

MRS. MURDOCK TAKES A CASE

by George Harmon Cox

Chapter 48

Mrs. Murdock's First

"WELL, I'll be damned. How do you like this? An order for seventy-five bucks—and listen: Sorry about the coat. Hope you can find another one to take its place. . . . Raeburn." Fenner sighed and pocketed the papers. "I'm glad I didn't tangle with him," he said. "If they got a few more guys like him down there in Caragua those Nazis are going to have rough going."

"You're right about that—damn him!"

Hester spoke curtly, but without bitterness. She uncrossed her legs under the approving glance of Fenner and stood up. She adjusted her coat, tucked her bag and gloves under her arm and gave a tug at her hat.

"Well—good-bye," she said to Della and Ward. "It's been very interesting, you know. I wouldn't have missed it for the world." She looked Joyce up and down, glanced at Murdock and back to Joyce. "I'd hang on to him if I were you. He's a little stuffy at times, but he'll do."

"I'll drive you home," Fenner said.

Hester gave him a cool inspection but Fenner's grin was unwavering and after a little more hesitation a spark of humor touched her eyes.

"All right," she said.

"That is," Fenner said, "if you don't mind stopping off for a drink or two. We might even have a spot of lunch."

"Why not?" said Hester.

Fenner opened the door for her and when he went out he winked at Murdock over his shoulder.

"Well," Ward Allen said when the door had closed, "I'll say this for her, she can take it."

"You know," Joyce said, "I think I'm beginning to like Hester."

Kent Murdock parked in front of the apartment house and turned off the motor.

"And now, Mrs. Murdock, if you don't mind . . ."

"Yes, sir," Joyce said primly.

"I'd like to know what you mean by disobeying me and turning detective."

"But someone had to, my Lord."

"Yeah," Murdock said, and grinned. "You're right there, and what a break for Ward and Della."

"I didn't want to do anything alone, really. But at first Della made me promise and later, when I asked if you'd help you said you wouldn't and you told me I shouldn't either and—"

"So you got your back up and said, 'Nuts to this. If he won't help I'll do it alone.'"

"I called you at Hester's," Joyce reminded him. "If it hadn't been for Raeburn I would have told you when you came with her."

Murdock's face sobered. "You knew it was Thorndike?"

"I didn't know. Not for absolutely sure."

"When did you think of it?"

"Not until today. At first I had no idea who'd done it. I was trying to help Della, and all the trouble seemed to be about the envelope. I think Hester was the one I suspected, until you told me she couldn't have done it."

Impulsively she leaned forward and kissed him lightly on the cheek. "I love you," she said.

He turned to her, his glance surprised at first and then a tenderness melting his eyes as his arm went about her.

"I love you too," he said, and kissed her.

For long seconds she snuggled in the circle of his arm, finding his strength a tonic that chased away the strain and tension of the past few days.

"Do you have to go to the office?"

"For a little while."

"Yes," she sighed. "I suppose you do."

"I don't think I'll be long." He smiled and kissed her lightly and helped her out, following her to the entrance. "We should have some sort of celebration at that, shouldn't we? For Mrs. Murdock's first case."

"And for Mrs. Murdock's last," Joyce said. "So do hurry, darling."

The End

AMERICANS JOIN DESERT AIR WAR

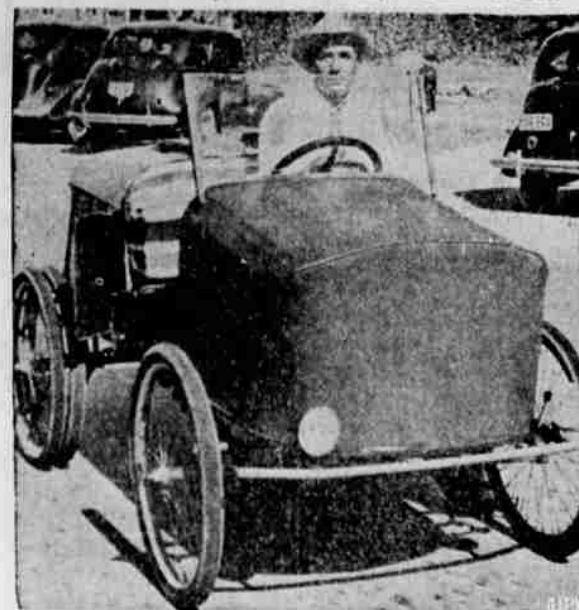
Cairo, Aug. 17.—(AP)—American fighter pilots are flying as wing mates of the RAF in a new outburst of aerial activity over the desert and overseas supply lines, it was disclosed today along with the conservative

