

The Aircraft Carrier They Couldn't Sink

PEARL HARBOR, May 17—The epic of the 27,000-ton U.S. aircraft carrier Franklin, which Navy men said took more punishment than any other flat top and still remained afloat, was disclosed today at this port, where she arrived under her own power after a "nightmare" action off the Japanese coast during which all her munitions exploded in a deck-consuming, gasoline-fed blaze.

Of the original 2,500-man complement, 450 have been listed as killed and a like number as missing. Aboard when she returned were 103 officers and 603 men. The remainder of the men were picked up by other ships after they had gone overboard, many of them being blown off the carrier by the blasts of exploding bombs and rockets.

The story began Mar. 19. The Franklin, only 63 miles from Japan's coast and with its planes gassed and bombed up on the flight deck for their first attack on the enemy homeland, was hit by a Jap dive-bomber which swooped unexpectedly out of the clouds ahead of the U.S. task force.

Within three minutes of the bombing the Franklin's decks were aflame as the fully-tanked planes caught fire and the racked bombs blew up. Within the next ten hours almost 100 tons of high-explosives and thousands of gallons of gasoline blasted and burned the carrier as she drifted toward Japan. By the time the blaze was almost under control the Franklin was within 38 miles of Japan's coast. A cruiser then took her in tow.

Two-ton bombs ripped the flight deck; five-inch shells exploded in gun breaches, ripping the weapons from their mounts and hurling the crews into the sea; rockets and machine-gun slugs zipped along the shattered deck, taking a toll of the crew and narrowly missing

other ships in the task force.

Hundreds of men were trapped in the compartments below, but heroic work by their comrades saved many of them.

The skipper, Capt. Leslie Gehres, of Coronado, Cal., never gave the order to abandon ship, despite her desperate plight. "I had the order telling me to prepare to abandon ship, but I didn't pay any attention to that," he said. "We were still afloat." He admitted it was a nightmare experience, however, and praised the work of the Franklin's chaplain, Lt. Cmdr. Timothy O'Callaghan, of Boston, calling him the "bravest man I've ever known."

Other U.S. planes shot down 41 of a group of 45 Jap planes which attempted to finish off the Franklin. The first night's roll call mustered 70 officers and 250 men; by Mar. 21 the surviving complement aboard was fixed at 103 officers and 603 men. Bodies were removed from the indescribable debris, the last one being removed three weeks after the action ended.

Alvin S. McCoy, of The Kansas City Star, sole correspondent aboard, said men were blown off the deck and burned by the flash that swept the ship when the bombs hit and others below were suffocated by smoke. The Franklin later got her engines going again and reached here, with her flight deck shredded and hangar deck a twisted line of wreckage.

Ley, Labor Front Boss, Joins Nazi Big Shots in U.S. Bag

Dr. Robert Ley, Nazi Labor Front leader under Hitler and one of Germany's notorious war criminals, was captured by troops of the 101st Airborne Division Wednesday night as the Allied net tightened around criminals and quislings still at large in Europe.

Two privates of the 502nd Regiment, acting on a tip from civilians, captured Ley—dressed in blue pyjamas and with a four-day growth of beard—in a house 45 miles south of Berchtesgaden. The 55-year-old Nazi denied his identity, but was identified from photographs and by Franz Schwartz, a Nazi party treasurer, and his son. The identification was clinched by an American officer who knew Ley 13 years ago.

Delta Base Staging Area Ready Soon

By John Brown

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

MARSEILLE, May 17—The big job of processing troops for shipment home and to the Pacific should be in full swing within two weeks at the Delta Base staging area, it was announced today.

The first men are expected to arrive in the area about May 25. Plans call for processing a soldier within three to five days, according to Col. J. T. Miesegaes, commanding officer.

The area, which spreads over 103 square miles 18 miles north of Marseille, is set up so that when a unit arrives a particular zone will be ready for it—complete with hot meals for the troops, provided through the use of PWs as cooks and KPs.

However, as soon as possible after a unit moves in, it will operate its own zone, furnishing its own help. The staging area will operate Class I and IV depots with rations and petroleum, oil and lubrication for direct distribution to the units.

While troops are awaiting movement to the Marseille POE, special emphasis will be placed on entertainment and educa-

Huge Rheims Area Set For Redeploying Troops

SHAEF, May 17 (Reuter)—Rheims, where the German surrender was signed, is to house the HQ of a 60-square-mile area taken over by Supreme HQ to group and redeploy U.S. troops not needed for the occupation of Germany.

Gathered here in numbers as great as 300,000 at a time, the troops will be directed either home or to the Pacific theater.

The peak turnover in dispersals is planned for 8,000 men daily. The plan calls for the withdrawal of the troops from Europe in a third of the time it took to get them here.

Two of the main attractions will be the 10,000-seat outdoor theater equipped with two 35mm. movie projectors and an outdoor beer garden capable of seating 2,400.

A Special Service staff will promote baseball, basketball, tennis, track, swimming, golf, pingpong and other games.

Capt. Frank C. Cate Jr., of Reading, Mass., PX officer, said there will be exchanges on the grounds for officers and enlisted men.

Roads through the area total 45 miles and there will be 25 miles of water distribution lines. Plans call for a sewage system for flush-type latrines and telephonic communications to every point in the area. There will also be facilities for training including two 50-target rifle ranges, one two and a half mile obstacle course, and five CWS gas chambers.

