

# THE MILLVILLE ARMY AIR FIELD

# Thunderbolt

VOL. I

MILLVILLE, N. J., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1944

NO. XVIII



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WITH A WREATH TO SGT. SAMSONE, CHIEF WOLF

## GEN. J. R. HAWKINS PRESENTS TROPHY TO LT. J. W. HYSON

Before two platoons of motionless soldiers, and hundreds of military and civilian witnesses, General J. R. Hawkins, Commanding General of the First Fighter Command, proffered the coveted Thunderbolt Gunnery Trophy to Lt. John W. Hyson, winner of the Third Bombing and Gunnery Meet held here earlier this month.

Introduced by Lt. Col. T. H. Watkins, the General stated that he was gratified by the fact that "for the second time, in as many Meets, the trophy has been won by a Millville Army Air Field flier." After congratulating the winning pilot and the ground crews, he presented the plaque to the base and gave Lt. Hyson and Captain Beggs, winner of an earlier Meet, individual trophies.

## Personal Affairs Section Opens For Business

The "Open for Business" shingle was hung out this week by the Personal Affairs Office, operating under the firm name of Stamler and VanderZalm.

WOJG Stamler and T/Sgt. VanderZalm were returned this week to Millville Army Air Field after attending an intensive course of study at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. W/O Joseph Stamler announced that officers and enlisted men seeking advice and counsel on "veteran's administration," "GI Bill of Rights," "all types of allotments," "insurance," and "any matter of a confidential nature pertaining to the family of the soldier at home," are invited to discuss the problem at his office. The Personal Affairs Section is located in Building T-242, on the main access road to the gate.

## "... For a World Where For All Time There May Be Peace On Earth and Good Will Toward Men"



## 300 Million Rounds Fired By Yanks In Three Months

New York—(CNS)—In a little more than three months, three American armies in France fired 300,000,000 rounds of small arms ammunition; 4,426,000 rounds of 105 mm ammunition; 1,248,000 rounds of 155 mm shells and 3,500,000 rounds of mortar shells.

These figures were released by L/Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, commanding general of the Army Service Forces in an address before the National Association of Manufacturers in which he urged greater production immediately to save American lives.

## Base Officers Selected For Staff School

The exclusive halls of the Army Staff and Command School at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, beckoned two local officers this week. Maj. Lloyd P. Carlos, Director of Plans and Training, and Captain Theodore H. Gaylor, Base Quartermaster, were selected by the First Air Force to attend a 10 week course at this institution.

Major Carlos will attend classes devoted to aviation, and Capt. Gaylor will learn new techniques in the science of supplying an Army. Both officers will return to this station after graduation.

## Holiday Events At Officers Club

A merry round of holiday affairs have been announced by officials of the Officers Club.

Christmas day will find the brass hats sipping tea and hard tack. Oh no! We mean social tea biscuits, while Scotty and his band will pound out the dancing chords. This tete a tete will take place Monday afternoon. New Year's eve will be solemnized by a formal party and dance.

The "First Three Graders" Club, on the other hand, have made no holiday plans. "What's the use of planning," a spokesman said, "one can't be sure of anything."

## BASE GRIPPED BY YULETIDE SPIRIT

Blighted only by the thought that millions of their fellow soldiers are fighting and dying today on foreign battle fronts, the military personnel of Millville Army Air Field have completely succumbed to the contagion of the Christmas spirit.

With twenty percent of the officers and enlisted men granted leaves and furloughs, the remainder of the Base will partake in numerous festivities planned by the Special Service Office. Local citizens have added to the holiday cheer by going all out on the theme of "have a serviceman at your home for the holiday."

**Sugar and Spice**  
Mess personnel, still flushed over the success of their sumptuous Thanksgiving spread, announced today that they "will outdo" themselves Monday. The bill of fare will include roast turkey, sage dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, snowflake potatoes, hot rolls, ice cream, candy, coffee and nuts. The GI restaurant will be flavored with "sugar and spice and everything nice."

**Religious Ceremonies**  
To hundreds of the celebrators this will be the first Christmas at home since 1941. The returned soldiers are making the most of the occasion by attending religious services planned by Capt. Horace M. King, Base Chaplain. Base Officials declared today that tomorrow will be "considered a normal working day, and that Christmas was to be off—that Christmas will be officially a day of devotion and worship."



