

AIR-O-MECH

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American Army... Symbol Of Freedom

A lot of stuff gets written these days about the difference between free men fighting for their freedom, and the desperate, mechanical struggle of the robots who make up our enemy's war machine.

Lt. Colonel Philip Cochran ("Flip Corkin" of "Terry and the Pirates") said once that our boys, fighting in every front on the globe, have a sort of "automatic wonderfulness" which stems from their American background of freedom.

They do their job, he says, better than their opponents because they believe in real things instead of puffed-up slogans. They remember their homes and the free, happy lives they led in them, and that memory gives them all the inspiration they need to push the victory to its ultimate conclusion.

With reasons like these for fighting, the American Army doesn't need heel-clicking discipline of the Nazi variety. It works best on a middle ground, halfway between arrogant Prussian formality and the loose organization of guerilla outfits. It's the only army in the world where, deep in the steaming hell of New Guinea, a corporal called his general over a field phone and said, "Sir, this is one of your men. We're out of cigarettes for five days now and I thought you didn't know it." And where the general, answered that he knew it and was trying hard to get some for the men. When somebody asked the corporal how he scraped up the nerve to make his call, he replied, "This is a free Army, isn't it?" That was the answer, right there.

In our Army, every man knows his job, knows his relation to the rest of the Army, knows his rights, but realizes that his duties come before them. He knows that discipline is not a caste system set up to show that certain levels of the Army are made up of superior beings. He knows that discipline is just the most effective way of getting the job done.

And, remembering his home, his friends and family back there, and the way of life he once led, he wants to get that job done in a hurry—for once and for all time.

All-Out Effort Needed

"I confess that I myself am sometimes bewildered by conflicting statements that I see in the press. One day I read an 'authoritative' statement that we shall win the war this year, 1943, and the next day comes another statement, equally 'authoritative,' that the war will still be going on in 1945."

"Of course, both extremes—of optimism and pessimism—are wrong."

"The length of the war will depend upon the uninterrupted continuance of all-out effort on the fighting fronts and here at home. The effort is all one."

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Strictly A Private:

Me? I've been in the army twenty-five months. My rating? Well, that's a peculiar thing, what with two years of service, I'm still a buck private—but that's not my fault.

The best soldier they have in our outfit, and not wearing a single stripe. Of course it's not my ability what's lacking, but I'm just one of those guys who just won't take any of that stuff, from non-coms—or officers. I tell 'em what I think. No handshaking so far as this soldier is concerned—they can have their chevrons, I'll keep a clear conscience.

The boys tell me I'm punchy, sloppy, not GI—but those guys don't know. Of course, I don't salute every officer I meet, and my footlocker ain't exactly neat, but being tidy, spammery and following orders don't get a guy nowhere—it's handshaking what paves the road for ratins'. Every rating what was ever got wasn't got without some of that—well, I have a name for it, but being a genteel character like I am—I don't speak the word in public.

Anyone what's sensible and knows anything about the crazy will admit I got the right outlook on things—don't you agree? Me? I'm the best soldier in our outfit, but—

UNCLE SAM'S TRAVEL BUREAU

CPL JOHN BABINS

VISIT TOKYO

BEAUTIFUL ITALY

See the Rhineland

PACIFIC PARADISE

Correct Procedure is Time Saver If Emergency Furlough is Needed

Proper procedure for emergency furloughs can save the soldier many agonizing hours of delay if followed correctly. Men should make sure that their families are aware of this procedure, because the speed with which he gets back home in an emergency situation depends to a great extent on his family's action.

When an emergency arises, the family should (1) Notify the soldier, and at the very same time (2) contact the local chapter of the Red Cross. This saves valuable hours needed to verify the situation before the soldier can receive his furlough papers. Upon being notified, the soldier should (3) contact his field director of Red Cross.

The field director then checks the authenticity of the request with the local chapter in the soldier's home town. A saving of 24 hours in many cases can be effected if the local chapter has been notified in advance. If the field director verifies the request, finding that the situation is urgent and warrants the soldier's presence, he notifies the soldier's Commanding Officer, and necessary furlough papers are filled out.

The primary purpose of an emergency furlough is to get the soldier to his destination as rapidly as possible. In the past, this purpose has often been defeated because the soldier, or his family, did not understand the correct procedure. By making immediate contact with their local Red Cross Chapter, the family eliminates many hours of heart-breaking delay.

Chief petty officer: "The women are thick as peas over there. What shall we do?"

Officer of the deck: "Shell them you idiot. Shell them!"

The Military Affairs Committee of the Senate has recommended that American of Japanese descent be drafted "in the same manner" as other residents of the U. S.

100,000 Soldiers Go To College

The War Department announced this week that over 100,000 soldiers are in training at colleges and universities participating in the Army Specialized Training Program. In addition to this number, 16,000 soldiers are at Specialized Training and Reassignment (Star) units, where final determination is made on admission into the program.

Nineteen more colleges and universities have been invited to participate in the program, bringing the total number of collegiate institutions in the ASTP to 239. The list is expected to continue to expand.

The Army Specialized Training Program is rapidly approaching the goal originally set for it by the War Department—150,000 soldiers in training at any one time.

As a result of numerous inquiries, it was re-emphasized today that there is no obligation on the part of soldiers participating in the ASTP to serve in the Army for a longer period than that which is required of any other soldier.

A barracks is a series of crap games with banks between.

The Chaplain Speaks Excess Baggage

By CHAPLAIN LESTER E. OLSON

What kind of baggage are you carrying, soldier? The tourist has learned how to travel light and "live out of a suitcase." In the Army a certain amount of baggage is necessary but it does limit one as to how far and how fast he can travel. As the Army has learned the principle of traveling just as light as possible, so we would well learn in our personal living not to be carrying too many burdens in these times. These days are difficult enough without loading ourselves down with a lot of unnecessary baggage.

Thousands of soldiers are carrying loads each day that are exhausting both mind and body. Some of these burdens are not of their own choice and maybe there is not much that they can do about them. However many of them are creations of their own. Worry is one of the greatest loads of excess baggage that we carry. An elderly lady once said that her life was full of troubles most of which never came. Many of us are always fretting over our anticipated troubles. One man said, "Most men are made miserable by life that never happens." Many soldiers remind me of the man who was making his first run as an engineer on a fast train. It was night and the engine was crossing and every curve the shadows would play tricks on him until he had to slow the train down because of his fear. In other days we cannot make any progress if we are constantly carrying around the worry of all the possible troubles that could come.

Many others are carrying the load of evil habits. Surely it is your life but you cannot make progress when you are loaded down with habits that are ruining your mind, your relations with the other fellows and your efficiency as a soldier. Surely, you can get along that way but you are loaded down with habits that are ruining your mind, your relations with the other fellows and your efficiency as a soldier. Surely, you can get along that way but you are loaded down with habits that are ruining your mind, your relations with the other fellows and your efficiency as a soldier. Surely, you can get along that way but you are loaded down with habits that are ruining your mind, your relations with the other fellows and your efficiency as a soldier.

Trains fought at 11:30 p. m.: "Young man do you think that you can stay here all night?" Soldier: Well, I don't know. I'll have to ask my CO first.

MISC. — Welterweight scrapper Ivan Berry is clamoring for another shot at Augustus Brown who edged him out a few weeks ago at the Arena. Claims that he'll remove all doubts as to superiority between himself and the colored contender if given the chance. Incidentally, Berry would never be suspected of being the leader of two little boys, five and six, when seen speeding about the ring with some youngsters at the gym. And boys he loved to ride. The boys of the South Old carriage select the light speed something they have in their eyes and are to a marvelous stamping!