Frisco Quakes Up

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17 (AP)—A slight earth tremor shook San Francisco this morning.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

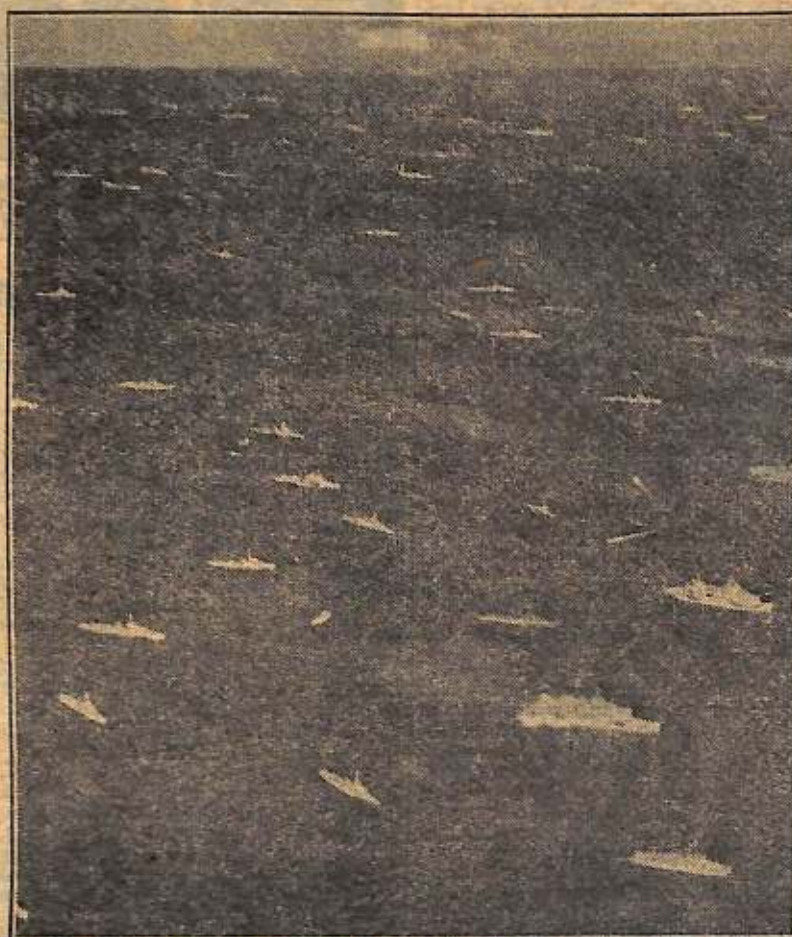
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in the European Theater of Operations

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1945

500 B29s Fire War Plants On Nagoya With 3,500 Tons



ON THE PROWL IN JAP WATERS: This U.S. task force lying at anchor in a Pacific harbor merely suggests the size of the giant armadas prepared to carry the war to the Japanese home islands and Tokyo. Nearly every type of combat ship can be seen—in the foreground are destroyers and destroyer escorts; to the right, transports; and at the top, Essex class carriers, Independence class light carriers, tankers and cargo ships.

Japs' 3rd City Becomes Most Bombed Target

Nagoya, third largest Japanese city and a vital center of aircraft and armament production, was set ablaze by U.S. bombs for the second time in three days early yesterday morning when a fleet of more than 500 Superforts dropped 3,500 tons of fire bombs into the city's main industrial section.

The B29s struck shortly after midnight and dropped more than 1,000,000 six-pound incendiaries from medium altitude. The city was well lit up by flares and by the light of fires kindled during the twin raid by Superforts on Monday.

The attack was aimed at a 16-square-mile target area centered on the section adjoining Nagoya's inner harbor and estuary docks—the only area of the city not previously hit in Superfort raids.

Plants Inside Target Area

The Mitsubishi aircraft assembly plant, Nagoya arsenal factory and a profusion of other war plants were inside the target area.

Returning crew members said anti-aircraft fire was meager and that few Jap interceptors put up a fight. No losses were reported. The Japanese, however, claimed nine B29s shot down and 22 others damaged.

Yesterday's raid made Nagoya the most heavily bombed Jap city. The city has been hit 14 times, two fewer than Tokyo, but the capital has received a lesser weight of bombs. Superforts have hit the Jap mainland 66 times.

Japanese Radio yesterday also said that 12 hours after the Superfort raid, 40 fighter planes from Iwo Jima strafed the Fujisawa district on the southern outskirts of Tokyo.

Tokyo Radio also reported a naval clash in the Malacca Straits between British and Japanese warships and claimed that one destroyer of the British force of two cruisers and three destroyers had been sunk. This report was not confirmed.

The Malacca Straits lie between Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula and are the seaway to Singapore.

On Okinawa patrols of the 6th Marine Division crossed the Asato River, which runs through Naha, and penetrated the main part of the capital.

Half of Japs Wiped Out

More than half of the Jap force on Okinawa already has been wiped out but the remainder, estimated at 34,000 troops, continued to fight bitterly.

Tokyo Radio was pessimistic about the island battle and said: "There is no room for any optimistic thinking whatever. The war situation on Okinawa has entered upon a grave stage."

Jap casualties on the island up to May 15 totaled 46,505, Adm. Nimitz announced. American losses, however, indicated that Okinawa is the costliest and bloodiest campaign of the Pacific war. Nimitz said the battle has cost U.S. forces 20,950 casualties, including 3,781 killed.

On Mindanao U.S. troops were within eight miles of the key airfield at Valencia, capture of which would provide a base for attacks on Borneo.

Dutch troops made new landings on the southern tip of Tarakan Island, just off the coast of Borneo, as Australian and Dutch troops pushed ahead despite heavy rains.

U.S. Casualties 986,214; Philippines Cost 46,638

WASHINGTON, May 17 (AP)—American casualties since Pearl Harbor climbed to 986,214 during the week ended May 7, it was disclosed today. The Army had suffered 878,939 casualties, the Navy 107,275.

Under-Secretary of War Robert Patterson also disclosed that Army casualties on the Philippines totaled 46,638, including 10,342 killed, up to May 9. During the same period the Japanese lost 237,256 in killed or captured.

Bonomi Visits N. Italy

ROME, May 17 (AP)—Premier Ivanoe Bonomi, seven Cabinet ministers and representatives of the Committee of National Liberation left Rome today for northern Italy, where they will make a political survey on which to base an eventual reorganized government.

Better Than Heifitz or Rooney

Koniev Likes Jitterbugs

BAD WILDINGEN, Germany, May 17 (AP)—As the guest of Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Russia's Marshal Koniev today was treated to a demonstration of genuine American jitterbugging.

So impressed was the Marshal that he rated today's entertainment as even better than the performances of violin maestro Jascha Heifitz or film star Mickey Rooney—both billed as top stars on the lavish reception program for Russian guests in this zone.

The Russians were nevertheless also delighted with the Heifitz and Rooney programs, but it was the jitterbugging that got the most applause.

The entertainments were arranged in return for an elaborate program of food, drink and entertainment put on for Bradley and his staff by Koniev some 12 days ago at a castle south of Berlin.

