Airplanes Over Mediterranean—"Fireflies" of the 14th Carrier Group fly over warships off Sardinia during exercises of the British home and Mediterranean fleets.

All-American Awaits Verdict Of Screen Test in Hollywood

By BOB THOMAS

Hollywood, April 13 (AP)—Movie bigwigs today are mulling whether all-America football end Leon Hart will catch a pass from Hollywood.

On Monday, the Notre Dame athlete underwent an extensive test to determine whether he could star as well on the screen as on the gridiron. Today his fate is in the lap of the Gods, meaning a half-dozen executives of Universal-International.

Hart couldn't wait to hear the result. Here with his bride on his Easter vacation, he had to fly back to his classes.

"If I missed a day, I might not graduate," he said. "I'm just a has-been now."

While Hart might never be Hollywood's greatest actor, he could certainly qualify as the biggest. Among most male stars, he would seem like a Great Dane beside poodles. As I lunched with him before his departure, he appeared equal to at least two Alan Ladds and perhaps three Mickey Rooneys.

Size (he's six feet five, 270 pounds, mostly muscle) is not his only asset. The large lad from Turtle Creek, Pa., has a handsome face and an easy-going manner.

"He's very relaxed and direct," said Studio Coach Sophie Rosenstein, who prepared him for the test. "He has a warm, friendly quality, along the lines of Gary Cooper, John Wayne or Jimmy Stewart."

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Hart seemed a trifle embarrassed about the test, and I found out why.

"They have me doing a love scene," he said as he stabbed at a Hollywood salad (athletes have to watch their weight, too). "I have to say those four famous words—'Will you marry me?'"

The scene is from "Lady in the Dark." He played the movie star role done by Victor Mature in the play and Jon Hall in the picture. Not bad casting at that.

The All-American's film career started budding when agent Tony Owen, husband of Actress Donna Reed, signed him to a contract. Whether it will burst into bloom depends on this week's test. He was scheduled to appear in "Quo Vadis," but had to forego that epic; the company was scheduled to leave for Rome before Hart finished his Notre Dame studies.

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How would he like an acting career?

"Let's put it this way," he smiled. "I understand the money involved in such work is very good indeed." He added that California "seems like a nice place to live."

But he emphasized that he wouldn't give up football for Hollywood or anything else. He is signed with the Detroit Lions professional team.

Football, he declared, "is the thing I love."

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Capsule Review: "Wabash Avenue" is pure Grable, from the first shimmy dance to the last production number. The plot is a rehash of an old musical and doesn't matter. What does matter is Betty, and she never was in better form. Victor Mature and Phil Harris battle lustily over her. The result cannot be called something new, nor is it ever dull.

S. F. Students Report Saucers

San Francisco, April 13 (U.P.)—More reports of flying saucers came from Northern California today and army intelligence agents were ordered to try and get pictures of the mysterious objects.

The latest persons who claimed to see the saucers were four San Francisco high school students. One of them, Paul Montez, said he and his companions were sitting in a park during their lunch hour yesterday when a whirling disc appeared overhead.

"I'm positive it wasn't a plane," he said. "A plane that high would have left a vapor trail.

"It was a gleaming object, about the size of a dollar at first. Then it went up so high it was about the size of a penny."

On Sunday, several persons, including four deputy sheriffs, reported seeing a flying disc near Monterey, about 120 miles south of San Francisco. An army intelligence agent questioned them for an hour yesterday.

The air force and other defense officials have officially denied existence of the flying saucers.

Bush Carnival Friday Night

Parents, teachers and pupils of Bush grade school will join forces Friday night in presenting their annual carnival.

The program will open at 7 o'clock and continue as long as there are any cash customers present.

Patrons of the carnival will be permitted to participate in a variety of games and contests as well as trying their luck in a number of concessions.

Proceeds of the program will be used in improvement of the grounds.

New Exalted Ruler Makes Appointments

Committee chairman and members to fill appointive offices in the Salem Elks lodge have been announced by Exalted Ruler Glenn Burright. They are:

Wesley Stewart, jr., esquire; William Johnston, assistant esquire; John Graham and Boyd A. Babbitt, inner guard; Estill Benner, organist; Homer Stiffler, editor; Don Cooper, assistant editor; Irving Branch, choral director; Ralph Kinzer, Mother's day; Lawrence Osterman, Flag day; James Sheldon, Robert DeArmond, W. T. Waterman, golf; Lawrence Osterman, presiding justice subordinate forum; Herbert Curtis, Robert Needham, lapsation; Clarence Field, H. M. Doud, John Graham, William and O. P. West, dance; George Orey and Rockey Hodgkins, sick; Harley King, Virgil Parker, Sam Butler and Howard King, social and community welfare; Clarence Bishop, electrician; Walter Cline, sr., bridge; Pat Delaney, bowling; Milton Meyers, rehabilitation.

