

Air Offensive May Be Allies Second Front

The Axis still is worrying—and guessing—about what sort of an attack the Allies intend to launch against Germany or Italy this summer in Europe.

Unidentified but evidently competent observers in Switzerland told Thomas F. Hawkins of the Associated Press that in their opinion the constant and devastating air attacks on Germany might well be the answer.

Germany herself is the "Second Front"—not some distant coastal point, from which it would take months and thousands of lives to actually penetrate into the Nazi homeland.

The last war finally was decided by the crushing weight of American production. We are less than a month away from the time it took us to break Germany in 1918, and it doesn't appear such a collapse is likely again in the immediate future.

But our output now dwarfs that of the previous war in every respect, and from London came the encouraging news that production of munitions in Great Britain for the first three months of 1943 was 40 per cent over the same period in 1942.

Axis production, on the other hand, is bound to be on the downgrade because of the tons of bombs dropped on her vitally essential factories and transportation lines. It is no wonder Germany must husband her remaining strength. Our fliers have returned from their raids over the Ruhr with stories of the damage done, but the best evidence that Germany is being hurt—and hurt badly—comes from the Axis radio itself, and from the neutral capitals of Bern and Stockholm.

Dispatches from Swiss correspondents in Germany disclosed that the entire Ruhr Valley now is virtually a military zone, with certain over the effects of the incessant bombing. This is not only because of what it does to production. Civilian morale is bound to drop under such a pounding, and even Hitler won't be able to maintain a solid home front unless the Nazis find some better answer to the attacks than they have thus far.

Sergeant Of 80th Reveals Marriage

By S-SGT. THOMAS B. SMITH
Sergeant Benjamin E. Hatcher, the very efficient personnel Sergeant of the 80th Aviation Squadron pulled a fast one on the boys. A few evenings ago he got a telephone call that left him rather excited and which was strange for his usual cucumber calm demeanor. And at the close of the duty period he rushed into town and failed to return till morning, something that he had never done before. During the following day a very pleasant but still somewhat excited sergeant prudently admitted that he was married and that his charming wife had come to town. Fact was, he continued, the wedding occurred last February in Alabama.

Captain William C. Jedd, the highly regarded commanding officer of the 80th Aviation Squadron since April 1 has been transferred. He was replaced by Lt. Edward T. Riley, who formerly commanded the squadron during the leave of Lt. John C. Miller. The very best wishes of the men of the 80th Squadron go with Capt. Jedd, who was sincerely admired by every man of the organization.

**MAKE EVERY
PAY DAY
WAR
BOND DAY**

STOP SPENDING—SAVE DOLLARS

Separate Air Force
AAF men have long demanded a separate Air Force. They pointed to the success of the German success of air-land-sea. The AAF has grown. It took one of its longest strides when H. H. Arnold was promoted to a full general. Another step in that direction is a great postgraduate school of aerial warfare at Orlando, Fla. The classes will include a select group of high ranking ground and naval, as well as air officer-students. This evidently means that henceforth expert airmen are going to teach ground generals and admirals how to tie the slipper in combined operations. On the other hand air officers will be taught the fundamentals of ground and sea attack.



Pvt. Ted Merlay... 705th... Rochester, Ind.
To girl friend.

"It's pretty hot here, but I ain't doing so bad. I was operated on last week and dey done ah pretty good job. I am looking forward to getting home soon and then maybe we can go swimming together. Well, the record's coming to the end, and I must close... don't forget, I still love you."



Lt. Alisa L. Moran Nurse... Davidson, Conn.
To Sick Mother...

"Mom, I hope you are feeling much better since your operation. Tell everybody that I was asking for them. I am kept pretty busy down here, but don't mind so much. I hope you have a quick recovery—and wish that I could be home to help you."



Sgt. Henry Steinberg, 702nd Squadron, New York
"Hello Marge (wife) Just got a letter this morning that you were sick... Hope you are well now, cause I think of you often and hope and pray this damn thing will be over soon. All you get down here's work and weather—the weather is hot as hell."



Pvt. Walter Symanski...
Eiya gang!
"I am pretty sun burned... this here sun down here is pretty hot. Da guys down here keep me busy working in the da' room. I don't mind it tho, 'cause I like all da guys from this here squadron. Tell everybody hello for me and that I'll see dem in Tokio."



Sgt. Frank McLoughlin... 766th TSS, New York City
To Girl Friend.

"Hey, I just got shot! Molder! Molder! he says. Walter, wait come here!"



Pfc. William F. Sheely, 802nd TSS, Lake City, Florida
To Mom and Pop
Almost done school here, sure would like to see you afore I ship out. I don't know where I'll go. Maybe to another school. Then I hope to go where there is battle.



Pvt. Kenneth Latta, 72nd Grp., New York
Sang to his wife... "Couple in the Castle."