

The WAR TIME NEWS

Chronology of 1944

THE WAR

- January**
- Russians move to within 27 miles of Polish border.
 - U. S. marines expand hold on Cape Gloucester, New Britain.
 - American troops capture San Guista, Italy.
 - Two new Russian offensives are opened.
 - British blast Magdeburg in 1,000-plane raid.
 - LENINGRAD CLEARED OF NAZIS. Hitler in speech anticipates defeat.
- February**
- Chinese advance in northern Burma.
 - Marines capture Nauru and other islands in the Marshalls.
 - U. S. army takes Kwajalein atoll in Marshalls.
 - Heavy bomb load yet dropped on Berlin by British bombers.
 - U. S. naval task force attacks Truk, main Jap base in south Pacific.
 - Japanese cabinet reorganized, following attack on Truk.
 - U. S. naval task force strikes at Marianas islands.
 - All of western New Britain passes to American control.
 - Stalin offers peace terms to Finland.
- March**
- Record raid on Berlin made by 2,000 planes.
 - Russian army crosses Bug river.
 - Advancing Russians enter Bessarabia.
 - Russians reach Romanian border.
 - Palau Islands, 1,300 miles south of Japan, attacked by U. S. navy.
- April**
- Russian troops enter Romania.
 - American planes bomb Austria.
 - ODESSA FALLS TO RUSSIANS.
 - Allied troops halt Jap drive near Kohima, in India.
 - A thousand U. S. bombers raid Berlin.
 - Japan's mid-Pacific base, Truk, is raided for 26th time.
- May**
- Allied forces in Italy turn back German counterattack near Anzio.
 - Sevastopol, Black sea naval base, falls to Russians.
 - Chinese launch counter-offensive in western Yunnan province.
 - CASSINO, NAZI STRONGPOINT IN ITALY, FALLS TO AMERICANS AFTER LONG SIEGE.
 - Allied bombers strike at German synthetic oil plants in Leipzig area.
- June**
- AMERICAN TROOPS ENTER ROME.
 - INVASION OF CONTINENT BEGINS WITH LANDINGS IN NORMANDY.
 - Allies in Italy capture port 38 miles north of Rome.
 - Chinese advance into northern France, reaching point 15 miles inland.
 - Chinese take Kamaing, Burma.
 - Week-long German robot bombing reported by British.
 - American tank units enter Cherbourg, important French port.
 - Russians capture Vitebsk and Elzhblin.
- July**
- Minak falls to Russians as they sweep into Polish territory.
 - Robot bomb casualties and damage in southern England are admitted to be serious.
 - British and Canadians enter Caen, France, anchor of German lines for weeks.
 - Six Nazi bases, the most important being Lwow, fall to Russians on various fronts.
 - Eleven Luftwaffe captured by Russians.
 - Allied "break-through" registers large gains in France.
- August**
- Resistance in Tinian Island in Marshalls ends.
 - Turkey breaks diplomatic relations with Germany.
 - Guam conquered, giving U. S. control of all important islands of Marshalls.
 - A second Allied invasion force lands on southern French coast between Marseille and Nice.
 - U. S. tank units reach suburbs of Paris.
 - Southern France invasion force enters Toulon.
 - Romanian capital, Bucharest, is entered by Russians.
- September**
- Finns and Russians cease fighting in zone.
 - Russia declares war on Bulgaria.
 - Britain lifts black-out regulations, considering menace from air conquest.
 - American First army pushes five miles into German territory.
 - Romania granted armistice by Allies.
 - Russians reach border of Czechoslovakia.
 - U. S. Third fleet attacks Cebu and Negros islands of the Philippines.
 - Second Quebec conference ends. Plans for quick finish of European war and of marshaling of forces for Japanese front are made.
 - Finish armistice signed by Russia and Finland.
 - Russians take Tallinn, capital of Estonia.
 - Russians gain 60-mile wide bridgehead in Yugoslavia.
- October**
- Calais, French channel port, falls to Allies.
 - Sieged line breached at Uebach by U. S. Fifth army.
 - U. S. bombers raid Borneo oil fields.
 - Russians cross Hungarian border.
 - Prussian border reached by Russians.
 - U. S. troops enter Aachen, important German border city.
 - AMERICAN FORCES UNDER GEN. MACARTHUR INVADE PHILIPPINES, LANDING ON LEYTE ISLAND. Moscow conference between Stalin and Churchill ends.
 - U. S. navy meets and defeats huge Jap fleet between Philippines and Formosa.
- November**
- All German forces driven from Greece.
 - Japs gain in China, advancing on rail city of Luchow. Meanwhile, British troops drive back Japs in Burma.
 - U. S. planes sink eight Jap warships.
 - British bombers sink Tirpitz, largest German battleship, in Norwegian port.
 - Great Allied drive launched on 300-mile front from Holland to Vosges.
 - French troops reach Rhine river in plane through Belfort gap.

