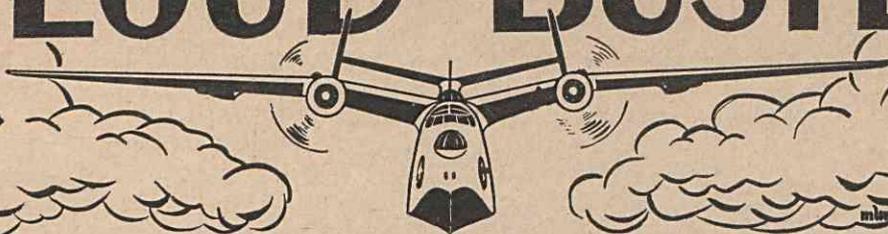


# CLOUD BUSTER



Vol. 1—No. 49

U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Saturday, August 28, 1943

## The Fortress of Europe

By ENS. W. O. SHANAHAN, USNR  
Academic Department

The *Fortress of Europe* has become more than a propaganda expression: it is a symbol of the Axis' decision to stand upon the defensive during the remainder of the war.

That the enemy should adopt a defensive strategy comes as a surprise to a generation that has thought of Axis armies solely as attacking forces. Yet defense has been advocated by many outstanding German theorists.

Karl von Clausewitz, whose principal work, *On War*, is the source of all modern German military theory, regarded defense as "the stronger form." One of the most brilliant staff officers of World War I, General Max von Hoffman, urged the German High Command in 1917 to abandon its costly attacks and stand upon the defensive. What the Germans are now attempting is essentially a modernized version of Hoffman's plan.

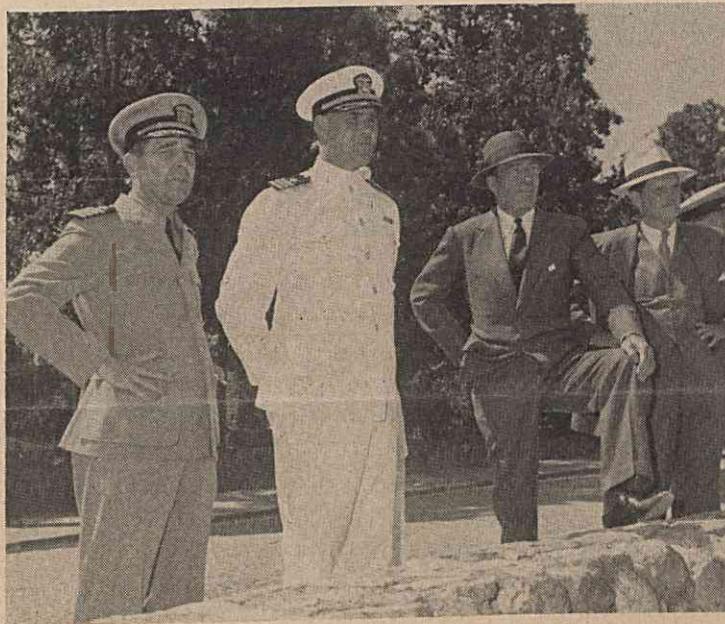
By the end of 1917 the German armies were masters of all Central Europe, the Balkans (except Greece), Finland and the Baltic, Poland, western Russia, and the Ukraine. In these vast domains lived more than 150,000,000 persons whose creative energies could be utilized to work the fields, mines, and industries for their conquerors. If fully exploited the economic resources of eastern Europe might enable Germany to withstand the naval blockade and maintain enough armed strength to beat off Allied land assaults.

When Max von Hoffman made his proposal in 1917 the defense enjoyed an immense tactical superiority over the offense. Infantry purchased its advance in the face of machine guns and quick-firing field pieces at an ex-

See *EUROPE*, page 4

## Hon. Artemus L. Gates Praises Cadets

### Dignitaries Inspect Sports Program



THE HONORABLE Artemus L. Gates watches the Sports Program with interest. Reading, left to right, Capt. Frank Ward, USN; Comdr. John P. Graff, USN (Ret.); Honorable Artemus Gates and William D. Carmichael, Jr.

#### Movie Schedule

Aug. 28—Free movie at Village Theatre, "Frankenstein Meets the Wolf Man" with Lon Chaney, Jr., and Bela Lugosi. Feature starts at 1553, 1938 and 2101. Complete show one hour, 21 minutes.

Aug. 29—Free movie at Village Theatre, "Gunga Din" with Cary Grant and Victor McLaglen. Feature starts at 1310 and 1502. Complete show two hours, two minutes.

#### Wednesday Evening Movies

Four, instead of the customary three, films will be shown for Pre-Flight personnel in Memorial Hall next Wednesday starting at 1930. The movies to be shown are "Fight for Egypt," "The Battle," "R. A. F. in Action" and "Quiz-craft No. 2."

#### A. S. Tardy Promoted To Warrant Officer

Alvin S. Tardy, Chief Radioman, who has been in naval service for 23 of his 40 years, was promoted last week to Radio Electrician with Warrant Officer's status.

More than half of his Navy years have been spent at sea, including service aboard the carriers, *Saratoga* and *Lexington*; the battleships, *West Virginia*, *Colorado*, and *Nevada*; the cruisers, *Chester* and *Omaha*; the destroyers, *Thompson* and *Rathburne*; repair and supply ships, *Buffalo* and *Vulcan*; and the minesweeper, *Swallow*.

#### Visits Station

Rear Admiral J. H. Hoover, USN, toured the activities of this station last week.

### Says Fliers Must Be Tough and Alert

Reminding the regiment of cadets that there is no room in this war for the "dreamer type" of flier but only for the "toughest and most alert," the Honorable Artemus L. Gates, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air, addressed the graduating 27th battalion of the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School a week ago yesterday.

The ceremonies were held in Kenan Stadium.

Gates complimented the aviation cadets with "I am very glad we are not playing on opposite teams," and continued:

"In war today there is no room for the dreamer type of flier. Only the toughest and most alert become the best pilots, and only the best pilots become the oldest pilots. The Navy wants you to become the oldest pilots."

Following the talk by Mr. Gates a regimental review was held.

### Band Gives Second Concert Tomorrow In Forest Theatre

The second in the series of summer concerts will be given by the Pre-Flight band tomorrow in the outdoor Forest Theatre opposite Navy Hall starting at 1630.

Among the selections to be played will be the spirited March and Procession of Bacchus from Delibes ballet, *Sylvia*, Irving Berlin's *Blue Skies*, and a revival of the old favorite, *Dardanella*.

Guest entertainers on tomorrow's program will include Fletcher Henderson, members of his famous band and his trio of girl vocalists. Also appearing will be Stephnia DeHugaley, dramatic soprano.

Directing the Pre-Flight band will be James B. Parsons, first musician.