BOMBS AWAY!

This remarkable picture was taken from the bomb bay of an American Flying Fortress, just as two bombs were simultaneously released and sent on their mission of destruction toward the German submarine base at Lorient, France. In the city's pattern, between and around the bombs, can be seen the smoke puffs of previous hits during the raid.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

THEY'LL GO OVERSEAS

The question is frequently asked: "What happens to the young officers who are employed as instructors at the O.T.C.?" The answer is: "If they are physically fit and otherwise qualified, they go overseas like everyone else." This is proved by the recent arrival in Britain of a group of these instructors who will now join active units on duty in that country.

—Brockville Recorder and Times

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SAME IDEA

Chaplain Forgy of 'Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition' is a bit apologetic over his immortal outburst at Pearl Harbor. He need not be. When Oliver Cromwell's troops were about to cross a river to attack the Royalists the great Protector ended an address by saying: 'Put your trust in God; but mind to keep your powder dry.'

—Montreal Gazette

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FINEST HOSPITAL

Families of men in the armed forces overseas will take comfort from Viscount Bennett's description of the Canadian Red Cross Hospital at Taplow in England. He says it is by common consent the finest hospital in design and equipment over there. The Canadian wounded and sick are assured splendid attention.

—Windsor Star

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NO REPORTED CASE

Motorists think that magistrates are too inclined to take the side of the pedestrian in disputes, but they should remember that there is no recorded case of a pedestrian running down a car, with fatal results.

—Peterborough Examiner

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SIMILAR TACTICS

Why is a Jap like a girdle?

They both sneak up on you and it takes a good yank to pull them down.

—Old Bill of the Dunnville Chronicle.

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REAL LEMON-AID

At a benefit auction in Wales to help the Red Cross a lemon sold for $132. That sounds like real lemon-aid.

—Stratford Beacon-Herald

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WHY DON'T THEY?

If only the women would use their heads while buying a hat.

—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

Hitler Orders Extra Holiday Food Ration

Germans will receive a small extra food ration as a special Christmas gift, according to a decree published in the German Official Gazette, D.N.B., the official German news agency, announced in a broadcast.

The extra ration will include one pound of flour, a quarter-pound of butter, a half-pound of sugar, about two ounces of coffee, two and one-half ounces of cheese, a quarter-pound of candy and a small bottle of spirits.

In place of the coffee and spirits, children will receive a half-pound of candy.

The special ration also will include between four and six eggs.

SCOUTING

Boy Scouts of Queensland, Australia, did not let difficulties stand in their way when their country needed old rubber. Heading up the drive the boys made an amazing showing. One country troop rigged up tackle at the top of a 100-foot precipice and hauled up 200 old tires which had been thrown over in palmier days. One pack of Wolf Cubs borrowed a pony and canvassed the farming country, returning many times with their cart full to capacity.

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It may not be generally known, but Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scout movement, was induced to give up his army career to lead the Boy Scouts organization by King Edward VII. King Edward also instituted the King's Scout Badge, the hallmark of the finest among Boy Scouts.

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Boy Scouts of Toronto are assisting in a salvage campaign which is expected to supply enough wool for 44,000 military uniforms. The boys make regular collections of wool clippings from some 240 Toronto clothing stores. The money raised by the sale of these clippings is being donated to the Citizens' Committee for Troops in Training.

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In a recent radio broadcast J. Edgar Hoover, head of the American F.B.I., stated that most of his men had early training as Boy Scouts. He told the story of one former Scout who "for months, with fellow agents, maintained a daily radio contact with Nazy spy headquarters in Germany. At any moment there was the possibility of his identity being revealed and his life snuffed out by the agents of a nation that long ago strangled its Boy Scout movement. But this was no deterrent to him or to other special agents who have carried with them the lessons of their Boy Scout days."

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Across Canada just now Boy Scouts are opening up their Toy Shops, and at Christmas thousands of toys will be distributed to institutions and to the children of soldiers serving overseas. In Montreal last year 8,089 articles were distributed through 63 social agencies. In this total were included 590 dolls and 507 stuffed animals, repaired by the Girl Guides of the city.

Tiny Gadget

One of the tiny assemblies in the gyro horizon and directional gyro indicators for warplanes, says Pathfinder, weighs only 15-100,000 of an ounce; 3,000 of them could fit into an ordinary needle.

THE UNCONQUERABLES

Nurse Becomes Underground Reporter

In the early winter of 1939 a wounded Polish officer picked his way through the ruins of Warsaw to the apartment he had occupied before the German invasion. It was in one of the few buildings that had escaped destruction or serious damage.