THE MILLVILLE ARMY AIR FIELD

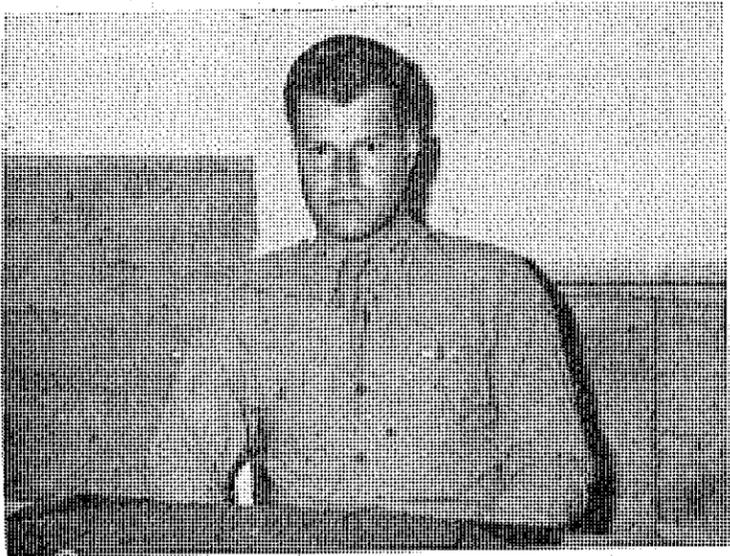
# Thunderbolt

MILLVILLE ARMY AIR FIELD  
 Millville, New Jersey. (Phone 1100, Ext. 92)  
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 the benefit of the military and civilian personnel of Millville Army Airfield.

LT. COL. T. H. WATKINS, Commanding Officer  
 LT. SYDNEY R. NEMAROW Editor  
 SGT. W. B. URQUHART Sports and Managing Editor  
 (All Photos by Base Photo Laboratory Personnel)

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## A MESSAGE FROM LT. COL. T. H. WATKINS



### To All Personnel of MAAF

For the fourth Christmas we are celebrating this joyous season under the stress and strain of war in every corner of the earth.

For our Allies and fellow soldiers struggling today on the edges of France, in the frozen mountain passages of Italy, or flirting with death in the skies over Leyte there will be little holiday cheer. To them the warmth and good will of this time-honored holiday will be a vague memory of a better day.

We at Millville Army Air Base should pause for a moment to examine our contributions to our gallant fighting men, and attempt to honestly determine if we have kept faith with those who are still making the significance of Christmas possible at home.

The record reveals that we have kept the flow of replacement combat pilots to every aerial battle front steady and uninterrupted. Wherever our trainees were sent, dispatches testify to their effectiveness as aerial gunners, skip bombardiers, and ground triggermen. The Engineers, Armorers, and Communication technicians, now keeping their aircraft flying in virtually every theatre of operations, are displaying the excellence in craftsmanship they learned here. On the other hand, veteran pilots, linesmen, clerks, assigned to this field from combat areas have found an opportunity to immediately display the knowledge they obtained under the impact of actual warfare and pass on their learning to fledglings about to go overseas.

We have tried to develop a smooth, efficient and harmonious team. Our high morale and "esprit de corps" is known throughout the First Air Force. We have been given a commitment and we have succeeded in meeting its demands.

Members of my staff and I are proud of your contributions. We take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude and wishing you all a joyous holiday and happiness in the better world which we are striving to build.

**T. H. WATKINS,**  
 Lt. Col. AC  
 Commanding.

## Off the Book Shelf

By KATHERINE M. O'CONNOR

"I don't know what day of the month it is," said Scrooge. "I don't know how long I have been among the Spirits. I don't know anything. I don't care. Hallo! Whoop! Hallo here!"

He was checked in his transports by the churches ringing out the lustiest peals he had ever heard. Clash, clash, hammer; ding, dong, bell. Oh, glorious, glorious!

Running to the window he opened it, and put out his head. "What's today?" cried Scrooge, calling downward to a boy in Sunday clothes.

"Eh?" returned the boy, with all his might of wonder.

"What's today, my fine fellow?" said Scrooge.

"Today!" replied the boy.

"Why, Christmas Day."