PHILIPPINES



Lieut. Gen. Patton leads Third Army in drive 23 miles beyond Metz.

B-29s bomb Tokyo factories from base in Marianas, 1,550 miles away.

Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark is made commander in chief of U. S. army forces in Italy.

U. S. Third army attacks forts at Saarbrücken, Saarlautern, and Merzig. First and Ninth armies capture border towns.

U. S. planes sink 10 Jap transporters and three destroyers, drowning 4,900 near Leyte.

SOUTHERN FRANCE



Duke and Duchess of Windsor arrive in New York from the Bahamas.

Army reveals that there are now 196,941 war prisoners in the U. S., 146,101 being German, and 50,778 Italian.

Democratic convention in Chicago nominates Roosevelt for fourth term.

Sen. Harry Truman (Mo.), is nominated for Democratic vice presidential candidacy.

Army says that malaria has been reduced to two-thirds of early war rate.

NORMANDY



Pensive wins the Kentucky Derby.

Broadcloth was second, and Stir Up third.

U. S. Preakness race was won by Pensive.

U. of Michigan wins western conference outdoor championship track meet.

U. of Illinois wins the National Collegiate Athletic association track and field championships.

Francisco Segura of Ecuador wins the national clay court tennis title.

Mrs. Mildred ("Babe") Didrikson Zahabartz defeats Miss Dorothy Germaine to win the Women's Western Open golf championship.

A new world record for the two-mile weight lift by Gunner Hagg in Sweden. His time was 8:46.4.

DOMESTIC

U. S. Third army reaches Saar river, leaving only small garrisons.

American armies advance in both Roer and Saar valleys.

U. S. Third army enters Saarlautern, as entire Allied front of 650 miles swings into motion.

Military and political crisis grips Britain.

Rioting breaks out in Athens, Greece. Civil war threatens.

B-29s raid Jap bases on Bonin Islands.

Others hit Tokyo again.

Units of 7th division make new landing on Leyte, splitting Jap lines.

MacArthur's troops capture Ormoc, enemy supply port on Leyte.

France and Russia sign mutual assistance pact.

Greek factional fighting grows as intensity.

B-29s hit Nagoya. Japanese aircraft production center.

U. S. tank and infantry units reach outskirts of Duren, key to Cologne.

U. S. Seventh army advances to German border on 35 mile front.

Strike of Philadelphia transit workers is referred to President.

Governors' conference ends, after issuing statement defining limits of state and federal powers.

Philadelphia street cars and busses operate under army control.

Developed calculating machine in China that will solve problems in higher mathematics is announced by Harvard university.

President returns from visit to Hawaii and Alaska.

British delegation arrives for talks on postwar security.

Midwestern truck drivers' strike ends, following government seizure of lines.

Army ends censorship of soldiers' reading matter.

U. S. department of justice files anti-trust suit in Lincoln, Neb., against 47 western railroads.

Secretary of State Hull and John F. Dulles, representing Dewey, discuss foreign policy.

Senate passes reconversion bill to take care of government surplus.

Republican campaign opens with radio speeches by Governors Warren of California, Green of Illinois, and Cagney.

Nozy reports the construction of 65,000 ships of all types since September 1, 1939.

Joe Baki defeats Lee Savold in 10-round bout.

Yankee Mid wins the Hambletonian harness race.

Miss Dorothy Germaine retains Women's Western amateur golf title.

Bob Hamilton wins the Professional Golfers' association title.

Trapshooting championship goes to West Virginia by breaking 37 targets out of 100.

Byron Nelson wins the All-American golf championship.

Chicago Bears professional football club defeats the College All Stars, 24-21.

