



WAD-LIB



FOR THE MEN WHO FLY 'EM • FOR THE MEN WHO KEEP 'EM FLYING

Vol. 1, No. 7

Thursday, March 22, 1945

Printed in Italy

Free

RIVIERA REST CAMP IDEAL TOURNAMENT WINNERS PLEASED

Cannes, on the French Riviera, is the latest word in Rest Camps, according to tournament winners (Officers) back from five days at the famous resort.

Air Corps men (being what we are) gave a surprisingly unlarid picture of the place. While commenting favorably on the "tres chic" mademoiselles with their startling coiffures and colorful dress, our heroes spent most of the time describing the beautiful blue sea, wonderful beach, snazy night clubs, the fishing and boating, balmy air, unwarlike atmosphere (more civilians than soldiers, and no bombed buildings), ancient but smattly decorated villas, and the absence of "cigarette, Joe," "signorina, Joe," "caramell, Joe." All agreed prices are at heavy bombardment level. (Cont'd on page 2)

DUDS TO YOU

Lt. Raymond W. Fyhrie, 727, and his crew hope the Nazis keep on making bigger and better "duds".

As Pilot on a recent mission over the Moosebierbaum Oil Refinery, Austria, they came the closest they have ever been to paying a visit to their Maker. Leader of the second attack unit, Lt. Fyhrie made his run at almost the exact time the enemy sent up a storm of flak. An 88-millimeter shell struck the Number 2 engine squarely, went thru the super-charger and out the wing. However, outside of making a hole large enough for an elephant to fall through, no one was even slightly hurt. Yes, you guessed it--the shell was a "dud"!

The plane had to be salvaged.

NOTE FOR YOUR NOTEBOOK

S/Sgt. James B. Lehan, Orientation Section APT/MTO former professor at Leland-Stanford University, will be guest speaker of I-E Section next Sunday, group briefing room, 1400 hours. His Subject: G-I BILL OF RIGHTS.

MAN OF THE WEEK

CAPT. "NEEDLES" MCKENNA

Navagatin! Mac has been the pride of combat crews for all of his 34 missions over the toughest spots on the enemy map.

It is said (and probably true) that when he lines up his "mickey" for the bomb drop, he hums. The reason for this, of course, is purely personal, and so long as the bombs hit the target there cannot be any criticism.

Different, however, is the great, blond, Irishman, when he toggles ping-pong balls. In this game his adversary is subjected to a running patter of sense and nonsense, much to the delight of onlookers.

He has been described as impassive on a bomb run, and this holds true in a ping-pong game, despite his ready commentary on his opponent's failure to meet his serve.

He turns an indignant eye to charges that he is a needler. "A needler," he says "is a philosopher." I am merely the best ping pong player in the group." (Cont'd on page 2)

MOVIES

ANIMAL KINGDOM - Tonight
MR. SKEFFINGTON - 23rd & 24th
G-I MOVIES - 25th
MY PAL WOLF - 26th and 27th

INFORMATION**EDUCATION

Wanted: Teachers and Students. See your I-E Officer.

CHAMPS-READY FOR BATTLE STEINWINTER WINS 2 EVENTS

The six-angle Special Service Tournament has reached the elimination stage, with 29 competitors confident that they will take Wing honors.

In the 451st Group, the outstanding contestant is Major H. D. Steinwinter, (S-4) won top place in Ping Pong and Chess against the best that Group could offer.

Within the week we can expect to see the finals over and six of our family ready to take on finalists in the Wing set-to.

Event, units, and winners follow:

Ping Pong: Gp. Hq. Major H. D. Steinwinter, 724 Lt. C. E. Wood Jr., 725 Lt. A. L. Davidson, 726, none; 727, 2nd Lt. A. L. Miskend, Cribbage: Gp. Hq. Capt. D. J. Coffey, 724 Lt. L. E. Robertson, 725 S/Sgt. V. J. Zimmer, 726 Major B. V. Pearson; 727 Lt. S. Swardlick. (Cont'd on Page 2)

SING SING, NO DOUBT

GI JOE: Hey, Bud, how long have you been in the Army?

Soldier: Two years.