"It's Christmas Day!" said Scrooge to himself. "I haven't missed it. The Spirits have done it all in one night. They can do anything they like. Hallo, my fine fellow!"

He dressed himself "all in his best," and at last got out into the streets. Scrooge regarded everyone with a delighted smile. He looked so irresistibly pleasant that several good-humored fellows said "Good morning, sir! A Merry Christmas to you!" And Scrooge said often afterward, that of all the blithe sounds he had ever heard, those were the blithest in his ears.

From Dickens  
 A CHRISTMAS CAROL.



Dear Editor:

Would it be possible to locate a soldier through your newspaper?

I think his first name is Ralph B. He is five feet two inches tall, weighs 135 pounds and is soft spoken. He has been in the service about three years and was a tail gunner. He wears a signet ring made from a half dollar on his left hand with a large "B" on it.

He will probably remember me by slacks, and the skating rink in Vineland. My family would like to have him over our house for the holidays.

I figured that I would see him in Vineland again, but I have not. If he would like to contact me Saturday my car is usually parked on the Boulevard opposite the Bus Station. I hope you have luck in locating him.

Sincerely,

E. P. C.

(Editors Note), Dear Ralph B. We don't know who you are, or where we can find you. But, if you read this letter, please drop into our office and we'll give you the name of the young lady, and tell you the make of the car. There will be no charge for this service. Listen to other Joe's, this invitation is to Ralph B. only!

Dear Editor:

The boys in my barrack have appointed me to extend to you and your staff our best wishes for Xmas and the New Year. You have served us GIs well, and we appreciate it. Here is hoping you keep rootin' for us, and we'll keep giving you our nickels and dimes.

Sincerely,

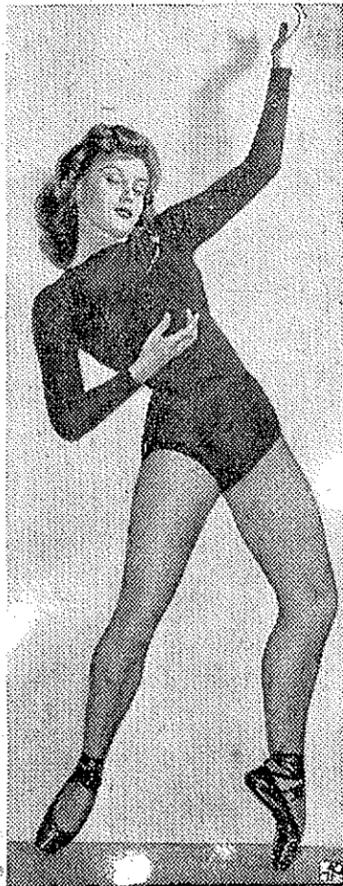
A Linesman.

Dear Editor:

What are the chances of having one of the boys in the Mess Hall carry down the coffee that's left over and giving it to the boys on the line?

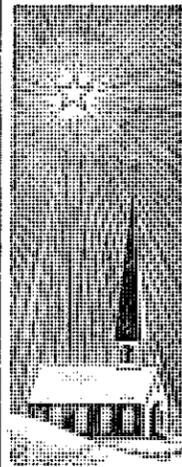
Signed,  
 H. H.

## "OOH, HOW I WOULD LOVE TO MEET A MILLVILLE SOLDIER!"



## FROM THE PULPIT

By Chaplain Horace M. King



Christmas is universal. No one draws the line on the hope for a pleasant and memorable experience during that period which has world-wide appreciation as Christmas season.

For individuals it carries a warmth of meaning. For children it brings a thrill and cheerful liveliness. For families it suggests mutual joy and home-centered memories. For thousands of religiously devout it bears a sacredness and faith-filled exultation. For many it spells spiritual triumph and for all it rekindles thoughts and sometimes prayers for the prompt realization of good will among all persons and a new reign of peaceful neighborliness among all nations and groups of peoples.

Cover it over with heedless frivolity, misinterpret it through commercialism and betray its holier sanctities through disregard or selfishness yet Christmas lives on with its cherished power and glorious beauty.

War itself is helpless against Christmas. Christmas will not surrender. Triumphant through the centuries Christmas marches on toward the eternal revelation of better days for all peoples of all places.

