

ELEVEN WAS THEIR LUCKY NUMBER.

***Jan 2--Six Sons of Heaven can thank G's of the 96th Division for inscribing them on the Emperor's role of honor. While the Emperor celebrated the New Year they became the first Japs for 1945 to join their ancestors at exactly 11 minutes after one...1945.

There is no doubt that the time was 0111 and therein lies the perplexing mystery.....which of the six had the privilege of being number one man for this year?

Unfortunately, that question will remain unsolved forever. At precisely 0111, the Service Company, 361st Field Artillery, annihilated three Japanese. But at exactly the same hour and minute (if GI watches are true) Company "I" of the 383rd Infantry accounted for three more.

These facts were uncovered when messages describing the incidents were received from both the 361st FA and 383rd Infantry at Division Headquarters. The time on both message blanks - 0111 - is indisputable.

EVEN JITTERBUGGING IS DANGEROUS

(ANS)--"Hot" pilots, these Navy armen. In Groton, Conn., a Navy plane plowed into the bedroom of a house, whisking a blanket off the bed of a sleeping two-year old, and zoomed through the opposite wall without touching her. The plane eventually crashed into a nearby schoolhouse, the pilot only slightly injured.

And that's just one of the National Safety Council's collection of freak accidents of 1944. Here are some of the others:

Pfc. Ernest Olivier, of McCook, Neb., often had been "sent" by a hot tune-- but never so literally as the night he swooped for his jive partner's hand, missed, and plunged through the second story window of the dance hall.

Nine persons were crowded into an automobile driven by Mrs. Adaline Clasby, who drove into the rear of a halted bus near Winslow, Arizona, and explained: "I didn't see the bus in time to stop-- I was nursing my baby at the time."

Paul Lewchick, of Coaldale, Pa., lay in a supply of coal the hard way. He lay in -- and under -- 13 tons of it when he and his car were buried beneath the contents of a coal truck that had upset in a near collision with Lewchick's car. The victim got by with minor bruises.

A Texan stepping from his truck was tossed into the air by a passing car. On his way down, his pocket caught on the high truck door handle, holding him safe.

At Jacksonville, Florida, a man was quietly eating breakfast when a buzz saw, broken loose at a nearby mill, ripped through one side of his house, sliced the breakfast table in two and continued out through the opposite wall.

AN OPEN LETTER ON MOVIES

Boy! do the Deadeyes like their movies. Thirteen outdoor theaters are now in operation within the Division. They are served by seven projectors which must be moved daily. Likewise the Film Library is operated on a definite schedule; the only way possible to allow the greatest number of troops to see all of the pictures. If an outfit fails to return film to the Division Library the morning after the film is shown, no show for several hundred Deadeyes. Maybe that one show is the only one they could make that week. So think it over before you trade film or fail to return film as promised. It isn't a case of every man for himself but every man for every Deadeye.

A Schedule of movies for the Division through January 10th, will be published tomorrow.

Gal: "I'm all worn out trying to get into this evening gown."

Jay: "You don't look all in."

Gal: "Omgosh!!! Where?"



Thur, 4 Jan 45.

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VON RUNDSTEDT TRIES AGAINJAPANESE TASK FORCE SUNK

***Jan 2--Land-based American aircraft sank or probably sank a fleet of eight Japanese vessels in the Lingayen Gulf, 150 miles north of Manila. This fleet included two destroyers, two destroyer-escorts, two cargo vessels and three freighters. This marks the deepest penetration made by Philippine land-based planes against enemy occupied territory in the Philippines.

Allied fighter planes ranged over southern Luzon, exploding an ammunition train and damaging three others by strafing. Heavy bombers hit an airfield near Manila while patrol planes destroyed five parked enemy planes. As usual, the greatest enemy air activity is over Mindoro. American night fighters aided by ground defenses shot down three out of a raiding force of 15 planes. Over the Visayas, Allied bombers started fires at airdromes on Panay, Negros, and Cebu. Japanese shipping and storage facilities on Mindanao were also bombed and strafed.

In other air action over the Pacific Allied fliers again attacked enemy oil installations at several places on Borneo. They also struck at Japanese troop and supply dumps in the Moluccas, the Lesser Sundas, and the Bismark Solomons area.

UNHAPPY '45 Forecast FOR JAPANESE

***Jan 2-- At Pearl Harbor, Admiral Chester Nimitz declared in a New Year's (Cont'd on page two.)

***Jan 2--Marshal Von Rundstedt yesterday made one more bid for a breakthrough on the western front. But this time his power had lost its impetus. He struck in battalion strength against positions held by the Seventh Army on both sides of the town of Bitch in the French Saar. Although the Germans registered some small gains from their first impact, there was no indication that the drive would materially dent the Allied lines.

