

## Our Men and Women in the Nation's Service

### JACKSON COUNTY MEN TO POLICE S. F. CONFERENCE

Camp Beale, Calif., April 17.—Brigadier General Oscar B. Abbott, Camp Beale commander, announces two Jackson county men, Cpl. John E. Gage of Medford and Pfc. Paul Kent of Eagle Point are members of the crack 749th Military Police battalion from this post that has been chosen by the army to do the policing at the United Nations Peace Conference in San Francisco. The 749th MPs will be stationed in the conference city throughout the weeks of the meeting to safeguard visiting dignitaries, direct crowds and assist government officials at the important sessions.

The job of escorting dignitaries who attend conferences is not new to men of the outfit commanded by Lieutenant Colonel C. A. Hennessy. They were called upon to guard President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Chiang Kai-Shek and other world figures during visits to California. The entire battalion was rushed to the scene of the disastrous Port Chicago explosion near San Francisco last summer when an ammunition depot exploded and wrecked surrounding towns. Also, the 749th did extensive and important policing of aliens on the

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Pacific coast during the first months of the war.

#### LYLE WRIGHT

Lyle Wright, a member of the merchant marine who has made trips all over the Pacific, including a trip to Iwo Jima, left recently to return to his ship after a visit with his brother, Herbert Wright on Elk creek, friends and relatives at Butte Falls, and his mother, Mrs. Harry Stokes at Grants Pass. Wright holds the presidential citation and other citations for valor under fire. He is a graduate of Butte Falls high school.

#### FRED H. WILCOX

Aboard USS Prince Georges in a Pacific Port—(Delayed)—Storm-battered and shrapnel-pocked, her war paint faded, the Prince Georges is showing off another workhorse cruise. And Fred H. Wilcox, electrician's mate first class, son of Ralph H. Wilcox, of Rt. 1, Medford, Ore., is leaving with her, ready and willing to help take her to any destination.

Three times she has sailed into ice-filled water off Amchitka where Jap float Zeros tried vainly to plaster bombs on her deck. She's been off Saipan too—so near the beach that marine gun-fire deafened her crew and Jap shrapnel dented her superstructure; rained down on her decks.

#### LT. HARRY CORBIN

An Eighth Air Force Bomber Station, England—First Lieutenant Harry L. Corbin, 26, Eighth Air Force B-17 Flying Fortress pilot from Medford, Oregon, recently experienced his baptism of fire, when he participated in the aerial bombardment of a motor transport and tank works at Zwickau, Germany.

LT. Corbin's wife, Mrs. Beverly L. Corbin, lives at 814 W. 8th, Medford. He was employed as a cowboy with the Seis and Wilson Cattle Co., of Correo, New Mexico, prior to his entrance into the armed forces, in July, 1941.

#### CAPT. MORACE MECKLEM

San Francisco, Calif.—News of the promotion of Morace Mecklem, whose home is Oswego, Ore., to the rank of captain in the army transportation corps was recently announced at headquarters of the San Francisco Port of Embarkation, Fort Mason, where he is on duty in the troop movement division.

Captain Mecklem was manager of the New England Mutual Life Insurance Co. agency

at Medford, Ore., before he entered military service in May 1942.

#### CLIFFORD MEDLEY

Clifford Medley, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Medley of Central Point, recently graduated from a 12-weeks' course in electronics and hydraulics in a navy school at San Diego with a mark of 95.25, highest in his class of 42 men. He was given his choice of three places of transfer and selected Camp Shoemaker, Calif.

Medley attended Medford high school before entering the navy. He received his boot training at Farragut, Ida., and was a gunnery instructor at Bremerton, Wash., for about a year before being sent to San Diego. A younger brother, Walter, is now taking boot training at San Diego.

Medley's wife and baby reside at Benecia, Calif.

#### PVT. SYLVANUS HUNT

Somewhere in the Pacific—(Delayed)—In a baby picture contest, sponsored by a Red Cross unit, Marine Private Sylvanus R. Hunt was the proud, but slightly embarrassed, father of the "Best Dressed Child." Fourteen-month-old son James was not present to receive his prize, of course, so his Leatherneck dad stood up for him. Young Jimmy's picture, showing him strictly nude, won for him a diaper.

The competition brought out more than 150 dog-eared snapshots from the billboards of the overseas Marines, and the gallery of children's pictures in the camp's recreation center attracted more attention than any layout of glamorous pin-up art.

Hunt's wife, Lois, and their three children are living on Route 4, Medford. Private Hunt enlisted in May, 1944.

#### SGT. MELVIN BUSHNELL

S/Sgt. Melvin C. Bushnell, son of Mrs. Mary Bushnell of 838 Dakota Ave., Medford, was graduated last week from the Army Air Forces Flexible Gunnery School, Laredo Army Air Field, Laredo, Texas, a member of the AAF Training Command. He is now qualified to take his place as a member of a bomber combat crew.

Along with his diploma he received a pair of aerial gunner's silver wings at brief graduation exercises held there.

#### CPL. IRA KASDORF

With the Fifth Army, Italy—Corporal Ira R. Kasdorf of Chicago, Ill., recently was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action on the 5th army front in northern Italy.

Kasdorf, 24, is a member of the 346th field artillery battalion of the 91st "Powder River" division.

