

# The Balkans

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Every conqueror of eastern Europe has found the Balkan peasants to be restless and troublesome under foreign rule. Adolf Hitler's regime has not been an exception and during the last months he has had new cause for alarm over his Balkan conquests. Much blood has been spilled in Yugoslavia and Greece, while neutral Turkey shows signs of restlessness. As Russian and Anglo-American forces converge on the Balkans from east and west, peasant armies, sniffing the air of liberty, have become more daring and courageous.

This is especially true in Yugoslavia where the successes of General Tito's Partisan army have goaded the Germans into a bitter campaign. While Anglo-American forces were conquering Sicily and the toe of Italy the Germans made a strenuous effort to snuff out the Partisan army before it could receive assistance from the allies. Some ten or twelve divisions were used against the Partisans, or about the same strength that now opposes the Fifth and Eighth Armies in Italy. The failure of the German campaign was serious, for supplies in great quantity are flowing to the Partisans via the Adriatic.

Our decision to supply Tito's army with war materials involved more than military considerations. There are two patriot armies in Yugoslavia. One under General Draja Mikhailovitch is recognized as the national army of King Peter's exile government in London. Though Mikhailovitch's Chetniks were first in the field and won some local victories, the real liberation army has emerged under General Tito, a former Croatian metal-worker.

All the typical complications of Balkan politics underlie the differences between Tito and Mikhailovitch. German agitators have intensified these differences and it is true unfortunately that the peasant armies wage war upon one another about as often as they fight their common enemy. Yet Tito's Partisans have borne the brunt of the fighting against the Germans and their defensive victory earlier this year merits attention. Since the Partisans control sections of the Adriatic coast there is now a regular movement of supplies from Italy to Yugoslavia. Technical experts from American and British armies ad-

# Cloudbusters Win Nine Straight



PICTURED ABOVE is the Cloudbuster basketball team which has scored 531 points in 10 games while holding the opposition to 348. Leading scorer is Cadet Bud Palmer with 140 points. Whitey Myers has 133 to his credit, Tippy Dye 71, and Stan Skaug 70. First row, reading left to right, Bud Palmer, Whitey Myers, Don Elser, Bob Forsberg, Russell Guensch, Ken Laird. Second row: Lieut. R. A. Raese, USNR, head coach, Stan Skaug, Charlie Crowley, Harry Scully, Lou Lange, George Burns, and Lieut. O. L. Cochrane, USNR, assistant coach. Third row: Lt. (jg) Robert Primmer, USNR, assistant coach, Tom O'Brien and Larry Meyer, managers, Bob Artman, Norman Jones, Ben Peckerman, Tippy Nason, and Bill Gregory, manager.

vised Tito and assist in training his peasant followers. American aviation support in the Yugoslav campaign is now commonplace.

Less public attention has been given the Greek patriot armies. Again there are several in the field, all mutually hostile to one another and the Nazis. Allied experts, not to mention Russian influence which is a powerful factor in the Balkans, have tried to unite the Greek guerillas. All efforts have been countered by the Germans who insinuate charges to keep old hatreds alive. The Nazis have even supplied the feudists with arms in the hope that they will exterminate one another. If the complicated threads of Greco-Macedonian politics can be unraveled, a Greek patriot army comparable to Tito's Partisans will make more trouble for the Germans in the Balkans.

The question mark that has surrounded Turkey since the start of the war has not been removed, though the recent discussions at Cairo make it clear that Turkey is closer to Great Britain than ever before. For this reason the Germans keep very formidable garrisons in the Aegean and Dodecanese Islands which at once menace Turkey from the west and guard the sea approaches to the Balkans. Turkey's steadfastness in the face of German pressure has increased the uneasiness in Bulgaria.

# Committee Formed To Plan Synthetic Device Activities

A committee of nine officers, representing various phases of Pre-Flight activity, has been appointed to work with Lt. (jg) G. W. Bullock, USNR, Synthetic Device Officer, in developing a variety of interesting displays for the Synthetic Device Building which offers cadets informal opportunity to gain useful knowledge to augment their regular classroom studies.

Members of the committee are Lieut. William R. Fisher, USNR, Nomenclature & Recognition; Lt. (jg) Louis B. Jensen, USNR, Navigation; Lt. (jg) Owen A. Cruce, USNR, Military Arts; Warrant Officer Faustin E. Wirkus, USMC, Gunnery; Ens. S. O. Rosengren, USNR, Self-Preservation; Ens. William Shanahan, USNR, ENS; Lt. (jg) J. W. Morris, USNR, Climatology; Lieut. Robert B. Pitkin, USNR, Athletics, and Lt. (jg) C. Hill Peddy, USNR, Military.

The Synthetic Device Building is open to cadets from 1830 to 1930 four week day evenings with the exception of Wednesday and Saturday. Films which are not regularly shown to the cadets in their classroom work will be shown for the first part of the hour, the cadets then being free to spend the remainder of the time studying and observing the displays.

# Overheard At Chow

... SEATS! CARRY ON! ... Pasa' food down! ... "You fellas ever been to sea? You'd like being second class seamen, yeah ya sure would." ... Hey, get some more of that stuff. ... "Ever scraped barnacles off'n a ship's hull? Wait'll ya become 2nd class seamen. ... Pepper, please. ... "Ya' say yer goin' to Bainbridge, mate? Howdja get the ticket? Oh, flunked Navigation, eh? Better get a T. S. slip from the Chaplain on your way out!" ... Who wants the butter? ... "Did I ever tell ya' 'bout the time I painted the ship's hull, yeah, I useta be a seaman, some life!" ... Ya' want some beans down there? ... "Quit singin' the Bainbridge blues, will ya! ... Ya' say code bothers ya? Oh, the food, yeah, have some more." ... Passa jelli. ... What! Ain't got no mo'?? ... "Dya' like rowin' a boat? Yeah, ya' do lotsa rowin' up Bainbridge way; lotsa fun!" ... PIPE DOWN IN THE MESS HALL ... Pssst, got the gouge for sentry post No. 2 watch? ... "Which reminds me, guard duty at Bainbridge really passes the time, yeah. Four on, four off, zoff, zon, arms bend—1 ... 2 ... Yeah, they got calisthenics too, beginning at 0600." ... Water down! ... "Ya' goin' to Bainbridge too, mate? Couldn't frog kick, eh? Tough! ... STAND BY! KNOCK IT OFF IN THE MESS HALL! ... Yeah, you'll have fun in Bainbridge, great place!" ... CADET, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?! ... "Oh, oh, the Report! ... MARCH OUT!"

# OFFICERS

(Continued from page one)  
Jr., instructor, ENS, and Allen O. Scarbrough, dental officer.

Promoted from ensign to lieutenant (jg) are John C. Busby, disbursing officer; Donald L. Elser, assistant coach of track, and George W. Passage, instructor, recognition.

Cadet William Pettit Gregory, 40-H-1, bicycled 2000 miles during the summer of 1940. In 1934 he visited family relations in England, and did most of his traveling on a bicycle.

A former sportswriter who forsook journalism for aviation is Cadet John Cadigan, 40-H-3, of Lynn, Mass. He worked for the Boston Evening American.