Some persons celebrate Christmas. Some persons keep Christmas. Others, blessed be their name, share Christmas for

Christmas is the spirit of gracious, unselfish thoughtfulness of others first!

May this be a sacred and unforgettable Christmas for all.

RELIGIOUS EVENTS AND SERVICES OF CHRISTMAS WEEK CATHOLIC SERVICES: Mass at Base Theater, Sunday, 24 December 1944 at 08.00.

Solemn High Mass, Sunday, 24 December 1944 at 24.00 (midnight) at St. Mary Magdalen Church, Millville, N. J. Transportation will be furnished.

Mass at Base Theater, Christmas, 25 December 1944 at 08.00.

Mass at Base Theater, Sunday, 31 December 1944 at 08.00.

Mass at Base Theater, New Year's Day, 1 January 1945 at 08.00.

PROTESTANT SERVICES: Christmas Message at Base Theater, Sunday, 24 December 1944 at 09.15.

Christmas Vespers, Sunday, 24 December 1944 at 17.00 at Frinky Church, Millville, N. J. Transportation will be furnished.

Candlelight Communion and Caroling Service at the New Chapel, Sunday, 24 December 1944 at 20.00.

New Year Service at Chapel, Sunday, 31 December 1944 at 09.15.

Watch Night Service at Chapel, Sunday, 31 December 1944 at 24.00.

JEWISH SERVICES FOR REMAINDER OF DECEMBER:

Synagogue Service, Friday, 22 December 1944 at 19.45.

Synagogue Service, Friday, 29 December 1944 at 19.45.

These services will be held at Beth Hillel Synagogue, Millville, N. J. Transportation will be furnished.

## "THE CANTEN SONG"



Sung to the tune of "Dirty Lies"  
 Greeting Sisters, "Hello" and "Goodbye"

Down where I was serving  
 Everything was neat,  
 Till they moved the air base  
 On a Millville Street,  
 The guys came by the dozen  
 They all came in a bunch,  
 Over to the Snack Bar  
 Every night for lunch,  
 Oh, some of them were little  
 Some of them were big,  
 Some could do the two step  
 Some could do the jig,  
 They were dirty guys,  
 Oh those dirty guys,  
 From the air base to the Snack Bar  
 They were dirty guys.

Now there's a guy Wellhausen  
 Standing six feet two,  
 He was a pain in the ankle  
 'Til what in the heck could we do,  
 He said he hailed from Texas  
 The land of mystery,  
 But why in the heck of all the girls  
 Did he have to pick on me.

Georgie is from Boston, Mass.  
 He rode in on his boss,  
 He landed at our Snack Bar  
 And now we're at a loss,  
 For there he eats his lunches  
 Every noon and night,  
 And what do we have to show for it  
 For he's a tiny mite.

Don and Gene are two chums  
 Two nice young chaps they are,  
 They come up to our USO  
 In their little Chevy car,  
 They're both the fair and Atlas Type  
 Built strong and like an arrow (?)  
 For they get their exercise  
 By hoofing at the Sparrow.

Now you've heard our story of  
 The trials and tribulations,  
 Of the gallant Air Corps soldiers  
 That are serving our great nation,  
 And when this war is over,  
 And the boys have all gone home  
 We'll have our silly Canteen song  
 That we can call our own.



ITALY—General Mark Clark personally supplied a generator to run the ice cream plant at a Red Cross Club close to the lines. He thought all the problems were solved, but a combat engineer regiment, when served ice cream, balked. No spoons. "Eat it with your dog tags," suggested the Red Cross Director. They dug in. No complaints.

CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C.—The Red Cross Field Director, Ezra Jones, in his 14 months at this Marine camp, has helped many a Leatherneck pull through the ordeal of becoming a father. Recently the story was reversed. Mr. Jones was the expectant father, and he paced the floor nervously. Calmly watching him were Marines, veterans of this sort of combat. They comforted Mr. Jones in his hour of need.

BELGIUM—Red Cross girl in front-line Army hospital was faced with a problem. How to have a checkers game between two patients wearing immovable casts and lying in adjacent beds, without the aid of a third person to hold the board? The solution was a board and complete set of checkers for each man. Then, all the squares were numbered, and the game proceeded by having the men call out the number of the square from which they were moving and the number of the one into which they had moved.

