

# AIR-O-MECH

This newspaper is published weekly by and for the personnel of Seymour Johnson Field, N. C., under the direction of the Special Services Officer. Full coverage of the Army Emergency Service is received. All material is passed by the Public Relations Office. All photographs, unless otherwise credited, are Army Air Force photographs.

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Editorial

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Reproduction

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"I've never seen greater willingness to work beyond all requirements than these men show," stated the nationally famous roving reporter, Ernie Pyle, after witnessing the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command air mechanics go into action on sand-laden deserts in the North African theatre. The complete account appeared in last week's issue of Air-O-Mech.

Such statements coming from actual battlefronts should make many a G.I. here at Seymour Johnson Field crawl. At that forward Tunisia airdrome, those AMS aren't worrying about obtaining full credit for every nut and bolt they tighten. They have a job to do - to help defeat the Axis by keeping planes in the air and come hell or high water, they're going to do their job. Perfect cooperation is called for and perfect cooperation it is.

Wonder what kind of a story Ernie Pyle would send over the wires if he should wander to this Field? That these big, strapping fellows gripe to high heavens from reveille to tapt? That petty jealousies reign in various departments of the Post to dispell any thought of perfect cooperation? That everyone is afraid that he will do more work than the other fellow? That the thought of working as one body for one cause - complete victory - is not adhered?

It is possible that Pyle would make such statements about Seymour Johnson Field. Such statements, of course, wouldn't be true of the Post as a whole, but he could point out examples that would bear proof.

We have spent our entire lives striving for existence as separate individuals or as members of a comparatively small group, and it is easier said than done to drop all such habits as easily as discarding civilian clothes. But to win a war is easier said than done, too. When you arrive at an actual front, you too, will probably fall right in and cooperate to the hilt. All very well and good, but the important thing at present is that you realize the importance of your job now. Uncle Sam has decreed that your job, regardless of how minute it seems to you, is necessary to a well-organized, smoothly working Army.

Pyle states that these fellows in Africa say their main hope is that no experts from the factories

back home show up to look things over. The experts would tell them a broken wing can't be fixed this way, a shattered landing gear can't be fixed that way. But those birds know damn well it can be, for they're doing it!

No lack of cooperation or petty jealousies or seeking of individual honors out there. So, bub, take that sheepish look off your face and give out with the kind of soldering Uncle Sam needs.

### SPRING PLANTING

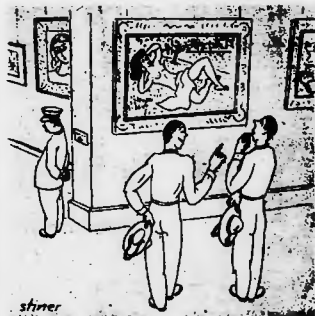
By

Cpl. Alex Karandak

Seeds of freedom are the bodies,  
Blossoms are the eyes,  
Tender shoots in blue grass valleys  
Fragrance in the skies.  
O may I live to see the harvest  
Gold in autumn sun,  
Peace among the hills and mountains  
Nations full of fun.

Warm the soil with rain enchanted,  
Comradely the grave,  
Rich my flesh with joy and magic,  
Did not maidens rave?  
O may it give my soul to freedom  
When my breath is gone;  
Then I know my spirit struggles,  
Frolisce and goes on.

Seeds so precious are my brothers  
Scattered in the earth,  
Tended by an anxious planter;  
Nations will have birth.  
O may no more shall you be needed  
When this war is won,  
To be the flowers of our freedom  
Growing toward the sun.



When one sees a uniform, one should see a gentleman. This is not always true however, in these days of war there seems to be a laxity in many of the points which have distinguished the gentleman from the boor for many years.

On a crowded bus, a standing lady is, despite the fact that there is fighting on several fronts, still a standing lady, and those seated uniforms whether there be chevrons on the sleeves or bars on the shoulders should rise and offer a seat. Whistles and cat-calls at passing girls still shows that there is a little of the street-corner bum under the olive drab.

These things just mentioned may seem small and unimportant but it is a short step from small points to the large points and when we become lax in the large points which make the gentleman we have lost that which makes us better than those against whom we are fighting.

SOME PEOPLE ARE FIT FOR FREEDOM AND SOME EXPECT OTHERS TO RUN THE BOAT WHILE THEY TAKE A FREE RIDE.