DEATHS

- January**
- Twenty-eight men and two women are indicted on section charges.
 - Congress reconvenes.
 - Roosevelt asks for National Service Act.
 - A budget of \$99,768,000,000 is President's estimate of 1944 needs.
 - Army allows induction of loyal Japanese-Americans.
 - Master-out-pay bill passed, providing for a maximum of \$300.
 - World's most powerful battleship, the 45,000-ton Missouri, is launched.
- February**
- Tax bill sent to White House. It provides for \$2,315,200,000 of additional revenue.
 - Relocation authority (WRA) transferred to War Relocation Authority.
 - Army announces more than 200,000 men have been returned from the Pacific front on furloughs, besides the sick and wounded, and that the rotation furlough plan is in full swing.
 - Selective service orders farm workers reclassified.
 - New chemical treatment of interior spots is vetoed as "wholly inadequate."
 - Congress overrides veto on tax bill. Sen. Alben Barkley, Democratic majority leader, who resigned in flareup on veto, is re-named.
- March**
- Five veterans' organizations combining in asking for a bonus up to \$5,000 for all members of the armed forces.
 - Draft deferments for men 18 to 26 in essential industry ended except for "soldier vote" bill providing for short federal ballots is passed and sent to President.
 - State department announces that it will have no dealings with the Vichy French government.
 - Three men and two women are convicted as spies, and sentenced to long terms.
- April**
- Army reports that 1,058,000 draftees have been discharged, between December 1, 1941, and January 31, 1944.
 - House committee reveals that the federal government now owns one-fifth of the land area of continental United States.
 - Wendell Wilkie withdraws as a Republican presidential candidate after defeat in Wisconsin.
 - Attorney General Biddle reopens investigation of Political Action Committee of CIO.
 - A new chemical treatment that will give wood any degree of hardness desired, is announced.
 - Federal troops take possession of the Chevrolet plant at Montgomery Ward Co. by order of FDR when the company refused to obey his order to recognize a CIO union.
- May**
- Pulitzer prize for novels awarded to Martin Flavin for "Journey in the Dark." Musical comedy "Oklahoma" won a special award for authors.
 - Most meats are removed from rationing. Steaks and beef roasts are principal exceptions.
 - New draft regulations defer most men over 36. Those under 26 are scheduled for early induction. Men 26-29 in war-supporting industries gain at least six months deferment, unless those 26 and over an indefinite stay.
 - Senate voted to delay action on poll tax bill.
 - Communist party votes to disband as a political party, but to continue as an association.
 - Supreme court decision upholds validity of OPA suspension orders.
 - Synthetic sugar is produced at the University of California. Process is too expensive to be practical at present.
- June**
- Secretary of State Hull pledges that in the postwar world organization, small nations will be kept on an equality with large in every practicable way.
 - War Manpower commission announces that it will take over "absolute control of all male workers over 17 to check turnover in essential industries."
 - Twenty-one brigadier generals promoted to major generals and 63 colonels to brigadiers.
 - "G. I. Bill of Rights" clears congress.
 - Democrats lose majority in the house with the election of Rolla McMillen, 19th Illinois.
 - Senate passes army appropriation bill of \$99,107,735,799.
 - Republican convention nominates Thomas E. Dewey, governor of New York, for President, and John W. Bricker, governor of Ohio, as vice president.
 - A serum to prevent measles has been developed and will be made available soon, the Red Cross reveals.
- July**
- Treasury reveals that war costs for fiscal year total \$9 billion.
 - The Grumman F-7-F, new two-motored naval fighting plane, is tested, and is called superior to the Hellcat.
 - Roosevelt's conversations with Gen. Charles DeGaulle of France end. DeGaulle reported to be "highly gratified."
 - Vice President Wallace returns from China. He predicts an era of peace in the Pacific, with Russia and China as leaders.
 - President Roosevelt says that he will run again "if nominated."
 - Eric Johnston, president of U. S. Chamber of Commerce, returns from Russia.