**Male Call**

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



**Tetched-nition Fifth Grade**



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**INFORMATION  
\*  
CLICKS**

**Question:** What do you want Santa Claus to give you for Christmas?

**Answers:**

**PVT. ROBERT BADER**, Radio Repair Shop, (Bronx, New York).

"All, the rest of the world and I want, is a chunk of permanent peace. And while I'm askin', put me down for a). the return of my brothers from overseas, b). a discharge, c). a boost in grade."

**LT. PAUL D. WINTERS**, AC Supply Officer, (Ottumwa, Kansas).

"The finest present anyone can get is news that this damned war is over. We're all longing for a return to a decent, normal life, and that is where Santa Claus can play an important role. No, we don't have any reindeer in stock!"

**MISS DOT BACKMAN**, Stenographer, (Cape May Court House).

"'Phoebe' is my rattle trap, and is hanging on to the ropes. I would like Santa to get me four new tires, and a slew of "C" coupons. I'll stroke Santa's white beard for those gifts anytime."

**PFC. ANDREW BAGAN**, airplane mechanic, (New York City).

"I sure would like to get a set of twin boys. Then a little while later Old Nick can bring me three more rugged sons. With that quintet I'd start the 'Bagan Basketball Club,' and would lick the pants off the 'Flyers.'"

**The Peripheral Road**

By Cpl. Joe MAAF

**UNDER THE MISTLETOE**

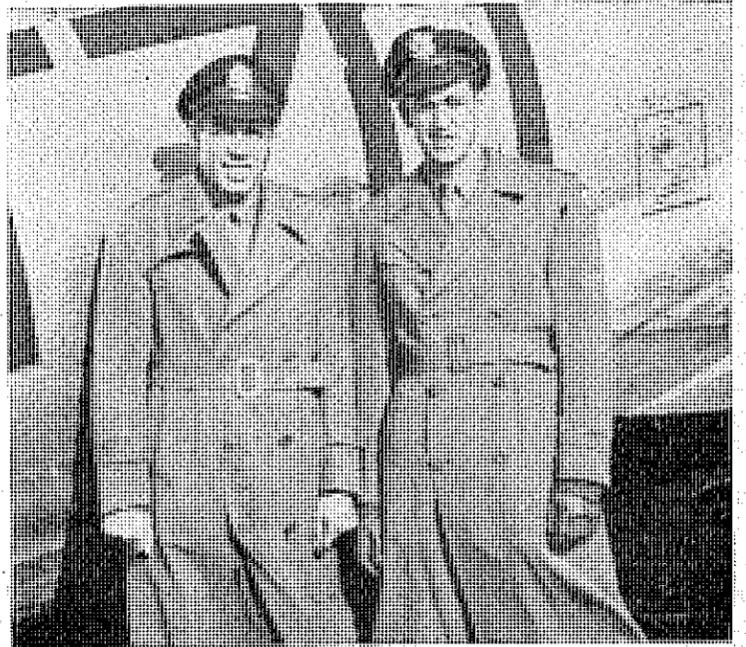
Pfc. Sidney Cooper, returned to the U.S.A. after wrestling with heat, dirt and Japs in the S. W. Pacific for 33 months reports as follows: "Don't let anyone tell you that clerks don't fight. I was with a pistol packin' group of typists that slugged it out with the Nips in Biak and New Guinea. After we polished the buck-toothed Tojoites off, the Morning Report Clerks pounded out their daily chore. And if you're interested in how the Japanese war lords took care of their soldier's morale, get a load of this. Last year we shelled and stormed into a small palm-treed grove somewhere in the deep Pacific. Among the dead Japs we found 12 Geisha girls . . . The old order ever changeth. It has been religiously learned that Pfc. George W. Gibson's wife is now overseas . . . 1st Sgt. Hackler is sweating out a blessed event, and is hoping the parcel of joy arrives Christmas Day . . . Pvt. Clegg J. Hosea, of San Bernardino, California, was a Presbyterian preacher in his civilian days . . . S/Sgt. Robert J. Payne, Buffalo, N. Y., assigned here this week, tells of the time that his outfit landed on Tarawa and found the local belles there bathing in an ole swimming hole without benefit of diving suits . . . Cpl. and Mrs. Viola Hulett are now showing off a charming little baby daughter . . . Welcomed back to his old stamping grounds this week was Sgt. Richard E. Tappan, after spending over three months with the ladies in white . . . Mrs. R. B. Nieu Kirk and her charming daughter, Margaret, will sew, mend, and make minor alterations on the garment of any GI Joe, Thursday afternoons at Sally's . . . Pfc. Jerry Danovitch, whose unforgettable role as the butcher boy in "Prop Wash" who delivered the pork chops from Goldstein's Delicatessen Store, will soon be in mufti. Honorably discharged . . . Pfc. John L. McCloskey may soon be a daddy, if the rumor we hear is reliable . . . Base Supervisory pilots have to their collective credit over 25 enemy aircraft destroyed . . . S/Sgt. J. Suleki and the 29 other Armament boys now undergoing gunnery training in Denver, Colorado, extend their best wishes to their buddies that they left behind . . . We end this little chit-chat with a solemn hope that our last column some day will end as follows. ". . . now that there is, for all time, peace on earth and good will toward men."

