

Bombing Raid at Tree Top Level Nips Nip Aircraft



(NEA Telephoto) Sharp-shooting Seventh Army Air Force B-25 Mitchell bombers were really flying in close formation as can be seen by bomb (arrow, right) falling within few feet of other hits on the Jap airfield in Marshalls. Island blasted by 800,000 pounds of bombs during campaign. Nearby is Jap bomber cut in half by well placed shots, Seventh AAF photo.

Mademoiselle of Armentieres Won't Know Changed MP's

Philadelphia (U)—The MP's aren't behind the lines—not in this man's war.

Sons of the veterans of World War I—those swashbuckling spiral-putteed, hob-nailed men of the Marne who kept marching cadence by lullily singing ambigious often libelous and always Rabelaisian verse on how the MP spent his time "20 miles back and 30 feet underground"—have a different tale to tell.

You can take it from G.I. Joe himself, the Genus Military Police of the present war is a combat troop of the first order, and a decent fellow. He's in the MP's because Intelligence listed him as a cool chap under fire, a bit of a diplomat, and a soldier who can keep law and order with a lot of courage for when the going is tough.

It's a new army and a new MP, made so by special courses conducted for every battalion of Military Police in training. An example is the recent turning of Philadelphia's scenic Fairmount Park into a beachhead. Every phase of a landing, from an MP standpoint, was enacted. Similarly throughout the country, the MP's learn by doing.

No longer is the MP labeled a headquarters snooper with a penchant for cracking soldiers on leave over the head with a billy. The chances are, the MP on foreign service is just off a beach head where much of the success of the operation depended on his ability to direct traffic, duck shells and keep communication lines from snarling.

Or, maybe he's lying reflectively on a hospital cot, direct from some crossroads where a shell banged before it whizzed. Crossroads, the fighting men tell you are the bane of a soldier's existence and contribute greatly to his non-existence. Every enemy artilleryman knows their exact location. Time after time, they chuck over a shell just for luck, in the hopes that it might land on a jeep, a truck, in the middle of a marching column, or just on

the back of someone's neck.

It's the MP's job to be out there on the crossroad, a permanent clay pigeon and a living bulls-eye, to keep supply lines open, reinforcements and replacements moving in the right direction, and rear traffic out of the way of an advance.

It's a long, gruelling program that makes an MP, a training course that includes as many problems as any other combat troop. He practices judo, preparing for either the little brown brother or the super-race. He digs foxholes, mounts machine guns, practices with the tommy-gun, learns traffic direction and is a bit of a commando with a blue and white brassard.

He does his setting-up and pushing-up exercises, studies motor transport problems, digs deeply into the science of map reading, guards lines of communications, collects and guards prisoners of war, and learns where to send command cars, scout cars and lines of armament. He studies radio to keep in touch with headquarters, with troops ahead and with troops in the rear.

He learns camouflage, and he learns how to take over a hostile town. The art of quelling anything from a two-man fight to a free-for-all is just another course on his program. He knows how to tread his way through a captured village, tommy-gun at the ready, with intent to polish off any snipers. He knows how to clean city streets in an emergency.

His reward for long, painful months of rigorous training is the right to land with the first wave of attackers. Then he sets up his post and keeps the second, third and fourth waves going in the right direction.

In this war, he's done it at Guadalcanal, at Oran, at Salerno, at Tarawa and in the Marshalls. And he won't be satisfied until he's done it on the invasion coast of France.

There, probably the Mademoiselle from Armentieres won't recognize him. He's a changed guy.

Japanese Reel Under Impact of American Blows

By Louis F. Keemie
(United Press War Editor)

Japan reeled today under the impact of American blows which had her main outer defenses crumbling from Eniwetok in the Marshalls, through Truk in the Carolines to Rabaul and Kavieng, on the flank of Australia and the Dutch East Indies.

American and British air power struck with similar force at the heart of Germany, raining thousands of tons of bombs by day and night on her industrial centers and cutting her fighter aircraft production by an estimated 25 per cent.

In southern Italy, allied forces turned back the three-day all-out German assault on the Anzio beachhead and began regaining the ground the enemy had taken.

Nazis in Retreat
The red army in Russia drove the retreating Germans towards the rail junction of Dno, leading to Pskov and the entrance to Latvia.

The spreading American offensive in the Pacific produced the following results:

1. Tokyo revealed the effect of the defeats on land, sea and in the air by removing the chiefs of staff of both the imperial army and navy, Field Marshal Gen. Sugiyama and Fleet Admiral Osumi Nagano. The posts were taken over respectively by Premier Gen. Hideki Tojo and Navy Minister Shigetaro Sugiyama, placing direction of the armed forces directly in the government's hands.

2. The conquest of Eniwetok atoll rapidly was nearing completion. We held all the islands except Parry and the eastern part of Eniwetok. The Japanese resisted stubbornly but were being moved down with comparatively light American losses.

3. In the attack on Truk by a mighty American task force, the Japanese lost at least 19 ships and more than 200 airplanes. The ships included two light cruisers, three destroyers, some smaller naval vessels, and eight cargo ships. Seven other ships were listed as "probably sunk."

4. In the southwestern Pacific, American airmen hit Rabaul with 123 tons of bombs in the 16th consecutive day of aerial assaults on the base, making a total of 1,352 tons since Feb. 3, with the destruction or probable destruction of 252 Japanese planes. The aerial attacks were augmented by fleet action in which destroyer forces for the first time bombarded Rabaul and its companion base of Kavieng on New Ireland, sinking or damaging 15 ships.