British report that the RAF had downed at least 10 of the axis planes attacking the Malta convoy during the week.

In operations other than the convoy battle, long-range RAF fighter planes sent two big Junkers-52 transport planes flaming into the sea and fighters escorting ground-strafting bombers downed a Messerschmitt 109.

Closing time for Classified Ads 9 a. m.—Too late to Classify 12:30 p. m.

On Land, in Air, on Sea?



Preferably on land, according to inventor J. B. Stebbins, Sonora, Tex., who built the machine to save tires, gasoline. Consists of one motor-cycle motor, six bicycle tires, tubes, assorted non-defense materials. Car is seven feet long. Average speed, 50 m. p. h. Gets 45 miles to the gallon.

Britain's "Newest, Deadliest"



A scene at one of England's air bases—where raids on Germany begin—shows Britain's newest and most devastating bomber, the Avro Lancaster. One is being prepared for a raid while another cuts a striking figure against the sky as it turns steeply at low altitude.

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:
Chains affiliation and where they are on the dial:
KALE (MBS) 1320, Portland.
KEX (NBC-Blue) 1190, Portland.
KOA (NBC-Blue & MBS) 1310, Spokane.
KGO (NBC-Blue) 810, San Francisco.
KJW (NBC-Red) 620, Portland.
KJR (NBC-Blue) 1000, Seattle.
KNX (CBS) 1070, Los Angeles.
KOA (NBC-Red) 850, Denver.
KOIN (CBS) 870, Portland.
KOMO (NBC-Red) 950, Seattle.
KPO (NBC-Red) 480, San Francisco.
KSL (CBS) 1160, Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PST

Monday
5:00 p. m.—Don Vining, KPO, Vox Pop, KSL, KOIN, KNX Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR: Stars of Today, KGW: Translucence, KOMO.

5:30 p. m.—News, KGO, Voice, KPO, KOMO, KGW: Harry W. Plannery, KNX, KOIN: Here Comes the Band, KEX: Folk Music, KJR: Melodious Moderns, KSL.
6:00 p. m.—Victory Theater, KNX, KOIN, KSL: Joe Rimes' Orch., KEX, KJR: Minstrel Melodies, KPO, KOMO, Jr. Victory Army, KGO: Oregon On Guard, KGW.

6:30 p. m.—Freddie Martin's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL: Paul Watki, KGO: News, KEX: Melodie Popcorn, KGW: Greater Washington Hour, KJR: Salon Serenade, KOMO: Concert Hall, KPO.

7:00 p. m.—Contented Hour, KPO, KOMO, KGW: Major Hoople, KGO, KJR, KEX: Norman Corwin's Series, KNX, KOIN, KSL.
7:30 p. m.—Vaughn Monroe's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL: Land of the Free, KPO, KOMO, KGW: Lightning Jim, KGO, KEX, KJR.
8:00 p. m.—Anno's 'n' Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL: Fred Waring, KPO, KOMO, KGW: Roy Porter, KGO, KJR, KEX.

8:15 p. m.—Oldest Story Dramas, KEX, KGO, KJR: Lum and Abner, KGO, KEX, KJR: News, KSL, KOMO: Time Out for Melody, KNX, Leon F. Drews, KOIN: Music for a Nickel, KPO.