It is even probable that Von Rundstedt is attacking in order to divert the First and Third Army offensive above Bastogne. The Nazis opened day and night attacks on a ten mile front which were closely patterned after those of the Belgium offensive.

While Von Rundstedt made his parry in the south, the powerful forces of Patton's Third Army surged forward north of Bastogne and carved out gains of more than six miles. Lost ground was being regained quickly. Fierce armored battles raged all day Tuesday and by evening the Americans had gained a new 12 mile front north of the city.

Southwest of Bastogne, the Nazis did win 200 yards but it failed to affect the Third Army's main corridor to the city.

JAPS STILL BEING KILLED ON LEYTE

***Jan 2--American troops mopping up on Leyte Island have killed another 995 enemy troops, raising the total of Japanese casualties in the Leyte campaign to 118,983.

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DIPLOMATIC TRENDS HINTED AT PRESIDENT'S BANQUET.

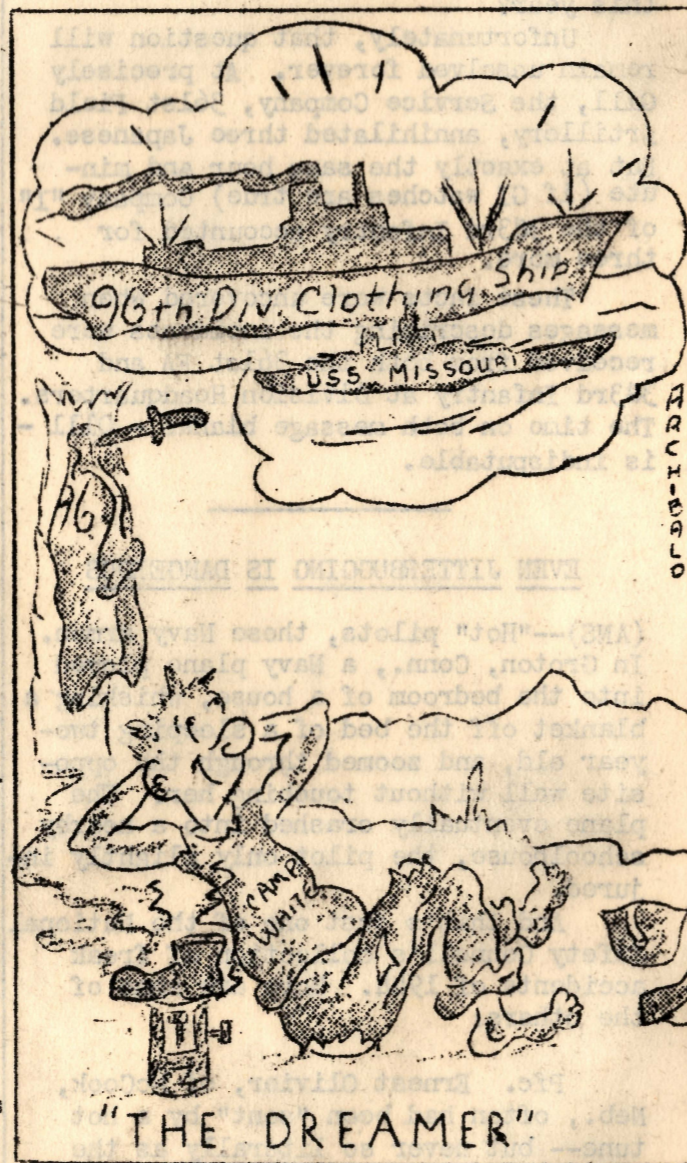
***Jan 2--President Roosevelt observed the Third Anniversary of the United Nations by celebrating France's entry into the organization at a banquet in Washington. The President, speaking on the occasion, declared that by maintaining the strength of the United Nations, the Allies will win not only the war, but the peace to follow. He warned however, that we still have a long way to go before that peace is final.

A declaration of U. S. foreign policy was also made public at the banquet when Secretary of State Stettinius announced that the new Greek Regency is warmly welcomed by the United States. He referred to the Regency, which will rule Greece until the people elect a government, as an important step in the solution of Greece's political problems.

Mr. Stettinius also indicated that the United States will continue to maintain formal diplomatic relations with the Polish Government in exile in London.

CARNIVAL BUSINESS IS BIGGER IN 1944.

Despite the war, the tent show and carnival business is bigger and better than ever. At a convention of fair, carnival, and concession operators it was revealed that the volume of business done by the 10-to25 cent tent and outdoor shows during the past year was greater than ever. There are about 300 carnivals on the road today in the United States.