GI JOE: What'd you do before you got into the Army?

Soldier: Two years.

USO ON WAY HERE

"The Novelaires", USO Unit 450, will show at group Theatre March 25. One performance only. See your Orderly Room for tickets.

BANSHEE

That weird shriek you hear at 1200 hrs. serves to tell you it's chow time--and time to buy bonds. War Bonds is your security after the war. Buy Now.

AD LIB is published every Thursday by the Information-Education Section of the 451st Bomb Gp (H) -

Col. Leroy L. Stefonowicz.....Commanding
Capt. Harry T. Fontaine.....Editor
Squadron Editors:

Cpl. Sanford Beck..... 724th Squadron
S/Sgt. A. M. Maffetone..725th Squadron
Sgt. P. H. Groetsch..... 726th Squadron
Sgt. M. G. Weill..... 727th Squadron

CANNES A GOOD DEAL , EH BIEN!
(cont'd from page one)

Best subtle description: "It just ain't Rome." The people are cordial, polite, and very much interested in you--after you have met them under reasonably proper circumstances. The girls and their elder sisters are featherweights on the dance floor and they know all the latest steps (if any). The girls are plentiful but not abundant. They are hard-to-get; which, after all should be quite a relief. Most of them speak understandable English, but get a kick out of you speaking French. They like Americans--our naturalness.

Tea dances are held three afternoons a week. Nightly dances bring out the belles of Cannes, with and without chaperones. Music is better than good.

SPORTS TOO--

For sports, there is everything but golf. Imagine, getting a tennis racket in your hand again, or a fishing rod?

There are night clubs--but drinks are steeper than the Alps---\$24 for good Champagne, \$3.25 or more for a double-shot of Cognac. So if you want to do any drinking stick to your hotel, where the prices are closer to your pocketbook, but double at least your club tariff.

The town itself is spotless, our winners tell us, emphatically. Shops offer all kinds of souvenirs (at high prices). So, again, stick to the P-X, which is well Organized, offering the best at the least cost.

Your hotel is the Martinez, a very famous joint in pre war days, where a bedroom is the size of the S-1 office (Group). You have your choice of shower or bath. Tiens, mon ami. You are allowed one dinner guest a day, which seems very fair, indeed. Little, if any restrictions on how you dress, and evidently you do not have to salute--even generals (just opinion, of course).

Red Cross offers tours, one to Grasse, where you are toured through a perfume factory. Prices here are said to be reasonable for the best perfume available in France; So, don't forget the girl back home.

While Cannes is not like Rome, it may remind you of Miami Beach--cleaned, polished with bunting on the roofs.

(Hell, why didn't they have tiddle-dee-winks in the tournament?)

CASTELLUC FOLLIES GOING STRONG

Capt. Daniel J. Coffey, Special Services, revealed today that the Group show played to an enthusiastic audience at the 61st Station Hospital on March 15th.

MAN OF THE WEEK (Cont'd from page one)

Holy Cross, '40, and at the outbreak of war an employee of Winchester Repeating Arms Co., Capt Mac starred in Football, baseball and hockey at New Haven High School. Came into the Army May 8, 1942, and got his navigator's wings at Swlwyn Field in '43. For his outstanding work as radar navigator, he has been awarded the DFC (led the group one day to a "must" target through soup and flak.) Air Medal with two bronze stars.
Ambition: Complete one more mission, so he can return to New Haven, Conn., and his pretty wife.

TOURNAMENT WINNERS

(Cont'd from page one)

Chess: Gp Hq Major H. D. Steinwinter, 724 T/Sgt D. B. Shore, 725 Capt W. J. McFarland, 726 Capt. A. L. Roemer, 727 Lt G. S. Crommelin.

Bridge: Gp Hq Capt W. Mattes & Capt. H. Richardson, 724 Major D. Sanford & Major M. Drobeck, 725 Sgt. F. M. Farrier & Sgt R. H. Aufflick, 726 2nd Lt. J. S. Holmes & 2nd Lt. J. A. Thayer, 727 T/Sgt F. C. Davis & S/Sgt. F. W. Scott.

