterday to 30 years in prison on charges of having collaborated with the Germans by giving away information on the location of Italian divisions which hid out after Italy had asked for an armistice.

The 36-year-old blonde told the court

she was not in Il Duce's graces in 1943, the Associated Press reported. "Clarette Petacci had been enjoying his favors," she said, in an attempt to show she had had no connection with the Nazis after the armistice.

At the same time, Gen. Pentimalli and Gen. Del Tetto, charged with failure to carry out military orders and with having allowed the Germans to capture Naples after the armistice, were sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment each.

## All in All, a Good Dinner Home and Here Uncle Sam's Yule Feed Will Be Bigger, but John Bull Won't Do Badly

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—There will be a big brown roast turkey together with mashed potatoes, squash, green peas, cranberry sauce and such festive fixings as salted nuts, hard candy and fruit on the table when most people in the U.S. sit down to that great American meal—Christmas dinner.

You have to "know" the butcher this year to get turkey for Christmas. There is no shortage whatsoever in staples which go with the big bird, and even delicacies like figs, dates and avocado pears are plentiful for salads.

There seems to be no shortage of colorful striped Christmas candy which sits around many American homes in bowls for after-dinner munching, either, although well-known brands of candy bars for Christmas stockings are not always available.

For the traditional Christmas breakfast there are plenty of country pork sausages on the market. For pancakes, there is real Vermont maple syrup in Eastern stores and honey and sugar syrup in the rest of the country.

There's plenty of coffee and tea. Despite chatter of a whisky shortage, many liquor stores are stocked. Needless to say, it sells well. Scotch, while not plentiful, is available some places at \$5 a bottle.

## In the Reich, No Drinks, No Butts, No Nuthin'

ZURICH, Dec. 22 (Reuter)—It's not going to be a very merry Christmas for the Herrenvolk this year. The Swiss newspaper Neue Zuercher Nachrichten, describing the food situation in Germany, said it was worse than ever.

Potatoes—usually plentiful in the Vaterland—are "a rarity," the paper said. Bread and vegetables are "unobtainable." Cabbages are rationed at one a week to a person.

No alcohol, no cigarettes, no nuthin' in Germany, according to the paper.

John Bull—after more than five hard years of bitter war—looks forward to his most lavish war-time Christmas. Arrangements have been completed, the Food Ministry announced, for trimmings to go with 1,500,000 turkeys released to civilians lucky enough to get them.

Hotel parties this year will be more popular than ever. No extra trains will be put on for the four-day holiday. Despite the fact liquor is short, Britons will do their best at celebrating.

Every family will receive one pound of almonds and shelled peanuts, according to the Food Ministry. Children under 18 will be allowed nearly double the usual candy ration.

Only one family in ten probably will get turkeys for Christmas. For families without ovens, food columns in British newspapers have been carrying advice on how to cook a Christmas dinner on a gas ring with one saucepan.

The Food Ministry also promised a slightly increased ration of pork veal for both adults and children, and "more puddings than last year."

There appears such an abundance of Christmas trees that many shops fear getting stuck. Toys and tree-trimming materials, however, are lacking in shops.

## Terry and the Pirates

