interviewed by the press. Lt. Comdr. Diplo of the Navy Public tions is present to assist in the interview.

WELCOME HOME LT. RUDDER. HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING BACK IN THE STATES AGAIN?

WHIT. PRETTY GRIPED AT IT ALL.

21 mos
Jr DR: (TO PRESS) LT. RUDDER'S EYES WERE MISTY WHEN THE OUTLINES
ted it OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, SYMBOL OF AMERICAN FAITH AND
FIGHT FOR LIBERTY LOOMED INTO SIGHT.

PRESS: WHAT IS THE FIRST THING YOU ARE GOING TO DO IN NEW YORK LT.

LT: GET A DAME.

LT.CDR: HE INTENDS TO FLY BACK TO HIS OLD HOME TOWN IMMEDIATELY & SEE HIS MOM AND ALL THE FOLKS.

PRESS: ARE THEY GOING TO GIVE YOU THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

LT: THEY DAMN WELL SHOULD.

LT.CDR: LT. RUDDER MODESTLY DISCLAIMS ANY HIGH AWARDS. "EVERY MAN INTHE BATTLE LINE DESERVES IT AS MUCH AS I", THE ACE SAID.

PRESS: WHAT ABOUT THE CASE OF CHAMPAGNE ADMIRAL GEEVIL WAS GOING TO GIVE YOU FOR BREAKING RICKENBRECKER'S RECORD?

LT: { AW, HE CRAPPED OUT ON ME.

LT.CDR: LT. RUDDER IS A TEETOTELLER. THE PRICE OF A CASE WAS GENER OUSLY DONATED TO THE RUSSIAN RELIEF AT HIS SUGGESTION.

PRESS: HOW DID YOU SHOOT DOWN ALL OF THOSE PLANES?

LT: I GUESS I'M A PRETTY DAMN HOT PILOT.

LT.CDR: BASHFUL LT RUDDER ATTRIBUTES ALL HIS SUCCESS TO A COMBINA -TION OF TEAMWORK, LUCK AND SUPERIOR EQUIPMENT.

PRESS: DO YOU THINK THE ARMY PILOTS ARE AS GOOD AS THE NAVY PILOTS?

DT: I CAN FLY CIRCLES ROUND THEIR NAVALS.

LT.CDR: HE PAYS HIGH TRIBUTE TO THE FIGHTING SKILL OF HIS COMRADES IN THE AIR.

PRESS: WHAT ABOUT THE JAPANESE?

LT: THOSE FATHEADS! THEY DON'T KNOW THEIR FROM JRD BASE.

LT.CDR: WHAT THE LT. MEANS IS THAT THE QUALITY OF THE JAPANESE AIRS

RESS: WHAT ABOUT YOUR MECHANIC? WAS HE PRETTY GOOD?

LT. THAT DUMB SON_OF_A_B WAS BORN ALL THUMBS. IT WAS A WONDER I EVER GOT OFF THE DECK.

LT.CDR: RUDDER IS LAVISH IN HIS PRAISE OF OUR CORAGEOUS GROUND-CREWS WHO WORK DAY AND NIGHT TO KEEP 'EM FLYING.