The air war over Europe reached new intensity and definitely was a pre-invasion aimed at crippling Germany's air power in the showdown to come.

In sequence, the royal air force hit Leipzig on Saturday night with 2,500 tons of bombs, losing 79 planes, its highest of the war in a single operation.

In daylight Sunday, a record force of 2,000 American planes hit at aircraft factories over a wide area from Gutow northwest of Berlin to Leipzig in the south. Other centers hit were Ochsersleben, Bernberg, Brunschwitz and Gotha. The Americans lost 22 bombers.

Stuttgart Hit
The RAF came back to the attack last night, striking heavily at the industrial center of Stuttgart, while Mosquito bombers made a twin attack on Munich. Only 10 bombers were lost in the twin operation. It was estimated that more than 6,700 tons of bombs were dropped by almost 4,500 allied planes within 24 hours.

In retaliation, the Germans made their second incendiary raid on London within three days, causing many fires and considerable damage and casualties. They were the best German efforts since the 1940-41 blitz but on a far smaller scale.

Your Income Tax

No. 42
BASIS OF GAIN OR LOSS
(PART 2)

The basis for determining gain or loss for Federal normal tax, surtax, and victory tax purposes, where the property exchanged had been acquired by the taxpayer in payment for services rendered, is the fair market value of the property at the date of receipt. This basis is then adjusted for capital items, such as depreciation and betterments in the case of real estate.

In the case of property acquired by gift, a distinction is made between property so acquired before January 1, 1921, and after December 31, 1920. For property acquired by gift or transfer in trust (except by devise or bequest) before January 1, 1921, the basis for determining either gain or loss is the fair market value at the time of the gift, or transfer in trust.

For property acquired by gift after December 31, 1920, the basis to be used depends upon whether a probable gain or a loss is involved. In determining a gain the basis is the same as it would be in the hands of the donor or the last preceding owner by whom it was not acquired by gift. Thus, if a taxpayer received a gift of property from his father in 1940, the basis would be the cost (or other basis) of the property to his father (assuming his father had bought it and had not himself received it as a gift), adjusted by capital items, such as depreciation and betterments applicable. If, however, his father had received it also as a gift, then the basis would be the cost (or other basis) to the last person by whom it was not acquired by gift, adjusted as described. (The "or other basis" mentioned in parentheses would apply to property acquired by the father by purchase prior to March 1, 1913, or by devise or bequest, or other means.)

In determining a loss on property acquired by gift after December 31, 1920, the basis is either the same as it would be in the hands of the donor or the last preceding owner by whom it was not acquired by gift, or the fair market value of the property at the time of the gift, whichever is lower.

In the case of property acquired by bequest, devise, or inheritance, the basis is the fair market value of the property at the time of such acquisition. The time of acquisition is the date of death of the decedent, even though legal title may not pass to the legatee until a later date. No distinction applies between property so acquired before January 1, 1921, and after December 31, 1920.

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G. R. S. Searches For U. S. Dead in Tunisian Hills

Gafsa, Tunisia (U)—A grim little band of American troops has been prowling through the mined and booby-trapped Tunisian hills to locate isolated graves of doughboys who were buried hastily on the battlefield.

The bodies are being transferred to ever-growing American military cemeteries sprinkled across Tunisia.

Exploding mines have wounded several of the searchers, but they have brought in scores of bodies that otherwise might never have been recovered.

"It's easy enough to locate the plainly-marked graves," said one of the Graves Registration Workers, Sgt. Donald McHenry, a stage actor from New York City. "But a lot of Americans were buried by Arabs who stripped their bodies of their clothes before burial. The Arabs didn't mark the graves—and don't like to tell where they placed the bodies."

Confidence Won
McHenry, however, has won the Arabs' confidence by giving them cigarettes and candy, and by doing his best to carry on friendly chats in pidgin French.

"Finally an Arab will admit he knows where one American is buried," said McHenry, "but when we get to the burial place, there will be several bodies. And when an Arab is convinced that I'm not going to shoot him for stealing, he suddenly 'remembers' where there are other graves."

Although the Arabs steal a soldier's clothes, they seldom take his "dog tags," which carry his own name and that of his next of kin. But when a body is found without these identification discs, the searchers make tooth charts that are returned to Washington. There, the war department fre-

quently is able to identify the victim through the tooth chart made when the soldier entered the service.

Soil Is Dry

McHenry works under a Graves Registration Service unit headed by Lt. Meyer Brown, a former post office employee in Chicago. In this same unit is Staff Sgt. Eugene Farris, a former funeral director in Augusta, Kan.

"The soil around here is so dry that the bodies are almost mummified," said Farris. "We wrap them in a canvas shelter half, or sometimes place them in a wooden box, before burying them in a military cemetery."

The Graves Registration Service keeps detailed records of the dead, and sees that the cross or Star of David over each grave bears the name and unit of each victim. The information is stamped into a lead-colored metal plate which in turn is nailed to the cross or star. If the doughboy's dog tags are recovered, one is nailed up beside the metal plate.

We all can be soldiers at home—soldiers of fortune if we buy enough war bonds.

RESTORES OLD FURNACE
Chicago (U)—To commemorate the discovery of iron ore in the Lake Superior district in 1844 the Inland Steel Co. has purchased the old Greenwood furnace west of Ishpeming, Mich., and hopes to restore the furnace to a point where a cast of iron can be made. The furnace was built the last year of the Civil war for the production of charcoal iron. It was in operation 10 years.

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