33 Die in Rail Wreck

Bareilly, India, April 13 (U.P.)—The Kumaon Express plunged from a bridge into a dry river bed here Wednesday killing at least 33 persons. Officials feared the death toll might reach 50. The government-controlled all-India radio said two rails had been removed from the railway bridge, an indication the train had been sabotaged. The locomotive and four cars hurtled into the river bed.

Why Do Rural Mississippi Pregnant Women Eat Dirt?

New Orleans, La., April 13 (AP)—A doctor and a nutritionist today reported that dirt eating by pregnant women in rural Mississippi is quite common.

Dr. James Ferguson of New Orleans and nutritionist Alice Glenn Keaton of Jackson, Miss., said the practice is so widespread and "so little known that it merits a report."

Besides dirt, the two wrote in the New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal, some of the women have an unaccountable craving for plain laundry starch.

All of those who admitted dirt and starch eating, the specialists observed, "were from an economically and medically underprivileged group and 92 per cent were Negroes."

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Just why the women eat dirt and starch, said the medical team, is unknown.

Their article, based on a 1948 dietary study of 361 pregnant women in 11 rural counties, said "25 per cent included clay in the diet and 39 per cent starch."

Many of the women interviewed, the two concluded were reluctant to admit the practice and "hence we feel that the true incidence is much higher."

The interviews contained many direct quotes from the women on why they followed the dietary practice. These included:

"I craves it."

"I know it is not good for me, but I likes the taste."

"I eat dirt just the same way you smoke a cigarette."

"When I get worried about my children I eat more dirt."

"It seems to settle my stomach."

"When I go up to Jasper county I get it, but can't find any good dirt here."

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"This Biloxi dirt ain't no good, so I gets my sister in Birmingham to send it to me."

"Some people say it has a lot of germs in it so if it does I try to kill it and bake it in my oven."

"It sure is good."

"I never heard of a man eating dirt. They not got the same taste woman has. They not like a woman."

Wheeler Tells of Czech 'Asylum'

Portland, April 13 (U.P.)—Economic Professor George S. Wheeler's request for "asylum" in Czechoslovakia was merely a device to get widespread publication of his complaint against American foreign policy, he told the Portland Oregonian in a trans-Atlantic telephone interview.

Wheeler, an American who graduated from Reed College here, made newspaper headlines last week when he announced that he had asked for asylum for himself and family in communist-governed Czechoslovakia.

"Quite a few people in the United States disagree with the foreign policy, but they very seldom have a chance to say what they think," Wheeler said. "You can say what you want to, but you can't get it printed."

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Wheeler and his wife announced their desire to stay in the Czechoslovakian capital of Prague last Friday in a full-scale press conference held in the ministry of information. Of this conference, Wheeler summarized:

"It was one way of saying what we wanted to say and continue to stay here and work as we wanted to continue our work. We wanted to continue in the same basis as we had but at the same time we thought it was time we spoke up against things we knew were wrong."

He said "there was no pressure at all" from communist government officials.

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The ex-Portlander who also studied at University of Chicago said he probably used the wrong word to describe his request to remain in Czechoslovakia.

"I don't feel that I need protection. I'm simply asking to stay here for awhile," he said. "I think that the term 'asylum' is an incorrect one. I'm simply asking for an indefinite stay here."

School Program Slated

Four Corners—A general assembly will be held on Thursday at 1:15 p.m. in the Lincoln school (Four Corners) auditorium with Miss Shirley Payne and her second and third graders presenting the program before the school and the room parents.

(Advertisement)

Medicine Stops Years Of Gas and Bloat

Former Pinkerton Detective says he is certainly glad that he found out about KAL-O-DEX. Homer G. Scott, 3266 Lime Ave., Long Beach, says: "Thanks to your medicine thewful gnawing and burning sensation in the pit of my stomach from which I suffered so long is gone. I used to bloat so after meals I'd have to let out my belt a couple of notches, and I felt groggy nearly all the time. Sleep was next to impossible, seems like I would just twist and turn all night. All of these distresses were caused, I am sure, from sluggish bowels, and since KAL-O-DEX has relieved that condition I am regular and feel better than I have in years. I am regular and feel better than I have in years. I told a friend about Kal-O-Dex and he is getting results, too."

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