

JAPANESE FORCE WHITE PRISONERS TO LABOR HARD

30,000 Americans, British and Australians Building Railway Through Jungles.

Chungking, Oct. 7.—(U.P.)—Thirty thousand American, British and Australian war prisoners who were forced into labor gangs by the Japanese to build a railway between Thailand and Burma suffered many hardships during the rainy season which just ended, the United Press learned from Thailand sources today.

Travelers along the Bangkok-Singapore railway often saw the prisoners clad only in tattered shorts while working in steaming jungles. A few had straw hats for protection against the burning tropical sun.

Intervention by representatives of the International Red Cross at Bangkok did little to improve the prisoners' lot, although the Japanese were forced to allot a small quantity of medicines to them.

Death Toll High
Many prisoners suffered from dysentery, malaria and cholera and the death toll probably was very large, the sources reported.

The Japanese prevented Thai philanthropic organizations from aiding the prisoners.

Due to the low efficiency of the labor gang and the difficult topography, the railway will not be completed for two or three years.

The Japanese borrowed 40,000,000 ticals from the Thai government for construction purposes because the Japanese were not allowed to circulate military tical notes in Thailand.

CIO INCREASE EXTENSION INCENTIVE PAY SYSTEM

Buffalo, Oct. 7.—(U.P.)—After six hours of debate, delegates of the CIO United Automobile Workers convention voted today to ban extension of the incentive pay system in the nation's aviation, motor and agricultural implement industry.

New under-arm Cream Deodorant Stops Perspiration



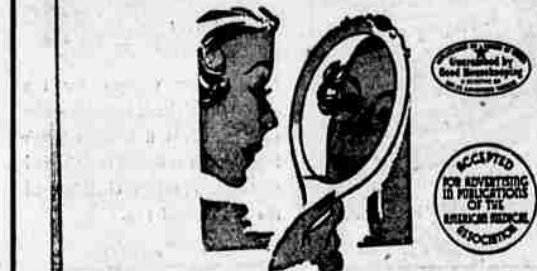
1. Does not rot dresses or men's shirts. Does not irritate skin.
2. No need to dry. Can be used right after shaving.
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Slide, Joe, Slide! Yanks Lose 4-3



(Acme Telephoto)
Yank second baseman Joe Gordon, the World Series "goat" of 1942, continued his role of "hero" in the Series' second game of 1943 as he slid safely into second ahead of St. Louis center fielder Harry Walker's throw to shortstop Slaty Marion, whose leg shows up in the dust cloud Gordon kicked up. The ump is Bill Stewart.

Air Colonel Says Burma Is Ripe for Allied Invasion

By Walter L. Briggs
United Press Staff Correspondent
New Delhi.—(U.P.)—He's been on the march continually since a few weeks before Pearl Harbor. His itinerary reads like a travel folder—Honolulu, Clark Field, Australia, Java, India, China, the Middle East, then China and India again. He's probably leading a flight of B-24's over Rangoon today if the army hadn't finally called him home.

He's Col. Cecil E. Combs, lean, deep-eyed 30-year-old commanding officer of the 10th Air Force's India Air Task Force, former commander of the famous 18th Bombardment Group in Java, who has not been back to his San Antonio, Tex., home since he took off from San Francisco on Oct. 21, 1941.

Since he led the first mission of the war against the Japanese, a heavy bomber attack against landing forces at Vigan in Northern Luzon on Dec. 10, 1941, Combs has been uninterruptedly fighting the war, largely against the Japanese but with a few weeks in the Middle East during the summer of 1942 against the Germans and Italians.

Now the war department wants the benefit of his advice. He whisked to Washington recently, but expects to return in about two months. And he wants to tell them there, among other important facts, that "Burma is ripe now for invasion."

As a result of the steady pounding India-based U. S. Army Air Force bombers have delivered on Burma, Combs thinks, "the capacity of the communications system there now is not a fourth of what it was when the British were forced to move out. We've hit everything we could find, ships, docks, railway marshalling yards, bridges, and a lot of other things."

"I believe that Burma is ripe now for invasion. The Japs have chased me out of a lot of places and I want to see them chased out of every damned one of them."

Combs said he hoped things would be "moving" when he returned. "The kind of operations we are doing are the kind that will work only if we start moving. We knock out a lot of bridges and other objectives but this really doesn't do much good unless it is followed up by an attack. It's strategic bombing, pure and simple."

"The Japs were clearing between 25,000 and 30,000 tons of shipping a week at Rangoon Harbor until March, when we started bombing Rangoon in force. Today shipping there is almost zero. This is largely attributable to our bombing."

Combs highly praised his crews. "The way the boys have been flying during monsoon weather has amazed all of us. It's really rough over the Bay of Bengal and the Chin Hills during the summer, but we've hardly slackened our pace. And our missions are long ones—the average at least 2,000 miles in missions south of Rangoon."