This, however, was the first time the Americans actually entertained the Russians, since at all other meetings the Russians have been hosts.



LEY

The six-foot-six-inch-tall member of the Waffen SS, who plotted to kill Gen. Eisenhower and other Allied leaders during the Ardennes breakthrough last Winter, was taken by men of the U.S. 3rd Division in an Arl Valley village.

Skorzeny organized many Nazi paratroop landings behind the Allied lines and it was his men, dressed in American uniforms, who spearheaded the Ardennes offensive.

Ernst Kaltenbrunner, chief of the SS secret service and Heinrich Himmler's right-hand man, was arrested by U.S. 3rd Army troops on May 12, it was reported yesterday.

An anti-Russian resistance movement was believed to have been nipped in the bud with the arrest of Kaltenbrunner, who admitted that he was planning some sort of action against the Soviets. At the time of his arrest, 80th Division troops also seized several members of the secret SS. Kaltenbrunner headed the Third Reich's political and international intelligence activities.

Ingram Tells Timely Capture Of Atlantic U-Boat Wolfpack

WASHINGTON, May 17 (ANS)—How a powerful force of U.S. carriers and destroyer escorts intercepted a "formidable wolfpack" of German U-boats bent on blanketing the East Coast from Maine to Florida only three weeks before Germany surrendered, was told yesterday by Adm. Jonas H. Ingram, Atlantic Fleet commander, at a press conference dealing with undersea warfare. Five Nazi submarines were sunk in this final bid against Allied shipping.

Ingram also announced the capture of a 1,600-ton German submarine, bound

for Japan with three Luftwaffe major generals aboard, by a U.S. destroyer escort 500 miles off Newfoundland on May 13. Bodies of two Japanese officers who had committed hari-kari were discovered by the boarding party. The Luftwaffe generals were brought to Washington for questioning.

Meanwhile, Navy officials disclosed that the destroyer escort, Frederick C. Davis, had been sunk by an enemy submarine in the Atlantic "some days" prior to Germany's surrender, raising to 308 the total of U.S. naval vessels lost since the war began.

Japanese submarines have been prowling the Atlantic, Ingram revealed. One, sunk off Iceland last Summer, was identified by debris on the surface.

Lifting the veil on the battle of the Atlantic, Ingram declared he was "personally confident the U.S. killings of German U-boats far exceeded 126"—the official figure—"but in order to get credit from these guys in Washington we have to bring in a German car pickled in alcohol."

Ingram said the turning point in the battle of the Atlantic occurred in the Spring of 1943. "If the rate of sinkings in early 1943 had been maintained to the end of the year there would have been no landings in North Africa—or anywhere else," he added.

Emphasizing the task which faced the Allied navies Ingram estimated the German U-boat fleet reached a peak of 450 by March 1, 1945. "Every five days a convoy left East Coast ports for the United Kingdom, Iceland or Africa," he revealed. "At any moment we had at least 450 cargo ships at sea."

Lindbergh in Europe For United Aircraft

NEW YORK, May 17 (ANS)—Charles A. Lindbergh, now in Paris, will tour the European theater as a civilian in connection with development and production of airplane engines and propellers for the Army and Navy, United Aircraft Corp. announced today.

The company, which employs Lindbergh, said he would continue studies he conducted last year in the Pacific.



Planet Photo

WEARY WILLIE'S MOMENT: Two Wehrmacht generals—Maj. Gen. Maier (left) and Maj. Gen. Muller (right)—pass one of the men instrumental in the collapse of the Reich, T/Sgt. J. B. Alexander, radio operator of the bomber, "Weary Willie." Bombs painted on Alexander's flying jacket show the number of his missions.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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THE B BAG



VE-Day at the Base

May 11, 1945

To the B-Bag: On VE-Day this is what happened at our base. All personnel who could be spared were given the day off but were restricted to the base.

Sorry, Girls!

May 15, 1945

To the B-Bag: A group of our Air Transport Command WACs are wondering why our General, Brig. Gen. E. S. Hoag, was not mentioned in your article about the WAC parade we had on Monday.

A Pacific Voice

May 10, 1945

To the B-Bag: I've just received this letter from my brother who has been in the Pacific for four years. 'We know that when the fuss is over in the ETO you guys will be coming this way.'

Professional Athletes

May 10, 1945

To the B-Bag: I see that some Congressman charges that professional athletes are being discriminated against. As regulations stand now—any 4-F classification given to an athlete is reviewed in Washington.

May 12, 1945

To the B-Bag: Isn't it rather apparent that the suspension order pending investigation of our 'big time' athletes was to postpone immediate induction of other major league players?

German PWs

May 12, 1945

To the B-Bag: To those who think we should treat the German PWs the way they treated Allied PWs, God and I say this—Show Mercy! We pray to the Almighty God as Jesus taught his disciples, 'and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.'

May 11, 1945

To the B-Bag: Instead of being handcuffed and placed in prison the German officer PWs are being given first-class accommodation in travel and living conditions.

M/Sgt. E. F., Hosp. Plant 4194.

Hash Marks

Pfc Tom Norris sez the reason Englishmen sometimes wear monocles is that the fog is often so thick there is only half as much to see.

Conversation between two sots. 'They say the Army needs 'tanks'—let's volunteer.'

Home Front Vignette. 'Have a cigarette,' a girl asked the lady sitting next to her on a park bench. 'What, smoke in public!' exclaimed the woman, shocked to death.

Oddities in the News. Among the divorcees filed in Nebraska recently was



one by a confessed pick-pocket. He claimed he lifted a sailor's wallet and found his wife's picture in it.

Sports dream. An ex-member of the high scoring Rhode Island State Basketball team came to the ETO as a GI and racked up 85 points.

Rank has its privileges—maybe. A major in one of the aircraft warning units along the U.S. coast was using the radio transmitter to talk to pilots of two airplanes overhead who were directing fire-fighting groups.

'I think I'll have another little nip,' said the Marine as he blasted a Jap sniper out of a palm tree.

Afterthought. The two most important



muscles that operate without direction of the brain are the heart and the tongue.

Overheard. 'Sometimes women with the least principle get the most interest.'

J. C. W.



AS THOUSANDS CHEERED: Outside Grand Central Palace, New York, crowds were celebrating VE-Day when this picture was taken. But for these prospective yardbirds it was only the beginning as 1/Lt. John T. Cumiskey swore them into the Army.

