

AIR-O-MECH A Paper Hanger Can't Fix THIS! by DENES

This newspaper is published weekly by and for the personnel of Seymour Johnson Field, N. C., under the direction of the Special Service Officer. Full coverage of the Camp Newspaper Service is received. All material is passed by the Public Relations Office. All photographs, unless otherwise credited, are Army Air Forces photographs. News appearing in this paper is for general release provided proper credit is given.

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Get Tough, Buddy!

Man for man, the Japanese are still more than a match for Allied soldiers, according to the report of an Australian newspaperman just returned from the Pacific war fronts.

"Until the Americans have further intensive training and hardening for this type of warfare, progress will remain irritatingly slow and casualties will be unnecessarily heavy," he asserted.

Well, for be it from us to challenge that statement. The correspondent is described as "just returned from the Pacific war front," and we presume his statement was based on first-hand observation. But even if we admit the truth of what he says, the answer, the corrective measures are easily at hand; two things, and two only are needed—first, a strenuous program, and second, the knowledge on the part of every American soldier that the men he may expect to meet in the Pacific have, for years, been trained with one object in view, to kill as many Americans as possible.

You men in the Air Forces are furnished a thorough course in physical conditioning; it's progressive, designed to bring you to the point where you will be able to stand hardships far beyond any you would meet in civilian life. Do you cooperate? Do you look upon your P. T. period as something that is preparing you for tough competition? Or do you look upon it as a drudgery?

Did we say "tough competition"? We should have said "competition of championship caliber." Can you live—and fight, for days on a handful of rice? Can you stand motionless in water up to your neck, waiting patiently for the enemy to appear. The Japanese can, and do. The Japanese soldier is no "second rater," he's fighting for the championship of the world. We can't win this fight by pulling a Doctor Cous on them, by crying to ourselves "every day in every way we get better and better." We still believe in that saying that a good big man can beat a good little man. We must believe we're good, but that belief must be based on fact. You can go through conditioning exercises without deriving the benefits you should—or you can think about the day you may come face-to-face with some murderously inclined "Son of Heaven," after all, it's your neck. We're going to do our best to give you the program; we still want the man beside us in battle to be good. How good you are depends on how much you put into it. Get tough while there's time. —From the Mechanic's World, Seymour Johnson Field, N. C.

One Way To Do It—

The undoubted genius of the American soldier seeking ways and means to get in this or get out of that has resulted in some tall tales of which the following is one of the higher. At a port somewhere in the Caribbean an army transport lay in the harbor getting ready to sail with a detachment of troops ordered back to the good old U. S. A.

A group of soldiers stood on the deck, surrounded by their barracks boys. Suddenly, out of the midst of this group, one soldier broke and ran, shouting at the top of his voice:

"I'm not going aboard that boat and you can't make me!"

Two burly MPs gave chase and quickly caught him. After some rough-and-tumble, they half-dragged, half-carried the struggling soldier aboard the ship.

A few hours later when the transport was miles at sea, noses were counted. There was one soldier too many.

A fighting man had found a new way to get a furlough—and legally!

Big Talk Brother—Do You Back It Up?

No matter what kind of an organization you may be in, there will always be a few "Wise Guys." With the Army having so many men, a larger number of these social pests are present. The former boys who have never been away from home and the meek youngsters who have never "been around" kill easy prey to this menace.

However after a few months of this "razing" the former boy and meek youngsters begin to throw some fibes of their own. And the question arises:

"MR. WISE GUY, CAN YOU TAKE IT?"

The answer to that question is no, nine chances out of ten the "Wise Guy" cannot take it.

These fellows have to shoot off their mouths in order that they may look important, their accomplishments certainly do not show it. So they pick on a few who are not too wise and try by razing and big talk to impress them of their importance and authority.

But what happens to this important guy that does all the talking when there is a call for volunteers? He gets very, very quiet and slinks to some nice quiet corner where he will not be noticed.

It is now that the former boy and the meek youngster make their presence known. These boys do not talk big but they can back up what they say.

Into which category do you fall?



Whatcha Know, Joe

What To Do!

If any member of a military organization is taken ill or injured while on furlough, he may be cared for immediately at the nearest Army hospital. In event that no Army hospital is available, the man may apply for admission to the nearest civilian hospital. If the man's illness is Line of Duty or his injuries were obtained through no carelessness or negligence on his part, the hospitalization bill is paid for by a special fund maintained by the Surgeon General. However, use of civilian hospitals is authorized only in rare cases, since Army hospitals are spotted so frequently over the country that one is readily available in most any area.