Waiting in the apartment was a nurse who had cared for him as a child. The nurse immediately assumed her former authority and took him off to a workingman's home. The Germans, she said, would take his apartment. The next day the officer's quarters were requisitioned and the nurse was ordered to serve the German occupant.

In a few weeks, his wounds healed, the Polish officer became the editor of an "underground" newspaper. He proposed to "steal" his own excellent short-wave radio from his apartment in order to obtain foreign news. But the nurse had a better idea. The German was away from the apartment all day. She would listen to the British broadcasts in Polish, take notes, and relay them to the officer.

At first the Polish officer was dubious. But the nurse was insistent and finally he consented. From the first the scheme was a success. The amateur reporter provided much valuable information and was greatly pleased when she read her "news" in the "underground" paper. She felt she was making an important contribution to continued Polish resistance.

One day, however, the German returned to the apartment earlier than was expected, and she was caught red-handed. The Gestapo subjected her to a severe grilling, but she kept her silence in spite of all threats.

The German authorities sentenced her to twenty years at hard labor. The nurse went to prison with her head held high and a smile on her face. She knew that her one-time charge was still at liberty; that he had found another source of foreign news, and that the secret paper was still giving the Polish people a reason for the unquenchable hope that was in them.

English Farmers Praise Canadians

Farmers in south-east England, having reaped and stored the finest harvest in history, are now paying tribute to the magnificent help given them by Canadian soldiers during the summer.

Lord Monsell, South-East Regional Commissioner, told reporters: "Our farmers would have been in very great labour difficulties if it had not been for the help of the Canadians. Most of the men had experience of Canadian farm work, and our farmers regard them as thundering good fellows."

The Canadians worked in large forces from the first haysell to the carting of the last load of corn. Since then they have been lending a hand at threshing and baling, and many are now helping to lift potato and root crops.

Some of their work has been performed as part of their military duties, but many of them devoted their leave-days to voluntary work in the harvest fields. In a few cases, so eager were they to help, they walked from farm to farm until they found work.

Lord Monsell said that apart from their land work the Canadians have rendered grand service in civil defence. "At every bombing incident," he said, "the Canadians have been among the first on the scene, anxious to lend a hand, ready and willing to take instructions from whatever officer was in charge.

"Fine fellows, fine workers and fine soldiers."

Rabbit Same By Any Other Name

The recent announcement of the price board that henceforth dyed rabbit must be called dyed rabbit and nothing more sent a Toronto reporter into the trade to find out under what guises the rabbit had been operating, states The Ottawa Journal. His list follows:

Arctic Seal, Australian Seal, Super Seal, Electric Seal, Baltic Fox, Beaverette, French Sable, Lapin, Squirreline and many others.

The reporter also found out while he was at it that Alaska Sable now becomes natural or dyed skunk, Genet is dyed or natural cat, Moufflon is goat and Wolf Fox is dyed dog.

We can just hear Mrs. Jones calling out the window to her friend in a waiting car: "Half a jiff. I'll just throw my skunk over my shoulders and be right down."

Foods May Be Sent To Prisoners

Certain types of food now may be included in parcels sent to prisoners of war by their next of kin, External Affairs Department announce' recently. Previously only clothing, small personal items and chocolate was allowed to be sent. Under the new arrangements, limited amounts of dehydrated fruits and berries, dehydrated soups, shelled nuts, hard chocolate and cocoa, coffee, tea, sugar or hard candies, dried chipped beef, spices and curry powder may be sent.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher

"If you don't march right up to bed this instant, General, you may expect an attack from the rear!!"

THE WAR - WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

Political Policy Of United States In Campaign In North Africa

This is a good time, says the New York Times, for a little patience, and confidence as well, about the political policy our Government is pursuing in North Africa. The situation is admittedly a strange one. Our friends the Free French are nowhere in the picture. Instead it is Darlan, until a week ago the colleague of Laval, who is organizing North Africa on our side; Darlan who appoints General Giraud as the Commander-in-Chief of the French forces; Darlan who uses the American-controlled Algiers radio to broadcast, in the same breath, a call to arms against the Germans and a claim that his authority to make war upon the Germans derives from Petain, who is a puppet in German hands. It is in these perplexing circumstances that the de Gaulle committee in London announces that it is "taking no part" in the present situation and will accept no decisions made by the Americans and British "should the negotiations result in arrangements which would in effect confirm the Vichy regime in North Africa."