SHE: You remind me of the ocean.
He: You mean wild, romantic, restless?
SHE: No, you make me sick.

LUFTWAFFE FLIES AGAIN - BUT NOT FOR LONG.

***Jan 2--To assist the German counter-drive in the Saar, the Luftwaffe made a desperate bid to regain air superiority over the fighting lines. Hundreds of German planes pounced on Allied airfields in France, Belgium and Holland shortly after 9 AM Tuesday.

The bold strike cost the Nazis dearly. 208 of their precious planes were destroyed by air and ground action. In one skirmish, a Mustang-Thunderbolt group of American fighters destroyed 33 German planes and lost only one of their own.

At least 6,000 American and British planes were over the continent during the day. 1600 bombers of the American Eighth Air Force, attacked an oil refinery at Dollbergen and the rail network around Coblenz. They were accompanied by a strong fighter escort. Other Allied formations pounded the German rail lines in Belgium and Luxembourg while the RAF visited Dortmund for the fourth time.

Highlight of the days air action was the destruction of two more Luftwaffe planes by Lt. Col. John C. Mecer of Forest Hills, Long Island. Mecer, top ranking ace of the Eighth Air Force, shot down the Nazi planes within a few seconds of each other. This brings his total score to 37½ enemy planes.

'45 FORECAST: (Cont'd from page one.)

address that the Allies will have to occupy enough of Japan in order to win and enforce the peace. The Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet also reiterated his earlier threat that the China coast will be an Allied goal. In forecasting an unhappy '45 for the Japanese people, Admiral Nimitz added, "We will continue to move in the direction of Japan to seize bases from where we can carry the war closer. We hope to meet the remain units of Japanese fleet and dispose of them as we have in the past."

RUSSIANS CONTROL HALF BUDAPEST.

***Jan 2--Front line dispatches received in Moscow predict the Reds will control the western half of Budapest within 24 hours. The fight for the capital has narrowed down to furious block by block clashes. Yesterday the Reds captured another 200 blocks of buildings in a battle that is destroying the once beautiful Hungarian capital.

There was little comfort for the Nazis retreating to the eastern half of the city. Here the Storm Troopers were hemmed in by Soviet forces in an arc that extended to the eastern suburbs and the city limits.

IWO JIMA GETS NUMBER 24.

***Jan 2--United States heavy bombers of the Pacific Strategic Airforce gave Iwo Jima its 24th pasting in 24 consecutive days. Iwo Jima is the only strategic Japanese air field fortress which can hamper B-29's on their run to Tokyo. The Island has been hit repeatedly in the past by American naval forces as well as by Army Superfortresses and navy aircraft.

CHINA-BURMA THEATRE.

***Jan 2--China based American airmen sank or damaged six Japanese freighters in a series of attacks over the Yangtze river area. They also sank three small vessels, probably destroyed a fourth, and damaged two others.

In western Burma, Allied troops occupied the port of Radhedau.

WHY FIRETRUCKS ARE RED---
NEWSPAPERS ARE READ TOO. TWO AND TWO ARE FOUR. FOUR TIMES THREE ARE TWELVE. TWELVE INCHES MAKE A RULER. QUEEN-ELIZABETH WAS A RULER AND RULED THE SEAS, FISHES ARE IN THE SEAS, FISH HAVE FINNS, FINNS FOUGHT THE RUSSIANS, RUSSIANS ARE RED, FIRETRUCKS ARE RUSHING. THAT'S WHY FIRETRUCKS ARE RED TOO.

