AIR-O-MECH

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COL. DONALD B. SMITH, Commanding Officer
MAJOR J. B. MURR, Special Service Officer

EDITORIAL

D. F. Drosg, M/Sgt. Richard B. Tait
Cpl. Joe Essers, Pvt. Porter Ward
Pvt. James Hearns, Cpl. George Denes, artist.
Post Photo Section

July 4, 1776-1943

It is better to die, and in so doing, help stamp out some evils in this world, than to live and see those evils exist. Blunt words, perhaps but it represents our opening and closing theme song.

From the standpoint of calendar years the difference between 1776 and 1943 represents 167 years. During that time man's scientific progress has been astounding — far greater than any other 167 years in the world's history. Other yardsticks of progress in other fields of endeavor would vary according to the individual doing the rating.

It is our contention that man's principles — the things for which he will fight and shed blood — have not changed one iota since the Bell rang in Philadelphia. In that respect, 1776 and 1943 are not even minutes apart.

Why We Fight

We hear a lot of loose but well-meaning talk these days that the patriots of 1776 knew what they were fighting for — homes, independence — that none of the present world leaders have made clear just exactly why we are fighting, that President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill can devise global strategy but have not devised global aims.

Such thinking misses the mark. Civilization is not to be measured in dollars and cents. You do not prove to a man mathematically why he fights as you would a sum in addition. At least that has never been the American Way. Surely the patriots of 1776 must have known exactly what was at stake. Many were illiterate and could not express their war aims. Perhaps it did take a polished Jefferson to forge a Declaration of Independence, but that sacred document was cooled by dipping it into the blood of many patriots from Concord to Yorktown. And their actions were as eloquent as Jefferson's pen.

Let us grant that Churchill's speech Charter is not global in concept. Let us grant that Churchill's speech as to Parliament are not all they could be. Let us grant that Roosevelt's Four Freedoms are not a detailed blue print. Need they be!

Four Chords

They strike four chords — concepts not to be found in the Nazi way of life. Could it not be said that the citizen of 1776 was fighting for these same four freedoms? In fact, he insured two of them for us: Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Religion. We have enjoyed them for 167 years. He did not gain freedom from Want and Freedom from Fear. That is our job today — to preserve his two and add our two.

America is a greater and better nation in which to live than the Axis powers because of the first two Freedoms. And we will be an even greater and better nation when we have stamped out of the world the elements that stand for the negation of the Four Freedoms. The patriot of 1776 would want it that way.

Same Ideals

We feel that the same thoughts, principles, feelings and ideals that flamed in the veins of 1776 Americans still exists in undiminished quantities in 1943 mercans. Our heritage admirate not other philosophy of life. It is better to die, and in so doing, help stamp out some evils in this world than to live and see those evils exist.—JBM.

Goldbrickers Or Americans

First at chow, first in pay line and first to get out of work —that is ample description to single out a goldbricker anywhere. I's a far cry from the description of that model American, George Washington, "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

The goldbricker may be just plain lazy, we feel sorry for him. It must be a bad feeling not to have enough ambition to want to do your own job when you realize full well the war is as Sherman described it.

But the goldbricker is more likely to be indifferent and figures that there is always some poor sucker who doesn't buck too much when he is forced to carry some one else's load along with his own. It's fortunate for the armed services that America is chock-full of "poor suckers" who are more than willing to do their own share in order to help win this war.

Perhaps the goldbricker doesn't realize that he should not be permitted to call himself an American. Anyone who is traitorous enough to deliberately dodge work when their job, regardless how minute it seems, is a cog in the wheel that will eventually grind out victory for the Allied powers, is certainly not an American.

The goldbricker should join hands with the AWOL as soldiers, no, not as soldiers nor men, just as human beings that have given aid to Hitler and Tojo.

Whatcha Know, Joe

Pin up picture of the year (that rear view of Betty Grable in a bathing suit with a star looking back over her shoulder) was not taken with national art break in mind. Studio shot it for an insert in "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," where heroine's picture was supposed to be on a magazine cover. Publicity department grabbed it and several million service men will be grateful.

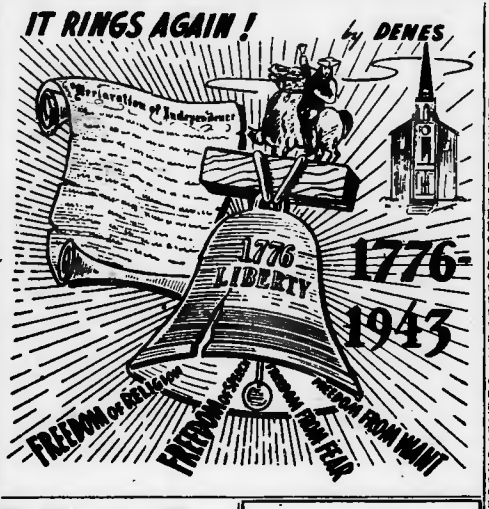
Private Frank "Pee Wee" Monte, who was Harry James' manager, has been appointed musical director of the Newark Air Base. He will have the James orchestra entertain the entire Air Base soon...Benny Goodman will be starred by 20th Century - Fox in a screen musical based upon highlights of his career...A new picture "We Are the Marines" has recently been finished...not an inch of film was wasted in the cutting room...Victor Mature's current assignment with the Coast Guard will make exciting reading when it can be revealed...Tony Martin leaves New Haven soon for OCS in Ft. Benning, Ga...Martha Raye has been ill since her return from the war zones. It's a carry-over from the germs she collected entertaining in the war zones...