Pinochle: Gp Hq Pfc H. G. Taylor & Pfc W. F. Carey, 724 Lt. H. Miller & 2nd Lt. M. I. Sternberg, 725 Cpl. F. M. Buettner & Cpl. R. J. Inglis, 726 Lt. M. C. Young & 2nd Lt. S. Kowaluck, 727 Sgt. W. Petrofsky & Sgt. A. Imperato.

Checkers: Gp Hq Capt. J. Prichett, 724 Pfc R. L. Anderson, 725 M/Sgt R. L. Hudgins, 726 Capt. A. F. Ogg, 727 2nd Lt. R. Smith Jr.

S-2 MISSION ROUND-UP

The past week has been busy with six operational days. The 14th, 15th were P. F. F. missions to Wiener Neustadt and Pragerski led by Major Lather and Lt. Col. Hoerman respectively. On the 16th Major Gorton led a visual mission to Moosbierbaum which caused substantial damage to this oil refinery. The 19th Major McKennis lead a successful mission to Muldorf M/Y and photos showed a good pattern on the target-with 100 pounders. Col. Stefonowicz lead on the 20th and had excellent results on the Wels M/Y--also with 100 pounders. Over all a very good week although it did not affect the Group's bombing average since Neither P.F.F. or 100 pound strikes are scored.

CHURCH CORNER

Catholic Mass, 1630, each Wed. and Sun. at the Hq. Theatre. Conducted by Chaplain Coughlin.
Protestant Services each Sun., 0915 at 727 EM Club and 1030 at Hq. Theatre. Veterans per at 1815 in Hq. Briefing Room. Conducted by Chaplain McNeil

As air enters quietly when we breath, and does its normal work, so Jesus enters quietly into our hearts and does His Blessed Work

--Chaplain William McNeil.

Enough thanks cannot be given to Captain Fred M. Kley for the wonderful job he did at the piano Sunday night at the dedication of Dooley Hall...Thanks also to Cpl. Cluck, group special service, and Sgt. Obier, group photo, for the help they gave...After the presidential citation ceremony, Major General Twining visited the new mess hall. The General was more than pleased. A feather in the cap of Sgt. E. O. Smith, builder and his helpers. What they are saying about the show: Pfc Walter Hack of armament, "It was good considering, but too long." Captain Malcolm Ogden, "It was terrific considering no band and only two rehearsals"...Col. LeRoy Stefanowicz, "The fact that each man has a job on the line and none could have ample time to rehearse, coupled with the fact that it was the first show, I'd say it was very good."...Major Theodore Gorton, CO, "It was a squadron show, made up of squadron talent and a damned good one."...Major George A. Welch, Exec. Officer, "A bit risqué, but it was a feather in the cap of all concerned."...Lt. Whitmarsh, Adjutant, "I think the audience appreciated what was done for them."...Sgt. Earl VanBenschotten expressed the opinion of the transportation dept., "Considering the handicaps, it was a splendid show."...T/Sgt. "Gabby" Cienski of Crew 38, "Where did the M.C. get those gags. I kicked the slats out of my crib when my Pop told me them."...Pvt. Jimmy DiLella, cock, "The show was a hit."... Believe it or not but T/Sgt. Claude Hart, snuf chewing, mustached boss of the turret section attended the show. His first in over 8 months...Chaplain McNeil caused a hush to settle over the audience with his wonderful "house blessing" prayer and Easter greeting...Congrats to: T/Sgt. Spencer "Sparks" Brandies, S/Sgt. James Menear, S/Sgt. Vance W. Miller and S/Sgt. "Tex" Jutson, who completed their missions this week...S/Sgt. Jimmy Menear had quite a scare. At 10 minutes before target time, one engine was feathered but mission was completed...Orchids to Sgts Waller and Knowles of communications for the wonderful help they gave in regards to lighting and the P.A. system...The squadron's special service office, located in one of the dressing rooms of the theater, is one of the most modern to date. Many books and etc. have already been handed out to the different sections...Ad Lib will be at the squadron's orderly room late Thursday afternoons.

- 724 -

While flying his number 27 mission, 1st Lt. Zachary T. Bunch of the 724th, celebrated his 27th birthday on April 1, 1945. We hope he is not forced to fly his 35th mission eight years from now...Major Morris J. Drobeck, Exec, and 1st Lt. Harvey Miller reaped the awards from the Group Tournament by taking off for France yesterday...Tufa block is being hauled into the squadron area for the enlargement of the present EM mess hall, while more is being supplied for a dressing room to our (Cont'd on page 4)

During the week past, three missions have been flown to Austria.

On 31 March Major McKinnis led 32 aircraft to Linz and bombed the Benzol Plant by Pathfinder.

On 1 April a formation of 31 aircraft led by Major Lather was forced to turn back by weather before reaching the target.

On 2 April however, CAVU weather prevailed at the target, St. Polton M/Y, near Vienna. The 29 aircraft led by Major Sanford over the target did a perfect job of bombing. The intense concentration of bombs was almost all within the limits of the M/Y. 84% was within 1,000 feet of the briefed aiming point.

---Major C.B. Hodges, Jr.

DOOLEY HALL SHOW WELL RECEIVED

CAST GETS LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Members of the cast of EXTRAVAGANZA OF EGGS, lively review that highlighted the dedication of Dooley Hall at the 725th last Sunday night, came in for high praise from Lt. Harry R. Collins, Jr., the squadron Special Services Officer.

In a letter to the GI artists, he said: "It is with pride and gratitude that I offer my most sincere thanks and heartiest congratulations to each and everyone of you who took part in the opening night show at "Dooley Hall".

"In these times a soldier audience is one of the most difficult audiences to please, yet your show was accepted with enthusiasm and enjoyment."

"You may be sure that your efforts were well worth while and you may be proud of the fact that you brought a period of relaxation and enjoyment to the dull and routine life of the many men who saw you perform. I believe I speak for the men of this Squadron when I say "Thank You"."

NEW ADJUTANT FOR GROUP

Captain Henry D. Richardson is the new adjutant of the 451st. Captain Richardson, who will also continue as group statistical officer assumed his new duties on March 31

THE CASTEL GETS TWO NEW DOORWAYS

Entrance to the office of the commanding officer, his deputy and executive officer, will be (in a couple of days) on the Saddle Club side of The Castle. The second doorway in headquarters now links S-1 with the adjutant's office.

REQUEST---

Your I-E Section is trying to determine how many officers and men have enrolled in USAFI for Self-Teaching courses. If you have completed a course or are beginning a course, please leave your name, rank, section, course number and name with your I-E Officer.

FLASH---FLASH USO Show #456, CORNZAPOPPIN Sunday, 8 April, 1430 and 1900 hours. Place to be announced later.

Two New York City surgeons were preparing to operate on an emergency who was just wheeled in. One said: "He's an old subway gaurd...let's give him a local."

- 3 Also a joke: A. Hitler's birthday is on April 30.

shower. It is too bad we are unable to build a stone latrine, but who can dig a hole that deep?...Captain Manoogian, S-2 Officer, doesn't know whether to feel happy or sad to return to the states for the Radar Intelligence School. He is leaving a lot of friends and admirers behind who hope he returns to the outfit as soon as possible...This week we congratulate Cpl. Ray Campagne, and Cpl. Paul Giannapoylis on their recent Bronze Star awards, also 1st Lt. William Hubbell on his Distinguished Flying Cross...Hearty slaps on the back to Sgts Olson, Adams, and Rouleau on their completion of combat duty...S/Sgt. George M. Shayne, at present is in Rome picking up the required texts before the full I-E classroom schedule goes into effect. School in the squadron is going to be on a large and high scale with many courses being offered...Sgt. Harold Payne worked long and hard hours to prepare those delicious rolls for our Easter supper. Many of the boys found them hot while going through the chow line. We hope it won't be long before Sgt. Payne favors us again...S/Sgt. Carl Lowenthal's trumpet was very impressive at the Easter sunrise service

together with Captain Kley's organing... The squadron came through with flying colors on the 15th AF bond drive, by contributing \$8,985 to the group quota of \$25,000. Sgt. Walter J. Symanski was the largest bond buyer with a credit of \$2,000...The first official softball game got underway at 0830 Monday with the armament squad defeating the "A" Flight of the Flying Personnel 2-0...Pfc. Charles Hagen was the winning pitcher, and Sgt. James Adelizzi the victorious captain, while Cpl. William Brogadir and Cpl. Robert Sherwood crossed the payoff plate for the Armorers. From now on every game counts and each day will see more action on the squadron diamond.