# G.I. Tid-bits

by P.F.C. A.V. Lasky

Milton Caniff, who draws Air-O-Mech's "Male Call" has been rejected by the Army because of an old leg injury, and will continue doing the G.I. version of "Terry and the Pirates"...The all-soldier "This is the Army," written by Irving Berlin and produced for the benefit of the Army Emergency Relief, will not be seen again in this country except in motion picture form. War Department authorities in Washington refused to comment on reports the entire show unit would be shipped to England to tour there...It takes 10 tons of equipment to land one American soldier in North Africa and a ton and a half a month to keep him going. Which lends emphasis to the oft-quoted observation that 70 percent of winning a war depends upon production and supply...War costs this country \$253,400,000 a day according to the War Production Board...Kickey Rooney, the Andy Hardy of the silver screen, was rejected by the Army last week. Reason why he was placed in AF was not made clear but his mother did say something about his having a weak heart and

high blood pressure...Add Army definitions--FAITH: Your belief in the latrine rumor that you're all set to get those stripes come the first of the month...IRASS: An ingredient in buttons and some first sergeants...Did you hear of the soldier who was arrested as an impostor because he went into a restaurant and ordered a dish of beans?...It was really funny when I first heard it....Remember George K. Arthur, who starred with Karl Dane as a comedy team so many years ago. Well he's in the Air Forces as a staff sgt., over in England...Dogs of War, a Hollywood full-length production, will describe how important a part canines are playing in the present war, not only at Army camps but at airplane factories, dams, bridges, etc...Republic and Columbia studios are rushing through feature pictures about aviation mechanics. Jackie Cooper will play the role of a typical A. M. Grad on the line...Costello, the funny roly-polly man who is needed by Abbot is seriously ill; semi-paralyzed and unable to use his legs. He's getting better. Illness resulted from a lengthy USO tour in which the funny man travelled through all sorts of weather.... You can't name a horse Adolf in Germany, today. Wonder why?...V...V..

Use of the selective service system in reverse in mustering men out of the Army and into civilian jobs is a possibility, according to Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson.

"The Army will do its best to see no man is mustered out of milit ary ranks into a breadline," Patterson said in an address at the Technological Institute of Northwestern University.

Although the Army cannot guarantee jobs for all the millions of men to be demobilized, it does intend to make the transfer to civilian life with as little dislocation as possible, he asserted.

He explained how the selective service boards with their records of the occupation and skills of each man could be used as a job placement agency.

The government has no intention of dumping men willy-nilly into civilian life.



Chaplain James M. Tainter, S. J.

Got a feeling you're falling? If you are asked, "How how are you doing with this Army life?" Your reply might be an enthusiastic "Great! I haven't registered at the Guard House, no, not even a bunk in Spartan Barracks." If so, fine, but this is only the fifth phase, there is still more "on tap". Soon you will find the novelty of sacrifice wearing off. Maybe by the time those G.I. buttons lose their lustre you will find excuses popping in your mind right and left. Slow down you can't possibly maintain this pace. No one else is doing half as much in soldiering as I am. Take it easier, beware of a crack-up. Don't be a dead dove.

A poor soldier hates perfection whether in military training or in his obligations to God. A good soldier is not satisfied with keeping his Service Record clean of restrictions but glories in going the "Undemanded Mile". Play the whole ball game and play to win as Americans have always done. This ball game called war is serious and can only be won by God fearing and real men. Got a feeling you're falling?

## Religious Services

### PROTESTANT

- Chapel 3 Eighth at C and D streets, Sunday
- 0800 - Holy Communion - Chap. Green
- 0900 - General Service - Chap. Green
- 1030 - General Service - Chap. Green
- 1400 - General Service - Chap. Quick
- 1930 - General Service - Chap. Quick
- Wednesday
- 0800 - Holy Communion - Chap. Green
- Thursday
- 1330 - Holy Communion - Chap. Green

### Chapel 2, B and Fifth Streets.

- Sunday
- 0900 - General Service - Chap. Davis
- 1030 - General Service - Chap. Olson
- 1400 - General Service - Chap. Olson
- 1930 - General Service - Chap. Davis
- Wednesday
- 1930 - Midweek Service - Chap. Davis

### JEWISH

- Chapel 4, Ninth and G Streets.
- Sunday
- 1030-Sabbath Services-Chap. Goldberg
- Friday
- 1930-Sabbath Services-Chap. Goldberg
- Saturday
- 0930-Sabbath Services-Chap. Goldberg
- 1030-Sabbath Services-Chap. Goldberg
- 1530-Sabbath Services-Chap. Goldberg
- Daily Mon. through Fri. 1000 - 1930

### CATHOLIC

- Chapel 1, E and Fifth Streets.
- Sunday
- 0700 - Masses - Father Gorham
- 0900 - Masses - Father Kennedy
- 1100 - Masses - Chaplain Tainter
- 1330 - Masses - Chaplain Tainter
- Daily Services - 0730

### COLORED PROTESTANT

- Chapel 4, Ninth and G Streets.
- Sunday
- 0900 - General Services - Clergyman

### HOSPITAL SERVICES

- Red Cross Auditorium
- Sunday
- 0900 - Protestant - Chaplain Olson
- 0900 - Jewish (Annex) Chap. Goldberg

### LUTHER SERVICES

- Chapel No. 1-Catholic
- Wed Mite sermon and devotions 7:30
- Chaplain Tainter
- Chapel No. 3 -Protestant
- Wed Devotions - 7:30 Chap Green