

# Biggest Thrill in 17 Years Army; Teaching Jane Russell to Throw Hand Grenades

By Cpl. Robert C. Gaard

When called upon to interview Sgt. Nicholas J. Zelock it seemed a simple task to get a man to talk about himself, but Sgt. Zelock presented a problem. He is the type of man to whom the term, "Actions speak louder than words," certainly applies.

He is rather a shy, good natured individual who would rather give his right arm than tell you about himself. Sgt. Zelock stands a good six feet tall and his physique matches.

### Born in Russia

He was born in Mlawa, Russia, in 1906. Mlawa is now under Nazi-dominated control, being taken when Germany invaded Poland. His father was a field clerk in the Czar's Army.

His parents, John and Alexandra Zelock, moved to the United States in 1910 and settled in Detroit.

In school, Nicholas Zelock became fascinated as he learned about the large cities and country surrounding him. His urge to see all these places he had read about in textbooks caused great anxiety for his mother. He would merely vanish from his home for a few days, returning when he became lonesome or felt hungry. This practice was continued from the time he was 11 years old until he was 20.

Then, in Los Angeles, California, he enlisted in the United States Army on May 17, 1926, and was assigned to Company L of the 31st Infantry.

Zelock was quickly promoted from a Pfc to a corporal. His unit took up headquarters in the Philippines and he was stationed there until July 8, 1926, then returned to the United States.

During the next few years he worked his way to sergeant and did garrison and patrol duty on the Pacific Coast. This duty continued until the outbreak of hostilities and in 1941, when the army chose cadres to train new troops, he was sent to Camp Roberts, California, and assigned to the 81st Infantry Training Battalion as platoon sergeant-instructor.

With all this background, it appeared Sgt. Zelock must have had some outstanding experience. We asked. He had. It may, or may not, be surprising:

### Important Experience

The only occurrence, that left a lasting impression was the thrill he experienced when lovely Jane Russell of Hollywood, star of "The Outlaw," paid a visit to Camp Roberts and he was chosen to instruct her on the correct method of throwing the hand-grenade.

When Miss Russell's visit had drawn to an end, the company supply sergeant noticed one grenade missing.

Sgt. Zelock states, "She was so

### Super Duper Scooter

Wanna' ride around a lot on your A card? Major D. J. Small (phone 2368) has a Cushman motor scooter he will sell to a service man for \$65. It has a two horsepower motor and is in good condition, the major states, although the rubber is a wee bit slick. You can't expect everything—call him up if you are interested.

pretty; I may have given it to her." The entire company was turned out to "police" the area for the missing grenade!

In San Francisco a few days ago, Sgt. Zelock saw Miss Russell in her famed picture. "I almost got the nerve to go out to her home and ask her what became of the grenade but got a chill down my back! Really a bundle of loveliness; so help me, she is!" quoth the sergeant.

### Back to Army Stuff

Getting back to Sgt. Zelock's army career: His next move was across the parade grounds of Camp Roberts to the 89th Training Battalion as a 1st sergeant then to the 7th Division, the 17th Infantry, and then, as he remarked, "to glorious Oregon where the weather is really a very great surprise!"

He is now Sergeant-Major of the 381st Regiment here in Camp Adair. This marks his seventeenth year of service in Uncle Sam's fighting force, the Army.

I asked the sergeant what he had planned to do when the war was over. He replied, "I think I'll make the army my life's career!"

### We'd Hate to Lose Our Ginger—Careful, Boys

Hollywood—(CNS)—A "gas" attack kayoed Ginger Rogers, film star, as she danced through scenes for a picture here. Hollywood dreamers had cooked up the idea to have her dancing on clouds. They turned loose a dozen "cloud cookers" which are jets which spray carbon dioxide gas. Two feet of the gas covered the stage when Ginger went down for the count. Don Loper, her dancing partner, carried her to safety in true hero fashion.

### Army Male Call, So 'Ladies in Retirement'

Lewisburg, Pa.—(CNS)—Bucknell University's Cap and Dagger dramatic society called rehearsals recently for "Knickerbocker Holiday." Then the Army called some of the boys up. Now the dramatic society is rehearsing another play instead—it's called "Ladies in Retirement," and hahs a predominantly female cast.

### Adolph Hitler, Ass, Insured for Hundred

Akron, Ohio—(CNS)—James M. McClanahan, jeweler, has an insurance policy on Adolph Hitler. If anything happens to Adolph as a result of blitz, tornado, riot, fire, collapse of bridges, or overturn of a vehicle, McClanahan collects \$100. Adolph Hitler is McClanahan's mule.

Dallas, Tex.—(CNS)—Granville

W. Moore, county rationing board member, has organized "The Mismatched Shoe Club" to help men and women in the U.S. who wear a different size shoe on each foot and have been caught short by shoe rationing. A round-robin letter goes to all inquirers, so they can write each other and trade shoes that don't fit for shoes that do.

About four million British families now grow their own vegetables.

### Today's Orientation Lecture



Pfc. Aesop wrote many fables many years ago and then came out with the startling truism that "A Good Picture Is Worth 2,000 Words." We look at this photo of Alexis Smith and find Pfc. Aesop guilty of understatement. Would you trade Alexis for the dictionary???

### Tunisian Tank Crew Displays Gallantry

From the AEF battling the Nazis in Tunisia comes another great story of the men who fight in tanks. During a roaring tank battle a medium Yank tank was hit and started to burn. American infantrymen dug in on a nearby hill wondered why the crew of four didn't try to get out. They wondered still more when the tank not only kept on burning but the guys inside kept on throwing shells!

They kept firing for twenty minutes... They hit and stopped two German tanks... They stuck to their guns inside that burning tank doing as much damage to the enemy as they could. Not a man came out.

Here are the exact words of Sgt. Jesse Hurtt of Abio, Iowa, one of the infantrymen who saw the whole action: "When we left the hill that tank was black and smouldering and its ammunition was blowing up. But no one had come out. Right there on the battlefield I took off my hat to those guys... whoever they were. It made me proud to be in the same army with them."

### These Marines Landed And Wotta Situation!

A South Sea Island—(CNS)—A "paradise" has been arranged by conferences between Marine Corps officers and native chiefs here.

One of the main points settled is the relationship between Marines and the native girls. It was decided: First, a Marine must promise to marry a girl before he can flirt with her and offer her his cigarettes; Second, upon her acceptance of his proposal he must get her parents' consent; Fourth, he must give the parents \$16.50; Fifth, no Marine can take his wife to the mainland should he decide to return thereto.

### EM Invited; Portland YWCA 'Circus Party'

The Circus is coming to town. So say the YWCA-YWCA-USO junior hostesses who are planning the "Circus Party" for all service men at the Portland YWCA Saturday from 8 until 11:30 o'clock.

Appropriate atmosphere will be created with the circus band holding forth all evening. A circus parade with caged animals and hula dancers will feature the entertainment. Plenty of popcorn, balloons and pink lemonade will add to the color and gayety of the party.

Miss Nadine Kurrasch, chairman of the USO junior hostess group planning the party, urges all service men to come early and join in the fun.

### SEEK, AND FIND

Salt Lake City—(CNS)—Archie Bixby told police a traveling bag had been stolen from his hotel room. A day later he found a pawn ticket in his room. It produced the stolen bag.

### Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

### Solid Sender