ERODEY MADE
In event that there is any question as to whether a man's illness is Line of Duty or Not Line of Duty, or whether his injuries were caused through the man's own carelessness, his Commanding Officer at his home unit requests that an Investigating Officer be appointed at the scene of the man's hospitalization. A full report is made, on which the decision is based. When in a civilian hospital, and a man's illness is clearly proven as WILD or his injuries were incurred solely by his personal negligence or carelessness, the man himself is liable for the hospital bill. A man's furlough automatically ceases upon admission to a hospital, but he resumes the uncompleted portion upon release.

Upon being taken ill on furlough, the man must immediately wire his CO the fact of his hospitalization. The American Red Cross corroborates the facts and the man's status is then clear with his organization.

Re-classified....



Captain Clark Gable, just another name on the U. S. Eighth Air Force roster, is winning his own private battle to live down Hollywood and become "just one of the boys." "I'm no hero, any I'm not winning any wars," said Gable, who had been on three combat missions over Europe. Major Henry Dittman, witness the opening of "We've Never Been Licked." His exploits in the Philippines, especially the final days on Bataan, soon to be published, will do it. Nelson, head of the Production Board, passing a few titles under another name which he hopes to get in the movie. Wendell Willkie signed by John Century-Two to act as technical advisor for "One World." He wrote a book of the same name.

Eric Chavren is producing a picture which will be called "The Trumpet Man." Harry James will play the original story — if the Army doesn't get him before the picture is done. It will be about a trumpeter whose orchestra is backed by five career girls.... Barbara Hale, 21, is leaving with Jay these days. She landed a movie contract that will make her the envy of most teen age girls in the Nation. She has been signed to play Crooner Frank Sinatra's "Higher and Higher."

The Melbourne radio said last week that soldiers in New Guinea have already begun casting their votes for the Aug. 21 federal election, using ballots brought to them by ship, plane and jungle trail, according to United Press. The Melbourne broadcast said officers have been told to see that voting is done legally even in places where polling booths could not be set up.... The Italian city of Parma, birthplace of Arturo Toscanini has restored the noted conductor's name to a thoroughfare that had borne it until it was removed by the fall-out Fascist regime. The United Press said.

The AFP shot leaflets at Sicily. Naazi Americans answered Nazi soldiers in foxholes with leaflets, contained in shells fired from British 25 pounders, describing the fall of Orel, Chetani, Adriano and other cities that have fallen. The leaflets invited the Nazi soldiers to retain their own insurance policy passage to the rear, where they surrendered or were captured.... People are beginning to wonder how fighters like Roy Robinson can get permission to fight. He is Louis the Great's best serving fighter of all, is restrained from doing so.... Sports columnist for the New York Sun, Frank Graham, is quitting his job with the paper after 22 years, to service to work with the Look Magazine.

Discharged GPs To Wear Buttons

GPs who received honorable discharges during the war will soon be able to identify themselves by a button, says the War Department.

Give Us Strength To Be True

Remember! "I was never a demerick in my life." "A fellow ought to forget the whole thing." "If I ever get home, I am never going to leave." "Why, you ought to see my girl." These sayings are a sign that a change is taking place.

The Army is a place of change. Men come out of civilian life into the way of military thinking that changes everything they ever thought. Who ever thought that he would be told when to get up and when to go to bed. Who ever thought that he would have to do 30 hours of KP and do it every day for a week. Why at home the ladies used to do the kitchen work. There were electric stoves, toasters, vacuum cleaners and all kinds of handy articles. Here we are now working our fingers to the bone.

The Army makes mechanics, airplane mechanics. The highest I ever got off the ground was when I walked to school. I am following you says. And look at me now. I am going up in one of these crates. Another fellow looks at him and thinks here he wishes he could be up in the air. The Army is making mechanics to take care of the airplanes that will protect our homes from destruction. Many of us are going to fly them.

We are reminded of the first man killed in the Revolutionary War; at least, he was one of the first. The battle of Lexington was being fought. The British redcoats shot. A man went down. The wife ran out, and some of his friends picked him up, took him to his own bed; he died in his wife's arms. If our hearts can be as clean to honor as this man was physically, we can get the connection. Let us protect our country — yes; but in protecting our country let us not forget that we are living for the day that we can return to our homes and a new way of living. What if we don't return? There is no use in such a way that the way of life that we believe in can live in the hearts and lives of those who do come back. May God give us the strength to be true.—Chaplain Joseph F. Woodson, III, IA.

Small metal buttons to show service in the Army will soon be issued to all qualified personnel who have been discharged through no fault of their own. Both men and women will get the buttons, and there'll be no difference between these issued officers and enlisted men. The buttons are made under Army contract. They're being made under direction from the Quartermaster Corps. Full details will be published to interested people when they're ready for distribution.

The buttons will be small, and of gold plated plastic to save critical materials. There's no lettering or ornamentation of any kind to distinguish with one from another. They'll be worn in a circle, with the design projecting beyond the center of the button.

After you come overseas, and the hat has been taken off your shoes.