

Panties Production in Pacific



(U. S. Marine Corps Photo)

Salvaged Jap parachute silk provides material for Marine Private First Class Joseph C. Imbarrato (left) who uses his spare time on a South Pacific island to make ladies' panties. Here Marine Private First Class Anton M. Fitzko obligingly serves as a model. Leathernecks send the completed products to wives in the U. S. or Australia. Both men are residents of New York City.

BY SERGEANT WILLIAM BONIFACE
(Marine Corps Combat Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC (Delayed)—On this tropical island, where men and women are just a memory, a Marine is making, of all things, silk panties—in ladies sizes.

What's more, the Japs are supplying the material—captured parachutes, of a fine oriental silk.

Marine Private First Class Joseph C. Imbarrato of 1970 Walton Ave., Bronx, N. Y., who manufactures these panties here, is one of the most popular men in camp. Most of the cute little panties he makes in his spare time are given to friends and they, in turn, ship them to wives in the U. S. or Australia.

Finds Jap Parachutes

It all started when Pfc. Imbarrato, who is a canvas sewer in the textile department, got a glimpse of a couple pretty blue Japanese parachutes which were sent in for salvage. Immediately his thoughts went back to the days when he worked for a dress manufacturing concern in New York.

"How the girls back home would like to have some of that silk," he mused. Joe realized he couldn't make stockings, so panties were

the next best thing.

A veteran of the tough Cape Gloucester campaign, Imbarrato works during the day making jeep covers, repairing tents and in other types of sewing. In the evening, he goes to work on the panties.

Has Elastic Available

"It's no trouble to cut them out and then I just run them up on the machine," the New Yorker said. "I've even got elastic to put in them, too."

Marines apparently discovered while in Australia that silk is scarcer there than back home. Therefore, the panties are making a big hit with Leathernecks who married in Australia.

Imbarrato's wife, Amelia, lives at the Bronx address. He expects to return to his trade as a tailor at the end of the war.

RECLASSIFY MEN 38 AND OVER

Men over 38 who have been anxiously watching the mail-box to learn of their final disposition under National Selective Service can now relax and continue their civilian work with the assurance that they are in an age group not acceptable for induction into military service. Local boards have been instructed to place registrants of 38 and over in IV-A, to retain in I-C all men honorably discharged and to discontinue the I-A/L classification. Men in Class I-C may not be removed from this classification without action by the Director of Selective Service. Local Boards will put in other deferred classifications men found physically acceptable for limited military service only, who have heretofore been placed in Class I-A/L.

THERE'S MORE SUGAR COMING

Housewives who have found their sugar stamps temporarily worthless because their grocer's sugar shelf was bare may take hope, now that the War Food Administration promises stepped-up production from the Nation's sugar-beet factories in the West and Midwest. On September 1 the Nation's sugar inventory was lower than on any date since 1935. During the first eight months of this year, 483,000 tons of sugar were distributed in the U. S. than in the same period of 1943. Most of the increase went to civilian usage for preserving and canning. In one form or another, civilians got most of the increase—in preserving and canning of fruits and vegetables, in larger-than-normal production of condensed milk and in supplemental allotments for other purposes.

RADIO NEEDS NAVY TECHNICIANS

Full information concerning the navy's radio technician training program has been sent to all high school principals in this area for dissemination to students wishing to learn how to prepare themselves for the qualifying examination, according to Chief W. E. Bell of the Eugene navy recruiting station.

Need for young men with an aptitude for technical work continues to be urgent, the recruiter reports, and will become more urgent as the war in the Pacific extends itself. Anyone who is interested in serving his country in this type of service is advised to take action as soon as possible, since this branch of the navy may be closed at any time.

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GASOLINE QUOTA FOR NEW QUARTER LOWER

"Despite widespread reports to the effect that the gasoline supply is rapidly improving, we have no indications from the Petroleum Administrator for War of any immediate prospect of increased quota."

This statement was made by Richard C. Harrison, director, automotive supply rationing division, OPA, Washington, D. C. in a letter dated October 6 to local OPA ra-

tioning officials.

In his letter, Harrison pointed out that the amount allowed the OPA for the quarter beginning October 1 is 77,000 barrels a day less than the quota for the preceding period, according to Frederick F. Janney, district OPA rationing executive.

Hydrated Lime

Hydrated lime should be used with caution in places where the air is dry, as leaves may easily be burned in dry areas.



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