Criticism Premature

There will be some bewilderment in this country also, and no doubt the charge will be made in certain quarters that our Government has once more embarked on a policy of "appeasement" at the expense of its real friends. But such criticism, in our judgment, will be premature. It will also be made without full possession of the facts in a complex situation. A great military operation is under way in North Africa. Whether it succeeds or fails is a matter of touch-and-go. Only the military commanders in the field, and the Government officials in Washington who receive from them the first-hand information which they have gathered on the spot, know what problems we face in North Africa, what obstacles must be overcome, what risks must be taken, what means must be used both to save the lives of American boys and to assure the success of the vast military enterprise which we have launched from a distance of three thousand miles. Surely there is only one thing that counts at the moment. This is to obtain control of the whole north coast of Africa, Tunisia included, as the necessary first step toward the liberation of France herself.

Patience Urged

Whatever obscurities or apparent contradictions there may be in the present American political policy in North Africa, we do not for a moment believe that the course our Government is following means that we have mistaken our enemies for friends, or lost interest in the real cause for which our friends are fighting—namely, the life of the French Republic. We urge patience, and confidence, on the part both of Americans and of their French colleagues in arms. The French Republic never had a better friend than President Roosevelt who directs our policy in this crisis.

Battle of The Solomons

Though we do not know, the New York Times continues, and for reasons of safety cannot be told at this time, how many American ships were damaged in the Solomon Islands battle, in addition to those which were sunk, there can be no doubt that we have won a naval victory which will have far-reaching consequences on the course of the war in the Pacific. We have sent a Japanese battleship, three heavy cruisers, two light cruisers, five destroyers and eight transports to the bottom of the seas, and in doing so we have struck a blow that has sent the enemy reeling from the scene of action, so badly confused, in the later stages of the battle, that he is reported to have fired on some of his own ships.

Full Details Not Known

More time must pass before we can learn the full details of the battle, but it is already clear that we made skillful use of both our seapower and our airpower. The Navy notes the great assistance it received from General MacArthur's heavy raids on the invasion fleet at Rabaul and at Buin. The bare outlines of last week's communique carry their own evidence of the ability with which our surface ships were fought and of the gallantry of the crews that manned them. The victory is all the more promising because it was won within a few hundred miles of the great Japanese naval base at Truk by an American fleet operating from an improvised island base which was in turn far from the centre of our naval power at Pearl Harbor.

Enemy Will Come Again

Sharp and punishing as this blow has been, we must assume that the enemy will return to the scene of battle to renew his challenge. He is drawn irresistibly to the southern Solomons both by his desire to command an air base important to the defense of Truk itself and by the inability of the Japanese military to accept a loss of "face." He will come again, but when he comes he will sail without some of his finest ships. We have won a victory that brings appreciably closer the supremacy of American seapower in the Pacific.

Report To Britain

Mr. Churchill, speaking in the House of Commons last week, reviewed the battle of Egypt and the American-British invasion of North Africa. He dwelt on the amount of time and careful preparation necessary to these enterprises whose initial success, requiring a delicate precision in the combination of so many elements, seems to the layman almost miraculous.

Mr. Churchill's account was accompanied with a reproof and admonition deserved by many well-meaning persons in Great Britain and the United States. Where is the second front? Why is nobody doing anything for Russia? What's the matter with the British? Well, Russia was told that a landing on the Continent would be made this year if it could be. When this turned out to be impossible, the North African expedition was fitted out. Mr. Churchill went to Russia and explained the situation. He and Mr. Stalin parted in "mutual understanding." But for months a hullabaloo of censure was made in entire ignorance of the facts.

Thanksgiving For Victory

The President's wise and generous course after the fall of Tobruk in letting the British have our best tanks and a lot of self-propelled 105-mm. guns was not forgotten by Mr. Churchill. The Prime Minister's stoic determination to look forward unafraid to blunders and disappointments inevitable in war was reiterated. From his sober prose a touch of poetry stands out pleasantly. He said the church bells would ring out all over England. Instead of an air raid warning they would be a thanksgiving for victory. One thing of the old, quiet, "green and pleasant land," of cathedral closes, of peaceful villages and parish churches.

A Wartime Holiday In Great Britain

A young married couple in England recently determined to spend their first wartime holiday on the western coast. A huge crowd was at the station, but they managed to get into a crowded compartment when, to the wife's dismay, she discovered that she had left her ration cards at home. Returning home and collecting the books, they gathered up their luggage once again, only to discover that their "macks" had been left in the first train.

The next train not being due to leave for an hour, they adjourned to the station buffet for a stimulant. In the crush at the counter, a tall fellow's elbow was jabbed into the husband's eye, which needed first-aid. When at length the by now disgruntled couple arrived at their destination, they learned that the landlady was too ill to accommodate them. The new address given to them was half a mile farther from the sea.

Nothing further happened to upset their peace of mind until on reaching home madame found that she had once again left her ration books behind—and on the mat in the hall reposed her husband's calling-up papers!

REG'LAR FELLERS—A Low Fellow — By GENE BYRNES