Before entering the army, Kasdorf lived at 6094 Nassau avenue, Chicago. His wife, Mrs. Mary Kasdorf, lives at 525 South Central avenue, Medford, Ore. In civilian life, he was a machine operator.

#### LT. RALPH VAN CLEAVE

A Ninth Air Force Fighter Bomber Base, France—In an aerial battle between 18 Messerschmidt and eight P-51 Mustangs, Second Lieutenant Ralph D. Van Cleave, North Bend, Ore., destroyed an ME 109 and provided protection for his flight leader Major Lowell K. Bruehl, Callendar, Iowa ace, who knocked down another and damaged four. It was the Oregonian's first victory in over 50 sorties and the Iowan's 17th.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Van Cleave, 1811 Meade, North Bend, he entered the service in August 1942. Lieutenant Van Cleave was employed as a photographer. He has been overseas with the 19th tactical air command for six months. He is a graduate of Medford high school.

#### T/S EDWARD INMAN

T/S Edward W. Inman, on a Half Track in the 2nd armored division with the 9th army, is probably knocking at the gates of Berlin now. His first combat duty was in North Africa on through Sicily, then up to England just before Christmas in 1943 where the "Hell on Wheels Division" made ready for D-Day. They swept up through Normandy, Belgium and Holland as "The Galloping Ghosts." They came back for the Ardennes battle in Belgium as an unidentified tank force, after the push back there they

rested, replaced their numerals, sewed on their patches, and were ready to go over the Rhine.

His wife, Helen with his two-year-old daughter, Doris Ann, whom he has never seen, lives in Phoenix. His mother is Mrs. F. A. Tracy of Central Point.

#### SGT. JOSEPH HUMPHRIES

Sgt. Joseph S. Humphries of Medford, Ore., soon will return home on furlough from 32 months of duty in the Mediterranean theater of operations, where he served with the 15th air force with a supply unit. He will visit his parents, who live at 322 East 12th street.

#### T/S CHARLES SKEVINGTON

Camp Carson, Colo. — T/S Charles Skevington, formerly of Rogue River, Ore., son of Mrs. Sara Suggs, San Jose, Calif., is now at the U. S. Army General hospital at Camp Carson. He fought in the battle for Belgium and in Germany.

#### CPL. CHARLES RICE

With the 32nd Infantry Division in the Philippines—Corporal Charles F. Rice, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Rice, 901 W. 11th street, Medford, Ore., has been promoted from private first class to corporal.

Entering the army in October, 1941, Corporal Rice had basic training at Ft. Lewis, Washington. He came overseas in February, 1943 to join the veteran 32nd Infantry division and is now serving as a gunner in an anti-tank company on Luzon. In addition to the Philippine operations, Corporal Rice has seen action at Saidor and Aitape in New Guinea and Moratai in the Netherlands East Indies. He was awarded the combat Infantryman badge for exemplary conduct under enemy fire during the Leyte campaign.

#### CPL. JAMES F. FRY

Miami, Fla.—The palm-fringed shores of Miami Beach looked mighty good to a Medford veteran as the big ATC plane nosed in for a landing.

He was home—or a long way nearer home—after 28 months in India with the air corps. The happy warrior, who today was clearing air transport command's Miami army air field

after an ATC flight from India was Cpl. James F. Fry, 24, Medford, Ore.

A flight traffic clerk, Cpl. Fry flew 480 missions for 1040 hours.

He wears the distinguished flying cross with the two oak leaf clusters, the air medal with three oak leaf clusters, the purple heart, the good conduct medal, the Asiatic-Pacific theater of operations ribbon, with one combat star, and the Burma-India zone clasp.

Married, his wife, Mrs. Charlene M. Fry, resides at 118 Willamette avenue, Medford. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira C. Fry, live at Route 1, Murphy, Ore.

#### MARVIN STARK

Bremerton, Wash.—Marvin G. Stark, Coxswain, USNR, of Medford, Ore., is now stationed with the ship repair unit which is in training at the Puget Sound navy yard in Bremerton, Wash. His wife, Edith, and one-year-old daughter, Cheryl Ann, are residing in Medford at the Fluhrer Apartments.

## NAZI JET PLANE SECRETS BARED

With the American 9th Army April 17—(U.P.)—The German manager of a vast underground Nazi jet-plane factory overrun by the 9th army said today that the jets attained speeds between 560 and 640 miles per hour in tests.

This factory produced the Heinkel 163 jet-plane. It was overrun by the 9th army Wednesday.

The manager, revealing secret details of the jet weapon, said it was propelled by crude oil and was catapulted into the air with rockets on the take-off.

This factory was constructed at the 950-foot level in a salt mine outside of Egel, 15 miles southwest of Magdeburg. It had produced up to four planes per day since it went into production in January.

Construction, the manager said, was relatively simple. He estimated the jets cost about 40

per cent less than single-engine fighters.

The plane weighed a ton and a half. It was about 26-feet long with a 29-foot wing span. It mounted two .30 mm. cannons.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads

Tuesday, April 17, 1945 MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

**REFUSE DUMPERS FINED**  
Austin, Tex.—(U.P.)—Persons convicted of dumping trash and garbage in Travis county, Tex., will be fined \$10 to \$200, with

half the amount of the fine paid to the citizen who reports the violation, County Attorney Perry L. Jones announced recently.

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