**SAINT NICK'S GI HELPER**



Practically snowed under by the unprecedented number of Christmas packages and letters sent to MAAF personnel, are the hard working members of the MAAF Post Office. Normally the soldiers assort a little over 800 pounds a day, but since the holiday season began they never had less than a ton of mail to distribute to the eager throngs that awaited "Mail Call." Shown here is Sgt. Willard E. Quick, Non Com-in-charge of Santa Claus's sub-depot, up to his shoulders in bundles of Christmas cheer. Other members of the section who helped the "old boy with the white beard" perform yearly chore are: Cpl. James M. Hoffard, Cpl. Don W. Paterson, Pvt. Charlie Gholson and Pvt. Boyle Garlow.

**THE RETURN OF THE NATIVES**



(Left to right): Lt. Alfred H. Ellison and Lt. Edward Fox, former Thunderbolt gunners here posed before one of their old training planes when they dropped in this week to say "howdy" to friends. Both officers were assigned to the European Theatre of Operations after they left Millville Army Air Field.

**Former RTU Pilots Pay MAAF Visit; Swap Yarns With Old Friends**

To Millville Army Air Field, where they spent their last phase of gunnery training before going overseas, two battle-tested alumni RTU trainees, dropped in this week to say "hello" and exchange notes with their former instructors. The visitors were Lt. Edward Fox, 23, of Euclid, Ohio, and Lt. Alfred H. Ellison, 25, of Brighton, Massachusetts. Both officers were formerly attached to the now liquidated 536th Fighter Squadron.

Lt. Fox, home on a 60 day leave, smilingly refused to discuss in detail his post-Millville adventures, but briefly stated that he was assigned to a P-47 outfit attached to the Ninth Air Force, and participated in blasting shore installations in France on D-day. The airman also declared that he was "darned grateful" for the rugged training he underwent here. "I used to moan plenty when Capt. Haselby and Capt. Bill Davis kept me jumping, but when I had to strafe a column of Nazi trucks in France, I was plenty happy that while at MAAF I learned how to draw a bead on small target, surrounded by clumps of pines."

**Back From Roumania**

Lt. Ellison, back in the U.S.A. for reassignment, after being released from a German prison camp in Bucharest, recounted a tale of colorful events, reminiscent of the yarns spun by Anthony Adverse.

Arriving in Italy, the lieutenant was checked out in a P-38 Lightning, and after six hot missions was shot down by an ME-109 over the Ploesti oil fields in Roumania. "I didn't

have a chance to bail out when I was clipped, so I had to ride my ship in," Lt. Ellison said. "No sooner had I crashed when the Jerries surrounded my plane. I became a little unnerved as to what I was in for, as the Germans have no particular love for American airmen. The thought of what might happen had me sweating for the first time in my life."

**Stripped of Belongings**

The former Millville pilot was then taken to Bucharest. The Germans did a neat job of stripping him of his watch, money and photographs. He was unceremoniously escorted to a cell, where he was greeted like a long lost brother by other Yank crewmen. "All we had to eat," Lt. Ellison revealed, "was soup and potatoes, and when we eventually received a Red Cross kit, it was like dollars dropping from heaven."

After the Red Army swept across Roumania last Fall, Lt. Ellison and his comrades were repatriated. This was effected right under the nose of the Nazis who didn't have time to corral the Americans in their haste to retreat. A group of B-17s landed and returned with their human cargo to Italy.