The youthful colonel emphasized that although 100 per cent of the missions have been flown without fighter cover, only about 10 planes have been shot down in combat since operations started one and a half years ago over Burma, Thailand and the Andaman and Nicobar islands. He praised the cooperation given him by the RAF's Bengal Command and said that the RAF's work in Burma had been largely tactical, his outfit's largely strategic.

Combs said that when the Japanese smashed the Philippines "we were pretty impressed by their air power. But now things are going the other way and we're making them look like bush leaguers."

Combs was co-pilot of Brig. Gen. Lewis Brereton on the first American mission out of India, an attack on Andaman April 2, 1942. Brereton, now a major general, is chief of the 9th Air Force in Cairo. The following night Combs led the first attack on Rangoon.

Others of Combs bosses in this theater have been variously Maj. Gen. Clayton Bissell, former head of the 10th Air Force; Maj. Gen. George E. Stratemeyer, China-Burma-India air chief; Brig. Gen. Caleb V. Haynes, former chief of the India Air Task Force, recently-appointed commanding general of the 10th Air Force.

As operations officer, Combs planned the first American raid in China, a B-25 attack on Hankow in July, 1942, and the first heavy bomber mission in China, a 2,300-mile round trip to hit the Linsai coal mines near Tientsin in October, 1942. For his various firsts, during a combat life of from 250 to 300 hours, he has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak-leaf cluster, silver star and air medal.

Combs' wife and 2½-year-old daughter live in San Antonio. He has a brother who is an air cadet and his mother, Mrs. N. A. Combs, and sister, Miss Leila Combs, both of Dallas, Tex., work in a North American factory which produces the same B-24's he has been flying in the Far East.

STORK SCHEDULED
Hollywood, Oct. 7.—(U.P.)—Actress Jean Rogers announced today that she expects a baby in April. Miss Rogers is the wife of Film Agent Danny Winkler. Married in 1939 and later divorced, they remarried last July.

An army order for 800,000 wooden folding chairs saved 4,000 tons of steel.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify, 5:30 Saturday afternoon—Please remember.

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MARKADE GAINING WIDE REPUTATION AMONG SOLDIERS

Medford's MarKade is fast becoming one of the most popular service clubs for enlisted men on the Pacific coast, according to the director and hostesses. Soldiers who have visited many such centers report to staff members that nowhere else have they found a place like the MarKade.

The men stated that they especially enjoy the homelike atmosphere created by the fireplace and comfortable furniture. Also enjoyed are the game room and the completely equipped kitchen, the latter being at the disposal of servicemen and their wives at all times.

Thursday and Saturday nights dances are given and on other week nights the servicemen and their wives play games, sing and enjoy coffee and cake or other refreshments. Sunday finds many gathered around the fireplace listening to selected recordings or group singings.

The MarKade is open every day from 12:30 until 10:30 p. m. and the closing hour is extended until 11 p. m. on Thursday and Saturday nights. Sundays the opening hour is 12 noon. The center is located at Fifth and Oakdale streets.

What's Doing at U. S. O.'s

Riverside USO
Fourteen army wives left Riverside USO yesterday after a pot-luck luncheon, to spend an unusual afternoon in Jacksonville, visiting historic spots. The first Protestant church built west of the Rockies, located there, provided an interesting study, as well as the Southern Oregon Museum.

Just outside Jacksonville, the ladies took gold pans and tried the old creek bed for nuggets, however, no gold was found. Each returned with a large piece of quartz as a souvenir.

GAS RATION COUPONS MUST BE ENDORSED

Instructions showing motorists how to endorse their gasoline ration coupons were released today by the Office of Price Administration.

Motorists are advised that they must endorse every coupon in their ration books immediately. They are not to wait until they buy gas.

Holders of A, B, C, D or T books are to write their license number and state of registration on face of all coupons. Holders of E or R books write their name and address on the face of all coupons.

Censorship of domestic mail was introduced into Denmark by Nazi authorities more than two months before they seized control of the Danish government.

ASSOCIATED PRESS RULING IS GIVEN

New York, Oct. 7.—(U.P.)—A federal court ruled late yesterday that the by-laws of the Associated Press relating to admission of new members are in violation of the nation's anti-trust laws so long as they remain in their "present form."

The court also held that the by-laws of the Associated Press forbidding members to communicate "spontaneous" news to non-members are illegal in their present form as is a contract between the Associated Press and the Canadian Press under terms of which each organization has exclusive rights to the news dispatches of the other.

Purchase by the Associated Press of wide world photos from the New York Times was held to be legal as was the right of the Associated Press membership to pass upon the admission of applicants for membership in the organization.

MOUNTBATTEN ARRIVES

New Delhi, Oct. 7.—(U.P.)—Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, newly-appointed commander of allied forces in southwest Asia, arrived at New Delhi in a converted Liberator bomber today. Mountbatten will make New Delhi his headquarters for an expected offensive to reconquer Burma.

JAPANESE CLAIM
By United Press
The Tokyo radio claimed Thursday that a Japanese submarine sank two of three British destroyers which it attacked in South Pacific waters October 3.

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Wood engraving by H. McCormick after oil painting by James Chapin

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