

# AIR-O-MECH

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

### EDITORIAL

Pfc. Leslie Waller  
SGT. JOE BUTERA  
Pvt. James Hearn

M/Sgt. Richard E. Tall  
Cpl. George Denes, artist  
Post Photo Section

## A Non-Com's Creed

If you've ever been to a dinner and had to sit through a long-winded introduction by the Master of Ceremonies while you waited to hear some distinguished speaker, you'll know why we're going to say no more than, "This was contributed by one of the Non-Coms on the Field,—it's good enough to be framed and hung in every Day Room."

I am a Non-Com. and proud of my rating. Whether it be two stripes, or three, four, five, or six, I am proud of my rating. For it signifies reward for a job well done. I am the liaison between the Commissioned Officer and the enlisted man—the medium of transmitting commands and orders, and seeing that they are carried out efficiently, and with dispatch. I am a vital cog in a vast organization, a highly proficient organization, whose success lies partially upon my dependability, accuracy and intelligence.

I must merit the trust placed in me by my superiors, and hold the respect of the enlisted men. So, I must deport myself accordingly. I must dress properly, and make a fetish of cleanliness. I must act with decorum. I must be military in every respect. I must serve faithfully, so others may serve faithfully. I must be firm, but never officious. I must be fair, be moderate, both in my personal habits, and in discharging without giving or seeking favor. I must be punctual. I must my duties. I must be patient. I must be tolerant. I must never take advantage of my rating for personal gain, favors, or vengeance. I must serve creditably, and in so doing bring credit to my unit, my organization, and to the U. S. Army. I must harbor ambition, born of a desire to serve the better, free from personal gain. I must adhere to all the tenets of military discipline and courtesy, and see that all tenets of military discipline and courtesy are adhered to. I must know. I must see. I must protest. I must understand.

It is not for me to question, but to obey. These I must do to be worthy of my stripes. And to be worthy is to be proud.

## The Crystal Ball

The view of our post-war world given us in Popular Science magazines and other such publications has been making the average service man begin to wonder just what kind of world he really will be living in after his "Six Months plus" has run its course.

There's the thought, for instance, of the portable telephone which straps itself somewhere around your body and allows you to get and receive calls while going on about your everyday work. This may be fine for gay young blades who have just stepped off the troopship after a withering tour of duty through the Sahara desert with no women and nothing in sight. It's right up their alley since they'll be spending half their lives in phone booths with little black books anyway. But for married men—well, you get the idea.

Then there's the electronically-printed newspaper which keeps grinding out copy night and day, complete with pictures, cross-word puzzles, and maps of the latest newsfronts. You can imagine the Sunday morning it gets broken and prints only hockey scores or ignores everything else and reels off yard after yard of stock quotations. You settle down after waiting all those months for a rotogravure section or a bathing beauty contest, and what do you get—how to boogie a pot roast for fifteen or twenty feet of paper and then the latest weather reports for the next five hours.

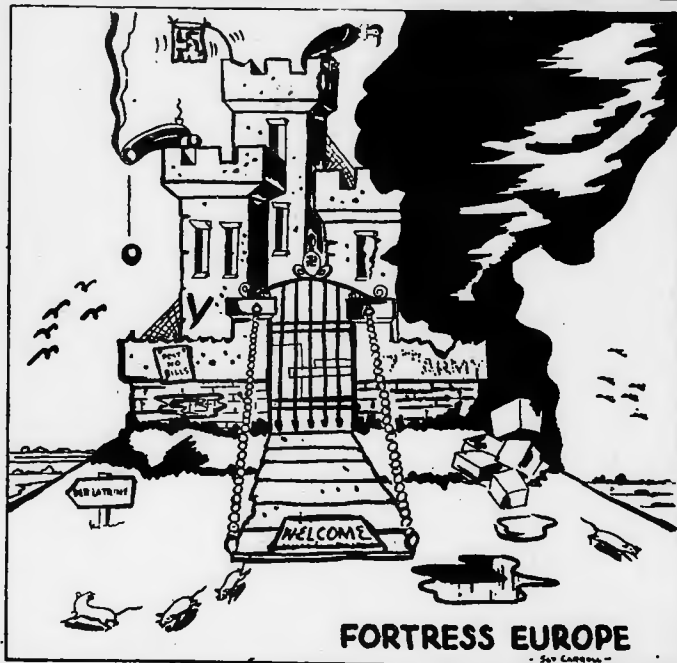
Have you heard about the automatic timing booths they're going to have along highways to check the speed of each car as it passes? Have you seen the newly proposed books which will be read aloud by a record instead of you reading it to yourself? Have you . . . but then, we've got a little time yet.