Oscar Levant recently gave a concert in a small midwestern town and after much bowing had to play an encore. During the applause Oscar shouted "got to catch a train" but the crowd demanded more, so finally Oscar obliged. The next day the local paper dutifully reported "Last night as an encore Oscar Levant played a rarely heard number, "I've got to Catch a Train."....

Gov. Dwight Griswold of Nebraska: "If we do not solve our manpower and inflation problems now, the men of our armies will come home and take off their uniforms to find they have been fighting for a mirage."...Lou Costello is counting on fooling the doctors and being up and around to play Army camps in August...Mel Powell has been promoted to Corp. in the U. S. Air Force...Gunder Hagg will gallop against Gil Dodds, National AAU 1500 - meter champion, in the Los Angeles Coliseum, July 10th...Henry Armstrong will fight Willie Joyce July 24th...Jane Pickens is being wooed by a real live general...The answer to over - stuffing on the good things that come from your own garden is home groan...

This was the reading of an epitaph erected for a dead marine to his buddies on Guadalcanal: "And when he goes to Heavn, to St peter he'll tell: Another Marine reporting sir, I've served my time in Hell."

On the desk of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander - in - chief of the Pacific Fleet is this pointed paragraph: "The Lord gave us two ends to use; one to think with and one to sit with. The War depend on which we choose. Heads we win —tails we lose!"



Tribute To Chaplain

The United States Army today presents the greatest single challenge ever offered the Christian Church in America. The young men coming into military service in ever increasing numbers are representative of every type of home and community. These men will carry back to their homes the benefits of clean living under rigid military discipline and it is up to the chaplains of our Army —as well as our civilian pastors — to see that the influence and benefits of the Christian faith are brought home as well.

Bewildered Individual

The typical drafted soldier entering the Army is a bewildered individual at best. He has been torn from familiar faces and occupations, and finds himself in a strange new atmosphere, completely foreign to anything he has experienced previously. He is a unique example of When a' Feller Needs a Friend." It is at this moment particularly that the Post Chaplain, with a friendly smile and a pat on the back, can find his way to the soldiers's affection and stamp the influence of Christian brotherhood indelibly in his mind.

Life Is Rugged

The soldier's life during the first few weeks after his induction is, as he says, "rugged." There is so much to accomplish in such a short time. Consequently the peace and quiet dignity of Sunday services in the chapel of his faith are doubly welcome to him, and find him in a most receptive state of mind.

This is no less true, naturally, of the soldier of no faith — who is, if anything, more confused in his mind than the boy with a church background. It is among these soldiers who have not experienced the benefits of a Christian life that the church will find an amazingly fertile field in which to spread the gospel. There is no doubt that this influence must be a very active one, as wrong influences are truly active at all times — being constantly presented to the soldier when he is off the Post —and the persistent subject of conversation in the barracks.

Full Time Job

There is no doubt that a Post Chaplain has a full time job in making his subject attractive to all the boys at his station —but that he can succeed goes without saying. The Chaplain is practically without exception one of the most popular figures at an Army camp —and if he learns to "play his cards" right, he will find the entire personnel backing him up — to a man!

Soldiers Attend Chapels En Masse

A coordinated chaplain's report on attendance at religious services here at Seymour Johnson Field magnifies the intense interest shown in them by our military personnel. The figures revealed to the Air-O-Mech are self explanatory as to how much time our Chaplains spend with the GIs and how well received they are.

A grand total of 826 services were given at all parts of the Post during the months of Jan., Feb., March, April, and May. Tens of thousands of soldiers attended these services. Exclusive of the regular services, there were 319 trips made to the guardhouse, Spartan Barracks and the Hospital. Forty seven sex morality lectures were given, 86 marriages performed and, besides all this 6,385 personal interviews were given by the respective Chaplains.

All honest-to-goodness proof indicative of the spirit prevailing at busy one.

ARMY Sidelights

More than 71 billion dollars this week was earmarked by congress to run the Army and the War Department for the fiscal year which began Thursday. More than a third of the sum —$23,656,48,000 —is for the Air Forces, including money to procure 99,750 planes. The total is required to supply an Army of 7,500,000 men.

Of the total sum, five million dollars will go for books, including text books. The sum recommended for the Air Forces for the coming year is approximately the whole cost of World War I for the Army and Air Force during 1917 and 1918.

Army Tapers Off

The size of the Armyis expected to level off somewhat this year, when little more than a million men will be inducted, compared to three million men inducted last year.

Victory Held Certain

General Marshall told a Governors' conference at Columbus, O., last week that "Victory is certain. We have seized the initiative, the most vital factor in war. The pattern for victory is clear." He added that unity of action on a scale "unprecedented in history" has been achieved.