Control of Germany Will Keep It a Conquered Nation for Years

By Dick Lewis

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

SHAEF, May 17—Many years, perhaps a generation, may pass before the 70,000,000 people of conquered Germany can raise a voice again in world affairs or attempt to govern themselves.

The German nation faces one of the most severe periods of discipline ever imposed upon a defeated people, except by the Nazis themselves, since ancient times.

This appeared to be the impact of Military Government plans for Germany as revealed in Paris yesterday by Lt. Gen. Lucius Clay, Deputy Military Governor for the Reich under Gen. Eisenhower.

As the Yalta Conference determined, Germany is to be governed through a control council on which the U.S., Russia, Britain and France will be represented. The control period will begin in a few months as soon as occupation troops of the four nations have been deployed to their respective zones.

Meanwhile, Germany is being governed by SHAEF authority. This is expected to continue for at least 90 days, until the bulk of displaced persons have been repatriated and prisoners of war have been sorted out and returned.

Under the control system which is to supersede SHAEF military Government each of the powers will administer a zone of occupation under a military commander. Eisenhower, who represents the U.S. on the United Nations control council, will command the American zone. Clay will be his deputy.

German activities in the American zone are to be rigidly regimented under a dozen divisions of the U.S. control group, which will regulate virtually every phase of civilian life.

A widespread intelligence system is being created. Its mission is to weed out Nazis and keep the American governing divisions informed of every economic, political and social move the Germans make.

The bulk of German industry will remain as it is now—paralyzed. Communications and transportation will be restored only to the extent the United Nations control bodies need them.

There will be no uncontrolled dissemination of newspapers and magazines from other countries, including American

newspapers and periodicals. The people, however, will be permitted to listen to the radio freely.

In the American zone, some schools already have been reopened and elementary schools will open throughout the area as soon as teachers and books can be provided. Secondary schools will begin opening next Fall. There has been no word on universities, but they will probably remain closed at least a year.

Objective of opening the schools is to keep German children off the streets and discourage formations of Nazi gangs under the influence of party die-hards who may escape detection.

What business German does will be on a local basis for some time. Business enterprises from the U.S. and other countries will be barred indefinitely.

After the last war, when von Hindenburg drew his defeated but unsundered armies back into the Reich after the 1918 armistice, the German government was not only recognized on a de facto basis by the Allies but the Republic was encouraged.

Within a few years, the government was not only influential in European affairs—at Locarno in 1925 and in the League of Nations—but German capital was spreading over the world and planting German economic power with it, especially in Latin America and in China.

No revival of this kind seems remotely possible under current Military Government plans. These appear to reduce Germany to an area in Central Europe where millions of people now find themselves confined and controlled by the world they tried to run.

Sweatin' Out His Gettin' Out

(This is the third piece in a series by Stars and Stripes Staff Writer Charley White, who started the series with the idea that he was getting out of the Army on points.)

By Charles W. White

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

FORT DIX, N.J., May 17—This is a pretty interesting place, despite the fact that one can't get out of the Army here—leastly, this correspondent can't. I got talking with a guy named Bender from the 504th Parachute Infantry of the 82nd Division. About that time they called all casuals out and finally hit our number. The announcer said for all casuals or TDs who had not been screened or who had lost Service Records or screwed up for any reason to fall out and report to the first floor, barracks seven, for screening.

It was the first time I ever made a formation first but right behind me was Bender. Bringing up the rear were the rest of the lost battalion men—the men from the CBI, Southwestern Pacific, ETO and some theaters like the Aleutian that I never even heard of before. It didn't do us much good though, because they decided to screen only the guys from the Air Force. So Bender took off in the direction of town and I took off for the PX.

The country around this camp reminds me of Brown County, Ind., and believe it or not, our company, No. 14, has a rabbit hound. So if they don't send my discharge today I think it will be possible to take that hound dog and disappear into the woods right here.

AFN Radio Program

Friday, May 18

- 1300—World News 1900—Sports News 1310—American Sports 1905—C'n'da Swing Sh'w 1315—Guess Who 1915—Eddie Cantor 1330—It Pays to be 2000—Navy Date Ignorant 2030—American Band 1400—RCAF HQ Band 2100—World News 1430—Let's Go To Town 2105—Your War Today 1500—World News 2115—Command Perf. 1530—On the Record 2145—Johnny Mercer 1630—Strike up the Band Concert 1700—Science Mag. 2235—Here's to R'm'nce 1730—Music by R. Morgan 2300—World News 1755—Mark up the Map 2305—Merely Music 1800—World News 0000—World News 1810—GI Supper Club 0015—Sign off

Saturday, May 19

- 0755—Program Resume 0930—Canada Show 0800—Combat Diary 1000—Dance Orchestra 0815—Personal Album 1000—Command Perf. 0830—Jill's Juice Box 1030—GI Bull Session 0900—World News 1100—U.S. Home News 0915—Spotlight Bands 1105—Duffle Bag

UP FRONT WITH MAULDIN



'Spring is here'

Nazi PWs' Toil, Sweat and Skill Speed Jap End

By James Long

Associated Press Correspondent

SHAEF, May 17—The sweat, toil and skill of the surrendered German Army has been put to use helping the Americans beat Japan.

This is one of the top priority jobs for millions of Germans in Allied hands and the long process of disarmament, concentration and screening still is under way.

They are being used in every way to speed the gigantic redeployment task of American forces and equipment to the Pacific.

Skilled Germans are helping to recondition equipment to be shipped east. Others by the thousands are toiling under doughboy guards on every kind of job from crating to repairing roads for the heavy traffic back from the front to the ports.

SHAEF is tight-lipped on the exact stage of disarming and rounding up of the surrendered German Army. It could not be told whether that is for security reasons because the process is continuing, or simply because SHAEF does not know as a result of the division of Germany.

The best available information, although unofficial, is that the disarming is complete and the troops actually in Germany now are all rounded up. But it was not clear what has been done yet about getting them out of Denmark or Norway.

To all specific questions on the subject SHAEF Advanced HQ at Rheims said it had no answers yet and indicated none would likely be forthcoming for a week or more.