8:30 p. m.—Cavalcade of America, KPO, KOMO, KGW: Gay Nineties Review, KNX, KOIN: Atlas John Freedom, KGO, KEX, KJR.
9:00 p. m.—Telephone Hour, KPO, KGW, KOMO: News Here and Abroad, KGO: I Was There, KNX, KOIN: Down Memory Lane, KEX: Treasury Star Parade, KJR: Modern Strings, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Hollywood Showcase, KNX, KOIN, Hawthorne House, KPO, KOMO, KGW: News, KSL, KJR, KEX: Let There Be Music, KGO.

10:00 p. m.—Nat'l Radio Forum, KGO, KEX, KJR: Reporter News, KPO, KGW, KOMO: Masterworks of Music, KSL: News, KNX: Five Star Final, KJW.

10:30 p. m.—Henderson-LaVere Piano Team, KGO, KJR: Sports, KNX, KGO: Broadway Bandwagon, KEX: The World Today, KOIN.
11:00 p. m.—Wilbur Hatch's Orch., KOIN: Moonlight and Music, KPO: This Moving World, KEX, KJR: News, KGO, KNX: Reveries, KOMO: Dance, KGW.

Tuesday
5:00—Ray Tarrington's Orch, KPO, KGW: Are You a Missing Heir, KSL: Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR: Stars of Today, KGW: Afternoon Dances, KSL.

SUBURBAN HEIGHTS

By GUYAS WILLIAMS

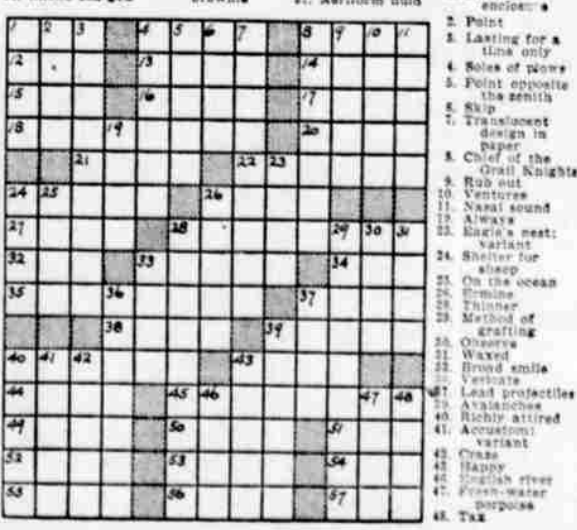


THE LADIES EFFORT TO SAVE RUBBER BY GOING MARKETING IN ONE CAR WASN'T TOO SUCCESSFUL, BECAUSE BY THE TIME THEY HAD COME ALL THE WAY HOME FOR THE LIST MRS. PERLEY HAD FORGOTTEN, DRIVEN ALL OVER TOWN BECAUSE MRS. PLUMER THOUGHT LAMB CHOPS WERE CHEAPER SOMEWHERE ELSE, AND AFTER TRYING HOME GONE BACK TO LOOK FOR THE BAG OF LEMONS MRS. LAPPET HAD LEFT IN SOME COUNTER, THE TOTAL MILEAGE RAN IN DOUBLE FIGURES.