SPORTS

- January**
- Strike of Detroit maintenance workers, affecting 23 war plants and 50,000 workers, ends.
 - Super-powered X-ray announced that will photograph through a foot of steel.
 - Peace conference at Dumbarton Oaks, N. H., ends sessions. A general framework for peace and security agreed upon, it is announced.
 - War production conference announced that it has permitted 1,116 manufacturers to resume civilian production.
 - De Gaulle recognized as head of Free France government by the U. S. and other United Nations.
 - U. S. and other United Nations resume diplomatic relations with Italy.
- February**
- Dept. of Agriculture announces a decline in farm population in last four years amounting to 4,748,000.
 - Nationwide elections held. President Roosevelt reelected by majority of 3,000,000 votes. 248 representatives, 101 senators, 321 congressmen, and 245 delegates were elected. Eighteen Republican and 13 Democratic governors elected.
 - Congress meets. Supplementary appropriations main business.
 - Special committee on wartime living costs reports to President that rise is 5 per cent over January 1, 1941, level.
 - Sixth War loan drive opens.
 - Strike of two electric railroads serving Chicago area ends after 17 days.
 - Edwin S. Redkey appointed secretary of state to succeed Cordell Hull.
 - Asst. attorney-general Norman Littell dismissed by President.
- December**
- Strikes in Detroit and Chicago delay production of B-29 bombers.
 - Government halts reconversion plans in 125 cities until munition production meets schedule.
 - Rear Adm. Husband Kimmel and Maj. Gen. Walter Short, Pearl Harbor commanders, will not be court-martialed, war and navy boards rule.
 - Civil agreement of International Union of Marine Workers completed, and ready for signatures of delegates.
 - Section trial of 26 defendants ends in 10 days.
 - Prison revolt of 23 Atlanta convicts ended.
 - "Work or fight" order issued by War Mobilization Director Byrnes, threatening men in age 26-37 brackets with induction who are not in war jobs.
 - Nobel prizes awarded to five Americans.
 - War prisoners at Fort Sheridan, Ill., go on sit-down strike; 1,300 put on bread and water.
 - Police Director summons leaders of 240 CIO unions in Montgomery Ward and Co. strike.
 - Production quotas on machine guns reduced to release workers for more critical items.
- January**
- Southern California U. wins annual Rose Bowl game, defeating Washington U. 29-0.
 - Jug McSpaden wins the Los Angeles flag football tournament with a score of 278.04.
 - Byron Nelson wins San Francisco Open golf tournament with 275.
- February**
- New manager of Boston Braves, Bob Coleman, named to succeed Casey Stengel.
 - Joe Bakst outpointed Tony Mauriello in ten-round heavyweight battle.
 - Sammy Byrd wins the New Orleans Golf tournament with 283.
- March**
- Bob Montgomery regains the lightweight title, as recognized in New York, by outpointing Beau Jack.
 - U. of Michigan wins the Big Ten indoor track and field meet at Chicago.
 - Gilbert Dodds bettered his own indoor mile mark in Chicago, with a time of 4:06.4.
 - Alan Ford establishes a new world record for the 100-yard free style swim at 49.7 seconds.
 - U. of Utah captures the N.C.A.A. basketball title by defeating Dartmouth, 42-40, in New York.
- April**
- Montreal Canadiens defeat the Chicago Blackhawks for the fourth successive time in the Stanley cup professional ice hockey championship playoffs.
 - Major league baseball season opens.
- May**
- Charlie Grimm becomes new manager of Chicago Cubs.

