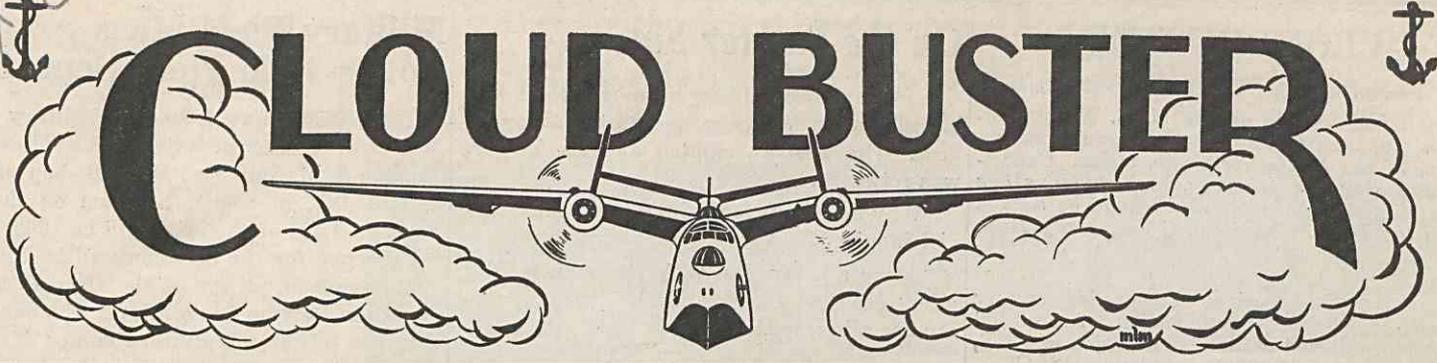


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The Far East

By ENS. W. O. SHANAHAN, USNR
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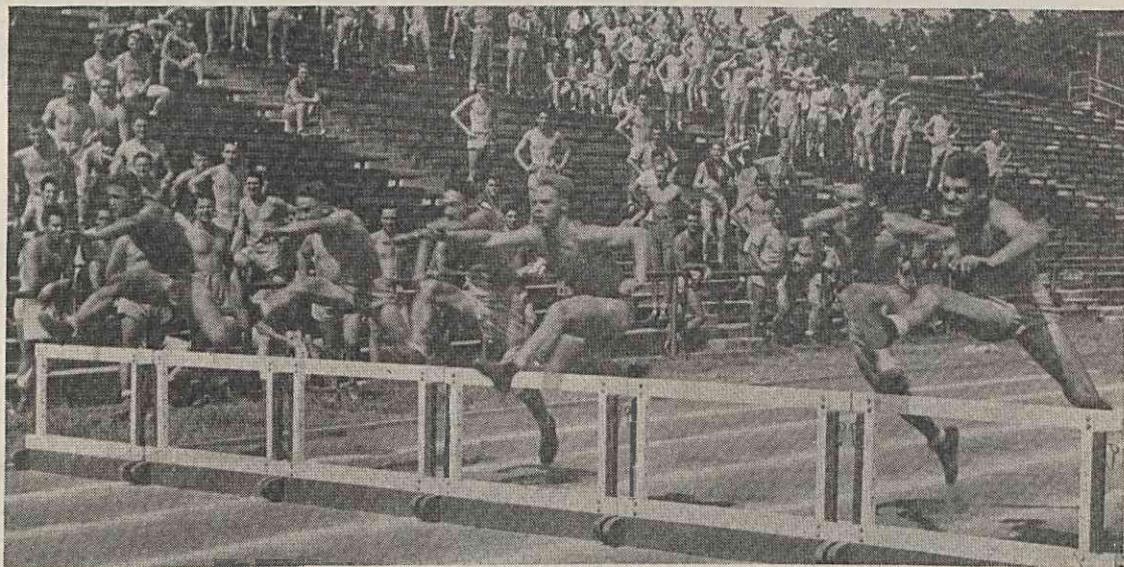
That China is the base from which the final assault on Japan must be launched is the strategy agreed on by most military men. Additional weight has been lent to this opinion by Admiral King's recent public statement that Japan would be beaten by military forces operating from Chinese bases. To the average American these statements imply that the Chinese masses will be equipped by our factories to do the fighting and that Anglo-American participation will be limited to air forays against Japanese industry.

This wishful thinking ignores both the hard realities of China's plight and the real strength of Japan's outer defenses. The public is apt to forget that China is subject to a complete blockade. No major ports on the China coast remain in Chinese hands. With the fall of Burma the celebrated motor road began to serve the enemy's will. Except for an air route from Chungking to India and tortuous caravan routes to the Soviet Union, China is cut off from the outside world.

During the first year of the war strategists were inclined to believe that Burma was the keystone of the Japanese Empire. They pointed out that if this state could be recaptured, communications with China could be restored and the Japanese might be pinned down on the continent, thus bypassing all their conquests in the Indies.

Now this prospect is viewed more pessimistically. It is estimated that if the Burma Road were reopened, not less than two years would be required to transport a minimum quantity of war materials to the Chinese army, while at least five years would elapse before it could take the offensive. In short, without deep
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Cadet Patterson Sets New 110-Yd. Low Hurdles Record



CLEARING THE LAST HURDLE at the same time three cadets finished one, two, three in the finals of the Regimental Championship 110-yd. low hurdles race here last week. The winner, running in lane number four, was Cadet J. A. Patterson of the Mariner Squadron with a new record time of 14 seconds. The old mark was 14.1. Cadet W. C. Eberle of the Vindicators was second, and Cadet V. B. Bennett of the Buffalo Squadron was third. Eberle is in lane six, Bennett in one. Cadet J. H. Sonneborn, Coronado, Cadet A. H. Ford, Helldiver, and Cadet R. E. Miner, Skyrocket, finished fourth, fifth and sixth respectively. All six cadets received the special Liberty Award last Saturday night.

Honorable Artemus Gates Addresses 27th Battalion

The Honorable Artemus L. Gates, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air, delivered the principal address to the graduating 27th Battalion here yesterday.

Arriving by plane yesterday morning Mr. Gates was met at the airport by Comdr. Graff, Lieut. Comdr. Raugh and other officers from the station. The party immediately proceeded to the mess hall where they dined with the cadets. Honors were then rendered at Alexander Hall.

Following the address to the 27th Battalion which completed its Pre-Flight Training this week, Mr. Gates witnessed a Regimental Review by the cadets. After a brief inspection of the station and observation of the Sports Program, he returned to Washington.

Yesterday marked the first time Mr. Gates has visited Chapel Hill.

150 High School Seniors to Sample Pre-Flight Training

A sampling taste of Pre-Flight training is in store for 150 high school seniors attending the 5th Annual Tar Heel Boys' State which gets underway in Chapel Hill tomorrow.

On the schedule next week for the 150 state delegates who will be housed on the station are a series of talks on various phases of aviation, special movies, military drill, and instruction in hand-to-hand, boxing, wrestling, swimming and military track.

Comdr. John P. Graff, USN (Ret.), Commanding Officer, is slated to address the seniors at

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Movie Schedule

Aug. 21—Free movie at Village Theatre, "Tennessee Johnson" with Van Heflin and Ruth Hussey. Show starts at 1553, 1930 and 2118. Complete show one hour, 48 minutes.

Aug. 22—Free movie at Village Theatre, "Silver Queen" with Patricia Lane and George Brent. Show starts at 1318 and 1446. Complete show one hour, 36 minutes.