Virtually every Allied unit turned the Volkssturm loose almost as fast as they were caught and disarmed. And it seemed likely from that and other indications that German soldiers, even besides the Volkssturm, might be weeded out to return the farmers to the fields as soon as possible.

That, next to facilitating the American Army's military redeployment, was perhaps the No. 2 priority job—to try to win what obviously will be a narrow margin race with starvation in Middle Europe this coming winter.

There was another job and it might prove gigantic. It was the rebuilding of ruined Europe, this time by the Nazis who wrought the destruction in France, Belgium, Holland and across the east to the Volga bend and the Caucasus.

Russia already is using prisoners and so is Britain.

France has put in her request for tens of thousands. It seems likely that Germans will work out much of their reparation in sheer sweat, perhaps for years to come.

Any Questions On the Contest?

To answer questions frequently asked in connection with the War Bond Letter-Writing Contest, The Stars and Stripes will print a question-and-answer box in its columns several times during the next seven days.

Q—Since the contest doesn't end until July 7, should I take my time in getting my entry in to the judges?

A—Take all the time you want to think about what you're going to say, but don't wait until the last minute. Now that the European War is over men probably will be moved from the ETO rapidly and on short notice. Once you leave the theater you are not eligible unless you already have submitted your entry.

Q—How large are the refrigerators being offered as prizes?

A—Anyone who wins a Frigidaire can have his choice of a seven- or nine-cubic-foot model.

Q—Should I include my Army serial number and rank as well as my name on my contest letter?

A—You must give your name, serial number and Army address, but need list your rank only if you desire. Thus, letters written by generals and privates will receive the same fair treatment. Q—Exactly what are my chances of winning?

A—Just as good as the next fellow. Each letter will be read and judged individually, and all prizes will be awarded on the merit of the ideas the entry contains. Fancy letters are not necessary.

Off the Global Wire

Russia Rushes Right Back To Peace-time

MOSCOW, May 17 (Reuter)—With the same vigor and determination as was displayed in its war effort Soviet Russia today is organizing for peace in a great "back to normal" drive.

Troop movements will give way within a few weeks to the movement of 1,675,000 children to Summer camps, which open at the beginning of June.

Eighty-one per cent of disabled Soviet ex-service men are already back at work after passing through special training courses.

Men still in the Army are joining the switch to peace-time routine. Front-line units which have just finished the mopping up of German pockets in Czechoslovakia are experiencing a craze for football and gymnastics, Red Star said.

U.S. Will Sell Planes in Ceylon

COLOMBO, Ceylon, May 17 (UP)—The U.S. consul in Colombo has announced that a limited number of Air-Craft from U.S. Army stocks—Douglas DC3 and Lockheed Lodestar types—will soon be available for disposal on cash terms or on the installment system.

The Ceylonese Communications Minister, it was learned in Colombo, asked the consul whether, in addition to selling the planes, the U.S. government would be prepared to render technical advice and assistance or to loan the services of operating and executive personnel for using the machines in civil air transport.

Japs Like Reds Neutral

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17 (AP)—A "sincere" effort to "maintain neutral relations" with Russia prompted Japan to abrogate all treaties with Germany, Tokyo Radio asserted today.

The broadcast said the collapse of Germany prevented the realization of Japan's "sincere wish" for a New Order in Europe and resulted in the decision "to maintain for the time being an attitude of indifference toward European problems." Also promoting the decision was "the reality of Japan's neutral relations with the Soviet Union," Tokyo said.

French Brass to Use Hitler's Car

PARIS, May 17 (Reuter)—Hitler's huge, 150 horse-power car will soon be carrying high ranking French officers in Paris.

The black, bullet-proof, 4½-ton car is receiving final touches after being captured at Berchtesgaden by French troops.

All cars Allied troops may pick up in Germany will be handed to the French to relieve France's transport problems, it is understood.

French Will Occupy Ruhr

WASHINGTON, May 17 (UP)—French troops will occupy the Ruhr, official sources in Washington said today. The only question not yet decided about the occupation of Germany concerns the exact makeup of the French zone, it was said.

The Big Three and France, however, reserve the right eventually to separate the Ruhr valley from Germany entirely and make it an "international settlement."

Censorship Lifted

WASHINGTON, May 17 (ANS)—The Office of Censorship confirmed yesterday the announcement in London that censorship of civilian mail between the U.S. and the U.K. would end within 30 days.

The Censor's Office in Washington said an exact date had not yet been fixed, but that the opening and reading of civilian mail sent to the U.K. would end within a month.

All civilian mail going out of this country to Europe and other points has been turned over to the mail division of the Office of Censorship by the Post Office Department. After it had been read and cleared it was sent back to the Post Office Department for delivery.

2 Correspondents Reaccredited

SHAEF, May 17 (AP)—Seymour Freidin and John Groth, two of four American correspondents discredited by SHAEF public relations for going through the Russian lines to Berlin and filing their stories, have been reaccredited although they will not be permitted to file until June 6. Freidin represents the New York Herald Tribune and Groth the American Legion Magazine.

Nazi PWs Pose as GIs

PARIS, May 17 (Reuter)—Three escaped German prisoners from the camp at Chartres, west of Paris, were recaptured here today dressed as American soldiers.



BALKS: Mort Cooper, ace right-hander of the St. Louis Cardinals, has quit the Redbirds for the third time this spring because of a salary dispute, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Cooper was scheduled to face the Braves Wednesday afternoon, but checked out of his room Tuesday morning and flew to New York to rejoin his wife. Cooper is said to have notified Secretary Leo Ward of his intention and told him to inform Manager Billy Southworth, who immediately suspended Cooper indefinitely. "This is a tough time to desert," Southworth said, "with our pitching staff in its present condition." Reason for Billy's groans are that Max Lanier is on his way home to take an Army physical and Harry Brecheen and Ted Wilks have sore arms.

Dodgers, Giants Keep Up Hot Pace With Victories Over Corsairs, Cubs

NEW YORK, May 17—Scoring one run at a time off Al Gerheuser, elongated Pittsburgh southpaw, the second-place Dodgers moved to their 11th straight triumph yesterday, 3-1, equalling the Brooklyn victory streak of 1924, but once again they failed to gain on Mel Ott's Giants, who slapped the Cubs for the third time in a row, 6-0, to remain two games in front. All American League games were again postponed.