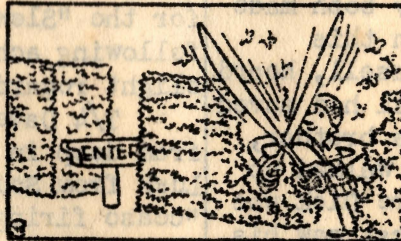
TOUCHING ALL BASES

Bill Voiselle, the New York Giant hard luck pitcher, was named the most valuable major league rookie of 1944 by the Chicago Baseball Writers. Voiselle will receive the Lou Comiskey Memorial. Don Johnson, Chicago Cubs second baseman, was rated second and Ted Wilks of the St. Louis Cards was third.....Major league pitchers enjoyed a banner year for 1944 in shutout production, registering the second highest number of white-wash jobs in twenty six years. The National League turned in 96 shutouts and American League registered 27 scoreless games for a total of 183.....The Western All-Stars came from behind to score two touchdowns in the final period and defeat the Eastern All-Stars, 13-7 in the annual East-West Shrine game in San Francisco. A crowd of 60,000 watched Bob Waterfield of UCLA star for the Western team.... Southwestern U. of Texas ran up a 35-0 score in defeating the University of Mexico in the Sun Bowl game at El Paso.... The Fifth Army won a 20-0 victory over the 12th Air Force in the Spaghetti Bowl game in Italy. Some 25,000 G.I.'s saw the powerhouse plunging of Cpl. John Moody, 230 pound back from Freeport Iowa, lead the 5th Army team to victory. The game was billed as the "first and last Spaghetti Bowl Game".....War Mobilization Director Byrnes has indicated that for the present professional basketball and football need not fear a ban like that placed on horse racing. However, Byrnes declared bluntly that he believed new physical examinations should be given for athletes who "Prove

on the football field every Sunday their physical fitness"..... Jo Grossman, Public Relations Director of the Hippodromo De Las American, denied reports that the Mexico City Race Track would be an "Escape" for horsemen in the United States. Grossman declared, "We are doing nothing to violate the spirit of U.S. War Mobilization Director Byrnes ban on racing effective January 3rd."..... Jacob Hirsch was the leading race horse trainer with one hundred and seventeen winners in the last twelve months. He earned approximately \$200,000. However, Ben Jones trained sixty winners for the Calumet Farms which won \$101,666 for an all time American record..... Texas Christian University basketball team made its debut in Madison Square Garden last night, but the debut was not a success from the Texas point of view. Brooklyn College defeated the TCU five by a score of 56-31, before a crowd of 14,000. The Brooklyn team pulled away to an early lead in the game. In the other tilt of a double-header Temple University held Wyoming University to three field goals in the first half and defeated the Western five 39-27. This is one of the few



Pick well-covered gun positions and change them often as the enemy zeros in quickly on the source of fire.



Make your own openings in hedgerows or other natural protections as those already there may be booby-trapped or covered by enemy weapons.

times the cowboys have been beaten by an Eastern team. They have previously won several Garden Invitational Tournaments.....Lt. Ralph Metcalfe, Marquette's great dash man of the 1930's, recently was quoted as saying the nine-second 100-yard dash is still a long way away. He believes it will take two boys to accomplish the feat, one pushing the other to the effort.

Unit Reporters Column

Hq Btry-361st.

The Battalion Education Officer, Capt Heintzleman, was highly urged to create interest on the part of the men in the correspondence courses being offered to them by the Armed Forces Institute. He racked his brain as to the way of accomplishing the deed, and called for the full-hearted cooperation of each battery commander. The following day, F/Sgt Thorne, Hq Btry, merely made an announcement to the battery at chow to the effect that anyone interested in the courses would meet Capt Burgoyne, our BE, at Msg Ctr, at 1400. Low and Behold! at 1330 the stampede started and by 1400 Msg Ctr was swamped with potential pupils. That is the kind of men we have in this Army. These are the men that will make an even better United States after the war is over. Carry on, men!

Co "C", 383rd INF.

Two of "C" company's men have had big thrills recently, for they both made contact with their brothers on this Island. One of them, Bob Tomasell, heard that the 133rd General Hospital had moved in, and rushed down to see his brother, S/Sgt Richard Tomaselli. Bob walked up to the registration desk, where Dick was busily working. When Dick first saw his brother, he thought he as a patient; but when he recognized him, he jumped clear over a table. They had been together

only one day in the past two and one-half years. They spent the Christmas Holiday together.

S/Sgt Kingston Kuykendell was surprised recently at Macanip when his brother came to see him. He is a member of the 202d AAA Brigade, and the two had several long talks, catching up on the two and one-half years they had been apart.

"B" BTRY-361st FA

It was another beautiful, peaceful, Leyte night until an intruder visited our switchboard. After finding that the culprit was a four foot snake who had been sneaking in and out trying to call Division for the past two weeks, John Bienkowski grabbed a machette and fought him to the finish. After which once again the calm peacefulness settled down.

The "B" Btry mess crew, under the able direction of S/Sgt Fred F. Tippet of Paragould, Arkansas, has been recommended to the good housekeeping bureau for the "Slew Burners" Citation. The following achievements were executed with slight regard for personal safety:

T/4 Dave Moore and Pfc Webb, both from deep in the heart of Texas, and Pfc Lusk from South Dakota, immediately after "cease firing", reconnoitered and established a tactical kitchen and registered with two hot cakes per man. On "A" plus 20 minutes, they fed the btry hot biscuits.

MALE CALL

by Milton Caniff



WHAT A STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURE