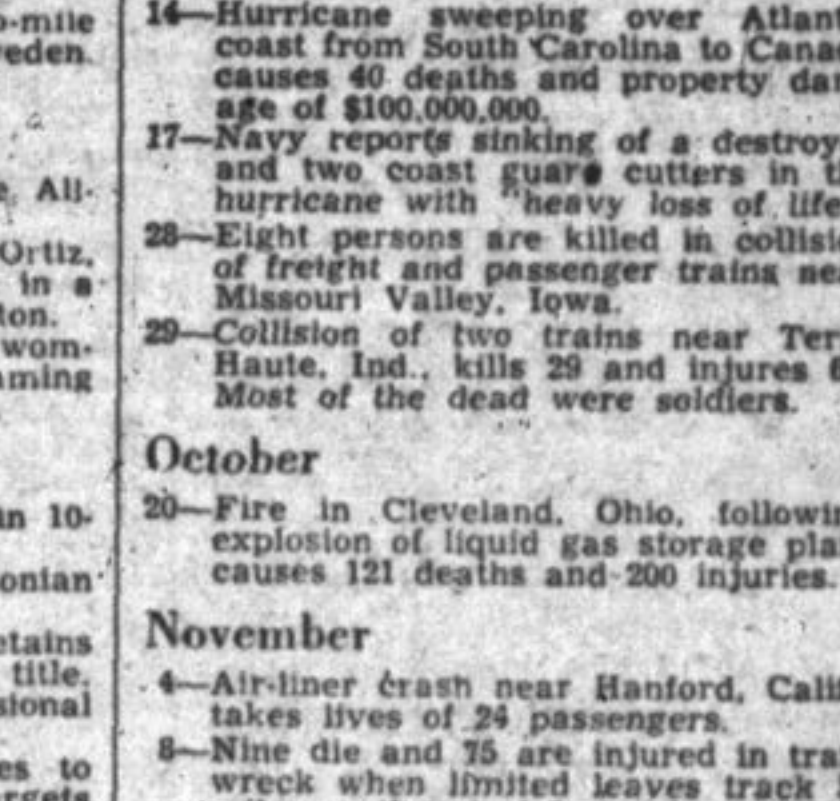
DISASTERS

- January**
- Thirty seamen drown when a navy patrol vessel sinks in collision off Cape May, N. J.
 - A freight train strikes army bus at Kingman, Ariz., killing 25 aviation cadets.
 - Twelve persons were killed and 40 injured when a passenger train crashed into the rear of a standing train near Novice, Texas.
- February**
- Crash of an airliner into the Mississippi river carries 21 passengers and three crewmen to death near Memphis, Tenn.
- March**
- Collision of the Liberty Ship J. Pinkney Henderson and a tanker cost many lives.
 - An accidental explosion of a training swimmer dies of suffocation while repacking naval ship in Portsmouth, Va.
 - A bus plunging through a guard rail on a bridge over the Passaic river in New Jersey drowns 19 persons.
 - An explosion in a coal mine near Shimniston, W. Va., kills 16 miners.
- April**
- A blast in the naval ordnance depot in Hastings, Neb., kills eight workers.
 - Thirty-nine merchant marine crewmen and 23 naval gunners drown when a Liberty ship struck a reef off shore and broke up on the English coast.
 - Fire following a collision causes the deaths of 29 crewmen and 16 naval gunners on a tanker traveling in a convoy.
 - A tornado cutting through Arkansas takes lives of 54 persons.
 - Firey swirler dies of suffocation while repacking naval ship in Portsmouth, Va.
- May**
- Ten members of a naval blimp crew died when the airship hit a hangar in its takeoff at Lakehurst, N. J.
- June**
- One hundred and forty-six were killed and 1,000 injured by a tornado that swept over parts of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland.
- July**
- A fire in the main tent of the Ringling Bros. circus in Hartford, Conn., causes deaths of 167 persons, mostly women and children. Two hundred others were injured.
 - Sixty-six miners trapped in a burning coal mine near Belleire, Ohio, had to be abandoned to their fate, when the entrance was sealed to check the fire.
 - Fire of a troop train near Jellico, Tenn., killed 31 soldiers and 2 civilians, and injured 160 others.
 - Explosion of two munition ships at Navy loading pier in Port Chicago, Calif., results in 318 deaths among naval and merchant marine personnel, and property damage of \$7,000,000.



An army hospital plane was reported lost at sea between Iceland and Newfoundland with 28 aboard.

WAR-TIME ELECTION



Twenty-eight persons, including 24 army pilots and 4 mechanics are killed in crash of transport plane near Atkinson, Neb.

Train wreck near Stockton, Ga., kills 45 and injures 30.

Fire sweeps Palisades, N. Y., amusement park killing 3 and injuring 100. In another fire at Coney Island, Brooklyn, N. Y., 35 persons were injured.

ROBOT BOMBS



Airliner crash near Hanford, Calif., takes lives of 24 passengers.

Nine die and 75 are injured in train wreck when limited leaves track 30 miles northeast of Sacramento, Calif.

Army transport plane hits mountain west of Harmon field, Newfoundland, killing nine and injuring nine U. S. army personnel.

Fire of incendiary origin kills seven in Chicago.

Army plane crashes near Madison, Wis., bringing death to three air corps men.

DEATHS

- January**
- St. Louis Browns win American league pennant.
 - San Francisco takes Pacific league series, four games to two.
 - ST. LOUIS CARDINALS WIN WORLD SERIES, FOUR GAMES TO TWO.
 - Most valuable baseball players, chosen by Sporting News, are Martin Marion, Cardinal shortstop, and Bobby Doery, second baseman of Boston American league club.
 - Little world series of International league won by Baltimore.
 - Francisco Segura wins Pan-American tennis title for third straight time.
- February**
- Jimmy Daniels defeats Sammy Angelo, former lightweight boxing champion.
 - Army football team defeats Notre Dame, 39 to 6.
 - Representatives of National and American leagues extend Judge K. M. Landis term as baseball commissioner for another seven years.
 - College football champions: Ivy League, Yale; Big Ten, Ohio State; Big Six, Oklahoma; Southwest, Texas Christian; Southern, Duke; Pacific coast, Southern California.
 - Hal Newhouse, Detroit Tiger pitcher, named most valuable player in American league.
- December**
- Army defeats Navy, 23-7. Notre Dame beats Great Lakes by 28-7. Georgia Tech wrecks Georgia 44-0 in Southeastern conference football.
 - Major baseball club owners vote to bar football games in ball parks until the baseball season is over.
 - Cochran wins world three cushion billiard championship.
 - Big League baseball owners divided on successor to K. M. Landis as commissioner, and on other questions.
- January**
- Gen. O. R. Gelllette, 90, Confederate brigadier general, in Shreveport, La.
 - Col. Josef Beck, prime minister of Poland during German invasion in 1939, died at 49 near Bucharest, Romania.
 - Louisa E. G. Thorp, 90, internationally known artist and art teacher, in Los Angeles.
- June**
- Gen. O. R. Gelllette, 90, Confederate brigadier general, in Shreveport, La.
 - Col. Josef Beck, prime minister of Poland during German invasion in 1939, died at 49 near Bucharest, Romania.
 - Louisa E. G. Thorp, 90, internationally known artist and art teacher, in Los Angeles.
- July**
- Mrs. Betty Compton Knappen, 37, former musical comedy actress, in New York.
 - Alan Dinehart, 54, film and stage actor who has appeared in more than 100 pictures, died in Hollywood, Calif.
 - Leard Gen. Leslie McNair killed in France.
 - Manuel Quezon, president of the Philippines, died at Saranac Lake N. Y. He was 65.
- August**
- Rear Adm. Don Pardee Moon, 50, committed suicide in Washington while suffering from "combat fatigue."
 - Eric Cherry, 65, last of the Cherry Sisters of vaudeville fame, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
- September**
- George W. Norris, former senator from Nebraska, died at 83 in McCook, Neb. He served 40 years in congress, including five terms in the senate.
 - James A. Reed, former senator from Missouri, at 65 in Fairview, Mich.
- October**
- Alfred E. Smith, four times governor of New York and Democratic candidate for President in 1928, in New York City at 70.
 - Wendell L. Willkie, 52, Republican presidential candidate in 1940, and utility executive, in New York City.
 - Richard Bennett, 73, famous actor, in Los Angeles.
- November**
- Miss Christina Bond, 100, author, artist and lecturer, in Baltimore.
 - Boabe Carter, correspondent and radio news commentator, 46, in Hollywood, Calif.
 - Sen. Ellison D. Smith, who represented So. Carolina in upper chamber for 35 years (longest consecutive period in history) at 99, in Lynchburg, S. C.
 - Judge Kenneth M. Landis, commissioner of professional baseball for 24 years, at 76, in Chicago.
- December**
- Albert B. Fall, secretary of interior in Harding administration, at 83, in El Paso, Texas.
 - Mel John Griffith, commissioner of intercollegiate athletics of Western conference, at 87, in Chicago.
 - Richard Bennett, 73, famous actor, kills self in Hollywood, Calif.



163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.



163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.



163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.



163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.



163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.



163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.



163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.

163,000 PILOTS

Since Pearl Harbor the U. S. Army Forces have trained 163,147 pilots (including 5122 glider pilots), 31,293 bombardiers and 31,906 navigators or bombardier navigators.