For the seventh successive game a Brooklyn pitcher went the route, with Hal Gregg racking up his fifth win and blanking the Bucs after the first inning when they scored an unearned run on two errors, a walk and a sacrifice fly. The Durocher men knotted the count in the fourth, added another in the fifth and made sure of things in the seventh when Augie Galan opened with a triple and tallied on Dixie Walker's fly. Lou's Olmo of the Flatbushers stretched his hitting streak to 14 games.

There was no change in the Giants' act. Bill Voiselle walked off with his seventh straight in allowing six hits and the "three old men"—Mel Ott, Phil Weintraub and Ernie Lombardi—provided the fireworks by belting homers in the sixth inning, all with nobody on base. The other New York runs came in the first, third and seventh, and Hank Wyse suffered the defeat.

Braves Set Down Cards Twice

Bob Coleman's Braves bounced into fourth place by taking a 14-inning thriller from the Cardinals, 5-4, and then repeating in regulation time, 4-1. Bud Byerly, given the starting chore for the Cards in the first game after Mort Cooper jumped the club, was let down hard in the ninth when Buster Adams dropped a fly, allowing the Braves to tie the count with two gone. Blix Donnelly then took over and held Boston in check until the 14th, when with one away Phil Masi doubled, Eddie Joost was purposely passed and Dick Culler singled home the winning run. Winning hurler was Red



Barrett, third Boston moundman, who held the Cards in check the last five frames.

The Braves wasted no time in the second battle, scoring four runs off Al Jurisich in the first innings, three of them on a homer by Carden Gillenwater. Jack Creel relieved at this time and allowed the Tribe only one hit the rest of the way, but the champs were able to produce only one run on eight hits off Bob Logan, just up from Indianapolis.

Dick Barrett was in form for the Phillies and for a change his mates didn't boot the ball around too much, with the result that the Reds took a 6-2 pasting. Barrett yielded seven hits and didn't allow a run until his mates had hung up a four-run lead. In all, the Phils collected ten blows, with Jimmy Wasdell getting three of them. Ed Heusser suffered the setback.

Bowl Games Depend On Travel Facilities

WASHINGTON, May 17—A travel curtailment program for college and high school athletics, including the elimination of post-season events, was announced by the ODT yesterday, but officials pointed out that the big bowl games are not until January and said that the transportation situation might ease up sufficiently by then to allow the games to be played. The program also calls for elimination of high school tournaments or meets that involve transportation.

Billy Conn and Bomber Lose Out—on Points

WASHINGTON, May 17 (Reuter)—There is little chance of a return bout between Joe Louis and Billy Conn for the world heavyweight title in the near future, and it all boils down to the little matter of points.

An official of the War Department said that the Army has no plans for the dismissal of specialists except by the points system already in use. And as neither Conn or Louis possesses a combat record or has the required time overseas this rules them out for any hope of immediate release.

Dick Tracy



Li'l Abner



"BASEBALL BARGAIN" BY PAO

Schmeling Toured PW Camps Under Sponsorship of Nazis

By Gene Graff, Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

PARIS, May 17—Max Schmeling, former world heavyweight champion who has thrice been reported killed, has been found safe and fit in Hamburg by a Welsh division, according to Reuter. Which backs up the words of Maj. Clermont E. Wheeler, a U.S. Air Forces officer who was in a German prisoner-of-war camp for two-and-a-half years.

Maj. Wheeler talked to Schmeling for more than two hours when the big Nazi visited his prison camp and says Schmeling laughed when asked how many times he had been "killed" in communique.

"Max was wearing civilian clothes and he looked prosperous," said Wheeler. "He told me he was making a tour of Allied prison camps after having covered Nazi Army installations. His junket definitely was sanctioned by the Nazi party, and he said something about working out of the German propaganda department."

Herr Schmeling sneered at the mention of Joe Louis, as any Hitler-guided Aryan has been taught to do, and tried to put across the impression that Joe was "just lucky" when he cut the German champ to ribbons in less than a round.

Schmeling explained the civilian garb he was wearing with the news that when he jumped on Crete in '41 he broke his back and almost died. When he finally got back to Germany they let him out of the Army.

Behind the Sports Headlines

WASHINGTON—The War Production Board has lifted the ban on the manufacture of golf balls, but has warned that the action would not result in an immediate increase in civilian supply.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—A crew race between girls of Radcliffe and the boys of fair Harvard was in the offing today and spokesmen for the gals and the Harvard "informals" said the crews would get together for their history-making engagement in the Charles River Saturday.

LAKELAND, Fla.—Bobby Jones, retired grand-slammer, proved he is still there in the clutch as he fired an eagle three on the last hole to finish all square in an exhibition match for the War Bond Drive against Sammy Snead and Cpl. Bobby Walker. Teamed with Earl

Christianson, Miami policeman, Jones was one down going to the last green but chipped from 25 yards off the green and the ball bounced into the cup to square the match.

NEW YORK—Henry Rosen, one of the two men found guilty of conspiracy to cheat and defraud in connection with the bribing of five Brooklyn College basketball players to throw a game, was sentenced to one year and fined \$500. The same sentence was previously imposed upon his co-defendant, Harvey Stemmer.

TULSA, Okla.—Tulsa University's famed football machine will lose at least four men because of the Missouri Valley Conference ruling to return to pre-war eligibility rules, Coach Henry Frnka reports.

By Chester Gould



By Al Capp



Minor League Results

Table with columns for League, Team, W, L, Pct. Includes International League, American Association, Eastern League.

Table with columns for League, Team, W, L, Pct. Includes National League, American League, Southern Association, Pacific Coast League.

Around the 48 Yesterday

Civilian Airlines May Use Only 5,000 Service Pilots

ST. PAUL (UP)—Because (1) there won't be enough flights and (2) many heroic war fliers could never handle passenger ships, only around 5,000 pilots now in the services will land jobs with commercial airlines after the war, Don J. King, director of the Eastern Division of Northwest Airlines, said here.

However, King was quick to add that those now in uniform would have other opportunities to keep flying in civilian life, predicting that around 100,000 could be absorbed in nine other types of peace-time flying within five years after the Jap war ends.

Most of those military pilots whom the airlines could use, King said, first would have to be retrained and would have to serve as co-pilots for at least two years. King also said that the "destructive dare-devil mood must be completely knocked out of them before they will be any good for passenger service."