## A Living Symbol

The Flag of our nation means many things to us. We know all about its history, all about the battles it has been through, all the times it has been defended with heroism above and beyond any normal call of duty. We know all those things, but most of us also know the other things it stands for. We don't often say them aloud, we seldom even think them to ourselves. But we know those things. We know, those of us with parents from other lands, we know what the flag means. We know that it is a symbol of this struggle that now holds the countries of the Earth in combat. It is the symbol of the everlasting freedom of mankind which now stands locked with evil and oppression on battlefronts all over the globe.

None of us think that the Flag stands for the old idea of streets paved with gold, luxurious living, and wasteful spending which used to characterize America. We now know that it means a free land with every citizen working to keep it free.

It means many things to us—it means our country.



## Servicemen Need Not File Tax Returns 'Til March

By Camp Newspaper Service  
Members of the United States armed forces needn't worry about filing income tax declarations Sept. 15, the commissioner of Internal Revenue has announced. Sept. 15 is the date when all U. S. taxpayers who are not in military service must check their financial position and see if the withholding tax clause under the

new pay-as-you-go tax plan has brought them up completely on their 1942 tax indebtedness. If it hasn't they must file a declaration of estimated income and victory tax and pay half the difference by Sept. 15. They pay the other half by Dec. 15.

Exempted from this order are members of the Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard and women's branches of the various services.

All these servicemen and women may postpone the filing of their income tax returns until March 15, 1944. At that time they must make a final calculation of actual income earned and the tax they paid—if any—during 1943.

According to Guy T. Heverling, commissioner of Internal Revenue, the wife of a serviceman has a special problem if she has an income of her own and is not in one of the armed services herself.

Mr. Heverling says that a husband must first determine whether she is required to file a declaration of estimated tax by adding her own income to the husband's and not in her own income. Then she deducts \$1,600. If the total of what's left amounts to more than \$3,500, she must file a declaration set in motion if out she may disregard her husband's income entirely and she may also disregard any dependency allotment she receives from him, estimating the tax solely on her own income.

The civilian husband of a WAG, WAVE, SPAR, nurse or woman marine follows the same procedure. He receives no dependency allotment from his wife.

## The Chaplain Speaks 'One More Round'

James J. Corbett was once asked what was the one greatest thing about fighting or boxing. His reply is a classic. "Fight one more round." When your arms are so tired that you can hardly lift your hands to come on guard, fight one more round. When your nose is bleeding and your eyes are black and you are so weary that you wish your opponent would crack you on the jaw and put you to sleep, fight one more round. Remember that the man who fights one more round is never licked.

Army men could profit much from the classic response of Jim Corbett. We need the courage of fighters at all times. If we allow discouragement to creep into our lives, our service is of little use to our country. There are many things that may get us down; being away from home, tough details, thoughtless companions. Remember this is wartime, and even though you may not feel in the best of spirits, try to fight one more round. A word of discouragement might destroy the spirit of a squadron—or of the men in your barracks. Try to keep smiling no matter how difficult it might be. God gives us our forces, we give ourselves our expressions. Our purpose is made, not born. When the going is hardest, fight one more round and you'll be a winner.

## News Briefs From Here And There

The Japs are giving us back that scrap metal we sent to them before the war — as scrapmetal, according to Lt. Col. W. J. Carrington, chief of the surgical service at Echlin General Hospital here. "In our surgery," said Col. Carrington, "we often find shrapnel in which we can identify pieces of American razor blades and pop bottle caps."

Mrs. Vivian Eggers, blonde and 34, was arrested by Federal Bureau Investigation agents in Cleveland after she had admitted she was married to seven soldiers "without bothering to divorce any of them." Found in her possession at the time of her arrest was a \$50 allowance check belonging to a soldier who was not one of her husbands. Mrs. Eggers said she married five prisoners, a sergeant and lieutenant, between May 1935 and June 1942.

A Pittsburgh girl becomes real "Dirty Gerlie" according to the CWS. The curvaceous Nazi propagandist known as Gerlie from Berlin who has been hearing radio programs from Germany to North Africa is really Gertrude Hahn, a former resident of Pittsburgh, who moved to Germany in 1935 to do propaganda work.

Filing out an application for dependents' aid, a colored soldier answered "no" to the question of whether he had a dependent. "You're married, aren't you, Sam?" asked an officer, puzzled. "Yeah," the soldier replied. "But she ain't dependent."

## New Discharge Button



Men and women honorably discharged from the Army during the present war will be awarded lapel buttons to signify their service to the nation.

The buttons pictured above in a variety of plastic compositions with red piping to eliminate the use of critical materials and contains no lettering.

The buttons are now being manufactured under the direction of the Quartermaster Corps. When they are ready for distribution, full information will be made public so that those eligible may obtain them.