- 726th -

War bonds was the forte of the 726th this week with payroll lines reforming hurriedly to get in on the ground floor for the big bond raffle. The idea spawned in the teen-aging brain of M/Sgt. Garland Cole and with the added touch of 1st Sgt. Lester Norvell, it gained size and shape till it was at last revealed for public view...Tickets cost \$1.00. Tuesday evening, April 3rd, a complicated system of boxes, holding the numbers, confronted the men. After much heckling and general confusion, the drawing produced the smiling winner of the first prize, a \$500. war bond, Cpl. George McClurken. Other Winners: \$100. bond, M/Sgt. Henry E. Cheney; \$100. bond, T/Sgt. Max R. Johnson; \$50. bond, S/Sgt. Charles J. Muth; \$25. bond, S/Sgt. Stanley O. Dyer; \$25. bond, Cpl. William Kittler. Winners of the officers' raffle are as follows: Captain Dunstan, \$500.; Lt. Sudlitz, \$100.; Lt. Kam, \$100; Captain Atterholt, \$50; Lt. Collier, \$50. Much enjoyment and benefit (Cont'd next column)

it will be continued in the future...A second and equally enticing pastime is the Bond Bingo Game held after each orientation lecture. Cards are purchased at a dollar per each (No, you don't get three cards for \$2.50!), and then bingo rules are followed for deciding the winner. The war bonds are adding up to rather an impressive figure and it is really quite a kick to play the game. Multi Bonds for Uncle Sam...There are two new huts in the squadron worthy of mention. One house; Sgts Blackie Bartellone, Joseph Beresini, Anthony Antonakos, Pfc. Frank Manfredi, Pfc. Anthony Emechek and Pvt. Anthony Calabrese, have the front door and window frames painted with the brilliant green of the squadron's color. "Adobe" walls, cement floor, and a canvas-covered wooden roof completes this impressive structure numbered 00. The second structure, domicilia of S/Sgt. Lloyd Clifton, his twin

LATE SPORTS FLASH

In a hard fought seven-inning softball game, Command and S-1 Sections belted out a 14-12 victory over S-2, PRO, and Photo Sections, at Group late today. None of the leading newspaper syndicates carried this important flash, so it must be considered a clean AD LIB beat.

brother, Pfc. Floyd Clifton, S/Sgt. Charles Muth, S/Sgt. Red Bolin, and Sgt. Tyke Wilkins, also boasts a cement floor. Four be-windowe shutters will enable summer light and breeze to enter in with the utmost of ease. A canvas roof and an astro-domed door is also featured.

The pastel pink interior adds what one might call a piquant touch, but it is awfully hard on hangovers. Many hours of hard work (and foraging) are represented in these two buildings, and the amply-rewarded men are to be congratulated on their labors. When's the housewarming men?...Paul Revere Dougherty (of the Revere Stay "Way From My Door fame, and otherwise known as "Doc") had the pleasure of reading about his experiences in the Stars and Stripes during March. The story covered many of the incidents which he encountered after bailing out during raids on Blechhammer and Vienna. "Doc" has 20 missions to his credit now, and is still going strong. He says it is pretty nice to be able to talk about it back here...Pvt. Oscar Phillips, Advance, Missouri and Cpl. Dominic Helaner, Fairmont, Nebraska, parachute rigger, and veteran of 17 months in the 726th, left last Monday for Infant training. All of us wish them the best of luck.

A tired husband begged off one day from his wife's church outing, saying he had a long standing date to go duck hunting. Ne day on return his wife said: "One of the ducks you were out shooting yesterday called and left her number."

She was just a second-hand dealer's daughter, that's why she wouldn't allow much on the old sofa.

Ruch rode in my little jeep, directly back of me; I hit a bump at sixty-five, and rode on Ruthlessly.

BUY BONDS - BU. BONDS - BUY BONDS