"The only fliers we can use without additional training," King said, "will be twin-engine pilots and even they must go through lengthy co-pilot training."

King declared that other war fliers could become pilots on feeder routes, spurs of main lines and freight routes. They also could do crop dusting, tourist flying, air chauffeuring, scouting for the fishing industry, forest fire prevention patrol, policing, photography and mapping.

King said that the "smart flier" would be one, "who, if he doesn't stay in the armed forces or go into some other kind of flying, will get training on new types of planes" for a flock of airline jobs which eventually would arise.

N.Y. Butchers Meatless

NEW YORK (ANS)—The meat scarcity reached its highest point yet as half of the metropolitan area's 10,000 butcher shops were forced to shut temporarily because they had nothing to sell.

Proprietors of shops that stayed open said that their stocks enabled them to keep open only two hours each day. War Food Administration authorities gave no hope for any immediate relief.

Meanwhile, hot dogs became the latest hard-to-get food item. Many lunch-rooms ran out of frankfurters last week end and now are getting only 30 to 40 per cent of their normal supply.

"The meat which goes into frank-

furters is being sold in the black markets," Leon Wollenberg, executive director of the Affiliated Restaurateurs, complained.

At the same time, Paul Henkel, president of the Society of Restaurateurs, announced that 400 New York restaurants would be forced to close on June 1 for an indefinite period unless the food situation improved. He said the figure likely would be doubled or tripled by July.

In Washington it was reported that President Truman had asked War Mobilizer Fred M. Vinson to tackle the food problem, which has reached the acute stage all over the country.

600,000 Autos By Apr. 1946

WASHINGTON (ANS)—Automobile manufacturers will turn out 600,000 1946 models by next Apr. 1, Henry P. Nelson, automobile re-conversion chief, disclosed following a conference with industry and government officials. A third of the cars would appear late this year, he said.

Each manufacturer will be given a quota "expected to be based on his pre-war output," Nelson said. He refused to set a date for the industry's go-ahead, but said it certainly wouldn't come before July 1. Manufacturers will be able to turn out any type of cars they wish when the go-ahead comes, but there would be no priority assistance from the government.

Nelson added that all restrictions on the output of spare parts for old cars would be lifted this week "so they can keep going" until the new models are available.

In Detroit, meanwhile, a survey by the War Production Board of 72 auto makers disclosed that they figured it would take 15 months to hit their post-war stride—presumably 6,000,000 cars a year. This would be nearly 2,000,000 more than they turned out in any pre-war year.

Simultaneously, General Motors announced that Chevrolet would manufacture a car of lighter weight and cheaper operation than its pre-war model. It would sell for less than former models and might even have another name, officials said. The disclosure followed word from the Ford Motor Co. that it would turn out a car costing 15 to 20 per cent less than its pre-war model.

Ask More Social Security

WASHINGTON (INS) — Sen. Robert F. Wagner (D.-N.Y.) declared here that President Truman shortly would send a series of messages to Congress recommending a sweeping expansion of the Social Security program.



WAGNER

In the meantime, Wagner said that he would introduce next week a bill proposing the changes which the President would seek. The bill would:

- 1—Increase Social Security taxes on employees and employers to four per cent each. The tax is now one per cent each.
- 2—Provide medical and hospital care to all workers covered by Social Security, their wives and children under 18.
- 3—Raise unemployment compensation to a maximum of \$30 weekly.
- 4—Federalize unemployment compensation now handled by States.
- 5—Extend Social Security to an additional 15,000,000 persons—domestic and farm workers, self-employed and employees of non-profit institutions.
- 6—Make women eligible for old-age pensions at 60, instead of the present 65. Men's eligibility would remain 65.

OK Reciprocal Trade

WASHINGTON (ANS)—The House Ways and Means Committee approved the Administration's Reciprocal Trade Act extension bill which would empower the President to cut present tariff rates as much as 50 per cent.

Among amendments adopted by the group was one to provide that emergency tariff reductions made during the war should not be used as a basis for computing further reductions and a second which would add the War and Navy Departments to the list of agencies which must be consulted in negotiating trade agreements.

First In, Last Out?

FORT LEWIS, Wash.—Forty-eight points are all that Pfc John E. Lawton—the first American drafted under the present Selective Service law—can figure toward his discharge. Lawton was inducted on Dec. 18, 1940, and mustered out a year later in accordance with peace-time conscription plans. A year later he was drafted again. He is married, has no children and never has been overseas.

HOUSTON—Frank Garcia, discharged yet, is making his reconversion to civilian life a gradual affair. Four nights a week he sleeps in a regular bed. The other three he spends in a "foxhole" constructed in his backyard. . . . CHICAGO—Stephen T. Early, the late President Roosevelt's press secretary, has been elected a vice-president of the Pullman Co.

CHICAGO—Three women who paid 51 cents each for banana splits priced at 36 cents on the menu walked out of a court here with \$150 to split three ways. The judge also fined the guilty soda store \$75 for the women's attorney. NEW YORK—Officials of the National Association of Tobacco Distributors said the civilian cigarette pinch would ease during the next three months, but people still would have to line up for them.

WASHINGTON—President Truman received first-hand information about Big Three meetings from Brig. Gen. Elliott Roosevelt and Mrs. Anna Boettiger, son and daughter of the late President. Elliott attended the Teheran and Casablanca conferences and his sister was at Yalta. . . . The President also signed legislation prohibiting prostitution in Naval and Military areas until May 15, 1946.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ANS)—The battle to eliminate the poll tax in Alabama came to a sudden end when the State House of Representatives defeated, 70-27, a bill to abolish the part of the law which requires a citizen to pay up all back taxes before he can vote.

CHICAGO—Marva Trotter disclosed that she and her ex-husband, T/Sgt. Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, might re-marry some day. She said that the two had been seeing each other "when he was able to get home" and they had discussed the matter. Louis is now in Alaska.



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo

A VE-DAY GIFT—HOME: The end of the war in Europe marked the start home for this group of American prisoners released from a Stalag in Germany. They're having their names checked against a passenger list at an airfield at Landshut, Germany.