Million Men Discharged

A total of more than a million men will have been discharged for all causes from the armed forces by the end of the year, it was announced in New York. Some 500,000 were discharged up to the end of 1942.

Signal Corps Birthday

The first signal officer of the U. S. Army took office 88 years ago June 27. He was Maj. Albert J. Meyer, a physical whose graduation thesis was entitled "A Sign Language for Deaf Mutes." Meyer perfected the "wig-wag" system of visual communication for the Army. He also put the telegraph to use during the Civil War as a military item.

More Dependency Aid?

Agitation by congressmen for increased aid to dependents of service men was aired in Wasnington last week. Senator Wagner suggested that $50 might be enough for a childless wife, but that the allotment for a wife and child should be increased to $75, with $20 for each additional child.

Smoke Identifies Tanks

Colored smoke is being used as a means by which aircraft can identify their own tanks. Special smokes of three and four minutes, which produce nearly all the colors of the rainbow, can be used. for the purpose. The colors may be used singly or in combination

Artillery Excellent

American artillery was excellent in more ways than one, according to Capt. Jesse Mattocks, just back from Tunisia. Mattocks said the American artillery fire was so good that it "overwhelmed" the enemy in places. The Captain told Replacement Training Center men that on many occasions the observation posts, even the command posts, were ahead of the Allied infantry and occasionally found themselves back of the German lines.

Change Requirements

The War Department has issued a new ruling which will permit conscientious objects to attend Officer Candidate Schools. Under the original regulation, the applicants were required to waive their status as objectors. The change permits "conchies" to attend those schools where personnel are not armed or trained in the use of arms.

Seymour Johnson Field evidence that the chaplain's life and job is a busy one.

The Chaplain

Through the ages people have been born; some good, some bad, some rich, and some poor, some possess strength, and some are deprived of the blessing and wriggle through life as weaklings, some are born with wit and some are born witless, poor creatrures; doubtless they had no say about their mechanism or they would not have willed it so. Some seem to have been born with all the bravery and courage while others evidently were absent when these good qualities were being issued out. However, it seems severe criticism should not be hurled against them for that deficiendy, since they were not taken into council while the framework of their anatomy was being laid.

People Are Machines

People are such funny little machines; in some, every bolt and screw seemto fit exactly; they smile while others frown; they laugh while others weep; they see the apple while others see only the worm; they keep in tune while others drawl out the discord; they march to cadence while other poor chumps throw the whole group out of joint simply because they do not care; others wonder why they were born, but their greatest wonder is why they are forced to live in such a world of confusin.

Direct Opposites

In others, the mechanic seemed to have reversed the brain as their thinking and planning are directly the opposite of their neighbors; their eyes evidently are focused in the wrong direction as they see only the objects that no one else sees; and their ears must have been borrowed from some other foreign animal because their hearing is contrary to good enthusiastic morale; and their tongues, no man under heaven knows where these poor, self-pitied, mistreated, ignored, dejected, sons of some good mothers get their tongues for there is not another like it either in the fowls of the air or the beasts of he field.

Forget Idiosyncrasies

Say, neighbors, why not forget your little idiosyncrasies, get your chin up, your chest out, get in time, and in step with the rest of the good people of the universe! The world is not all bad, neither are the people nearly so much out of line as you may think. The march of trend is on the road to victory ever many things. Why not get on the band wagon and enjoy the fact that you are living among people of your own class and kin? For, at the more part, you will not be compelled to put up with the senselessness of men for many years, because you will soon be where they are either better or worse.

Chaplain Earl R. L. Landtroop

The Chaplain Pge 2 Tab MB

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Chapel No. 1

Sunday
Catholic Services: Mass 0715, 0930, 1315, 1900
Protestant Services 1100, 1415, 2000
Daily
Catholic Mass 0730
Thursday
Protestant Services 2000
Chaplain Tainter, Chaplain Landtroop

Chapel No. 2

Sunday
Protestant Services 0900, 1115, 1800
Holy Communion 1615, 1900
Hymn Service 2015
Chaplain Mantle, Chaplain Davis
Tuesday
Lutheran Services ..... 1100 and 1900
Wednesday
Service Men's Christian League & Hymn Service 1930
Sabbath Services Friday (Jewish) 2000

Chapel No. 4

Sunday
Protestant Services (Colored Soldiers) 0900
Jewish 1630
Weekday
Jewish, Sabbath Services Saturday 0930, 1630, 2000
Daily Monday to Friday 0900, 2000
Protestant (Wednesday) Colored Soldiers) 2000
Chaplain Goldberg, Chaplain Landtroop

Chapel No. 5

Sunday
Catholic Services: Mass 1000
Protestant Services 1100, 2000
Daily
Catholic Mass 1700
Chaplain Merrill, Chaplain McGrath

Guard House Chapel

Sunday
Catholic Mass 0800
Protestant Services 0900

Range Camp

Sunday
Catholic Mass 1030
Jewish 1030
Protestant 1030