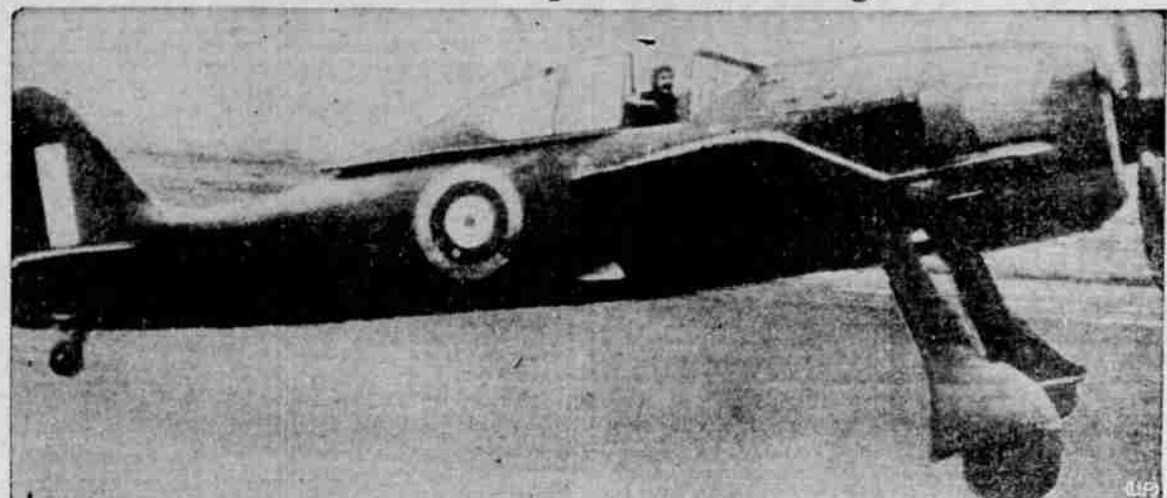
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Feline animal
2. Ice crystals
3. Spends loosely
4. Copy
5. Tibetan monk
6. Paria
7. Jewel
8. Entrance
9. Edible tuber
10. Haaten
11. Employee
12. Finished
13. Soccerast
14. Passengers
15. Giant duck
16. Glacial ridges
17. Bird
18. Glacial sea god

DOWN
1. Animal enclosure
2. Point
3. Lasting for a time only
4. Sides of paper
5. Point opposite the zenith
6. Skip
7. Translucent design in
8. Chief of the Great Knights
9. Rob out
10. Naval sound
11. Always
12. Rascal's nest
13. Shelter for sheep
14. On the ocean
15. Thinner
16. Method of grafting
17. Overseas
18. Waxes
19. Broad smile
20. Lead prefect
21. Lead prefect
22. Aylanchow
23. Hybrid affixed
24. Acrostic
25. Variant
26. Ruddy
27. Spanish river
28. Water
29. Porcupine
30. Tree



British Test Captured Nazi Fighter



British got lucky break when this plane, newest Nazi single-seat fighter, was forced down intact in England. Known as Focke Wulf 190, it packs four 20 mm. and two 7.92 mm. cannons. RAF painted its rounds on sides while testing it to learn plane's construction and performance.

LEW AYRES READY FOR ARMY BERTH

Abilene, Tex., Aug. 17.—(AP)—Private Lew Ayres has completed his basic army training at Camp Barkley's medical replacement training center with the praise "excellent soldier" bestowed by his commander general.

The erstwhile Dr. Kildare of the movies reported here in May after leaving a conscientious objectors' camp to enter non-combatant service.

Six pounds heavier despite his vegetarian diet and hard work

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

by JOHN HIX



THE 3 BILLION RUBBER BANDS MADE IN THE U.S. LAST YEAR WOULD PUT TREADS ON 500 TANKS, BULLET-PROOF FUEL TANKS ON 300 HEAVY BOMBERS!



GIFT OF SUPREMACY
Inspired by the enthusiasm of his son, Lieutenant Commander Harry F. Guggenheim, naval aviator during World War I, now again on active duty, Daniel Guggenheim spared no expense to put American air research and achievements far ahead of the rest of the world. The many Daniel Guggenheim funds provided among other things the first opportunity to test and prove the value and possibilities of blind flying. The intrepid aviator who first flew by instruments as a result of this research was Brigadier General (then Lieutenant) James Doolittle, who later used his valuable experience to bomb Tokyo!

Mrs. Dodge Departs



Wearing dark glasses and covering a cut upper lip with a handkerchief, Mrs. Dore Macdonald Dove (above) left the Detroit hospital where her husband, John Duval Dodge, died. The scion of the multi-millionaire automotive family left the mystery of a fractured skull to confound authorities.

HAP HOPPER, Washington Correspondent—Brooklyn Holdout



Edited by Drew Pearson and Bob Allen



By Al Capp



By Hess