Security Council Shapes Up As Frisco Makes 'Progress'

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17—While reassuring words on the success of the United Nations Conference came today from the White House, where President Truman announced that the Conference is ahead of its program and making progress that is "indeed gratifying," the new world security organization began to take definite shape, built around the 11-member security council proposed by the major powers as the backbone of the system.

The committee on the security council, having turned aside all amendments offered by small and middle powers, voted to stand pat on the structure of the council as it has been outlined in committee sessions. Committee decisions will have to be ratified by a commission and by a plenary session, but their success seems assured.

The committee made only one change yesterday and that was suggested by the major powers. This provided that the six non-permanent members of the council chosen to sit with the permanent Big Five should be selected by the assembly with regard to their locations and contributions to the maintenance of peace.

All committees are working at top speed and tomorrow the four main commissions will begin deliberations in public sessions, considering and approving the work of the committees. It was reported yesterday that June 5 has been set as the date for the completion of the parley. The end of May, it is expected, will bring the conference to a stage at which only several days of closing plenary sessions will be needed to present the world a completely agreed-upon charter.

(British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden confidently predicted yesterday in the House of Commons in London that the San Francisco Conference, from which he had just returned, would bring forth a charter better than Dumbarton Oaks, but he solemnly warned that there still were a "number of serious and disquieting issues" clouding the general international situation.)

What had once been one of the thorniest issues of the conference, the relation of regional alliances to the main body, went quietly before the committee on regional arrangements in the form of a compromise U.S. formula that seemed certain of approval. The Soviet delegation is still awaiting instructions from Moscow on Russia's attitude toward regional arrangements, but it was reported that Andrei Gromyko, new leader of the delegation, has been given 24 hours to reply to the U.S. draft. If the reply is not forthcoming, work on the arrangements will go forward anyhow.

Meanwhile, another committee went to work on an American-drafted combination of the trusteeship ideas set forth by the Big Five. The U.S. plan calls for the system to be pegged to four fundamental points: 1—Maintenance of international security; 2—Maintenance of the security of the administering country; 3—Social, economic and political advancement of native populations; and 4—Safeguarding of areas containing natural resources.

Now This War Is Over, It's Back to the Army

WITH U.S. 9TH ARMY, May 17—If men of the 84th Div. needed any convincing that the war ended with VE-Day, they got it in the current issue of their newspaper, The Railsplitter.

Printed boldly on the front page is a full schedule of the division's daily bugle calls, beginning with first call at 0615. Reveille is 0625, mess at 0700, drill call at 0725. Division buglers blow taps at 2200.

The paper didn't mention whether or not there was a bed check.

Terry and the Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



Patton Enjoys Brief Vacation In England

Gen. George S. Patton Jr., U.S. 3rd Army commander, yesterday told British correspondents that he was in England for "a quiet vacation," during which he would visit friends and play golf before returning to Germany in a few days.

After a visit at his hotel suite from Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, Patton asked a British reporter to pass on this message to Londoners: "You have stood up to it for five years. Now you can enjoy a little peace. So can I, and I am going to. I intend to have the time of my life during the next few days I am spending here before going back to Germany."

Patton, who arrived in London on Wednesday, spent his first evening at a performance of Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne in the play "Love in Idleness." He reached London fresh from a meeting on Tuesday with high ranking officials of the Russian Army, the Soviet news agency reported. The agency also told how the 3rd Army chief linked up on VE-Day with Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin, commander of the 3rd Ukrainian Army, in a forest clearing high over the Danube near Linz.

Describing the first meeting between 3rd Army troops and the Russians, the agency said the Yanks began shouting "Stalingrad." The Soviet soldiers replied with "Normandy, Metz, Munich, Nuremberg, Linz." At that the Americans shouted back, "Kishinev, Budapest, Vienna." And so, according to the Soviet correspondent, the Yanks and the Russians met in Austria.

Stilwell Warns Japs Not Easy

DETROIT, May 17 (ANS)—Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell warned tonight that the victory in Europe will not deter the Japanese in their determination to fight on, and urged Americans to stop underestimating Nippon's fighting ability.

The commander of U.S. Army Ground Forces told Army ordnance officers here that there is a tendency toward overconfidence now that Germany is beaten. "There is a feeling that we can polish Japan off quickly," he said. "There are those who even talk of her quitting."

Stilwell, here for a tour of war plants, said he is not "an optimist about this." "Judging by past performances I think they will fight on," he said, "and the job of fighting them is right in our laps. Common sense should urge us to stop underestimating their determination and ability and to prepare for the worst, hoping it won't be that bad."

Holland PW Discipline

Nazi Officers Kill Own Men

UTRECHT, Holland, May 17 (AP)—The discipline of the 98,000 German troops in Holland is being kept at a high level and the Germans are handing out heavy punishments to their own men.

On May 15 the German commander, Field Marshal Johannes Blaskowitz, had ten of his troops shot for desertion. They were arrested trying to make a getaway as civilians and after a summary trial were sentenced to death.

The Canadians were asked to lend ten rifles and 100 rounds of ammunition for the execution and the request was granted.

The Germans turn in complete accounts of incidents together with punishments meted out.

A German soldier in a concentration area lit a cigarette and then threw away the burning match, which set four gallons of gasoline on fire. One of his officers standing near drew his pistol and shot the man dead. "We mustn't run the risk of sabotage at this stage," the officer remarked to a Canadian. "We must make an example."

7th Says Goering Got No Favor

SHAERF, Paris, May 17 (Reuter)—U.S. 7th Army HQ, indignant at press reports concerning the reception given Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering when he was captured by 7th Army forces, today asserted that Goering had been treated strictly under Geneva Convention terms.

A statement said that Goering arrived at a CP and was led to the office of Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. A. A. White, who ignored Goering's proffered handshake and gestured him toward a chair which, according to a German-born U.S. officer who acted as interpreter, "was hardly designed for a man of Goering's physique."

White told Goering he would be

quartered in the vicinity "according to means available to the army in the field and that his stay would be governed by orders by higher HQ," the statement said. Before leaving Goering saluted, but the salute was not returned, it was said.

Goering was later received by Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, 7th Army commander, who did not rise from his chair and left Goering standing to answer questions, the statement said, adding: "If Goering had ideas of sitting down over a cigar to discuss the campaign with his captor as soldier to soldier it is doubtful if he found the interview very satisfactory."

By Milton Caniff