Captain William C. Davis, who was Assistant Operations Officer during the returned pilot's gunnery course here, recalled that both men attained an excellent grade and revealed that they had the "guts and ability to make MAAF look good wherever they went."



# MAAF-SPORTS LOG

By Sgt. Willis B. Urquhart

## SIDELINE CHIMES

There is a small section of Blackstone devoted to the principles governing the crime of "mayhem." According to the law givers, any person kicking a fellow human in the shins, blackening his eyes, beating him over the head until he moans low, is guilty of this felony. But, strangely enough, nothing in the judiciary code mentions a word about ice hockey.

There are few sports, save for boxing and lacrosse, that can match this game for violence and physical contact. Every element in the gentle art of mauling, clinching, and pushing is used by the teams to get the puck in the other guy's cage. The twelve cookies milling around on their twisting ankles over the hard water never pause for a moment to say, "pahdon me partner," when they stick their elbow in their adversary's groin. They twist and squirm like a streak of greased lightning and bolt their way to the goalie who stands like a boulder before his trust. This, friends, brings us to the point of this learned essay.

We have a group of officers and enlisted men on the post who, in the ordinary course of life, look like good Rotarians, Elks, or Moosemen. One would say that they were sort of military rabbits. They attend social functions at their respective clubs, work a bit during the day, yes, even fly now and then. But, brother, give them a rink, a pair of skates, a stick, and a puck, and zip, they change completely. They will fight relentlessly for the slightest advantage, scream blue murder over the slightest infraction of the rules, and reveal the type of ferocity that spells b-l-o-o-d for anyone getting in their way.

Last Monday for instance, a contingent of local ice worshippers scrimmaged with the Philadelphia Falcons. Pvt. Merrill Seeberg was knocked down cold when a Philly player cut into his defense, Major Yancey stucked his way to three goals, and S/Sgt. Narcisse Smith broke up several hot plays. It was, generally, a gruelling afternoon's work, but not a gripe squeaked out of the lot of 'em. These boys used up enough energy on the rink in a few hours to floor an ordinary man. Yet, when one of the hockey players arrived home his wife asked him to run down to the store for a loaf of bread, and the only response out of him was to howl, "what are you trying to do, run me ragged?"



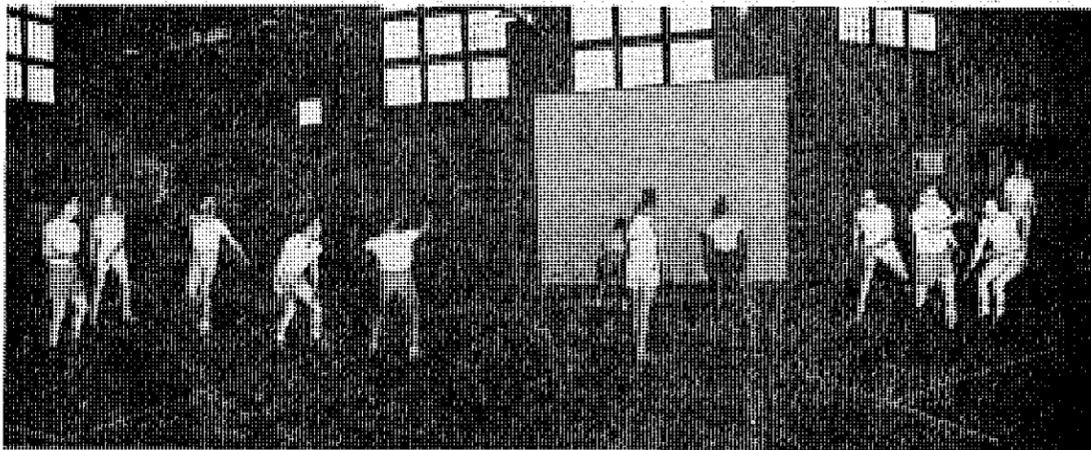
Six feet two inches tall in his stocking feet, weighing over 190 pounds, S/Sgt. Carrol Whetsel of Latel, Indiana, is quickly assuming the role of the work horse of the "Flyers." The armorer, who was a basketball star in his local high school, and was destined for the University of Indiana when the war cut short his scholastic career, shows exceptional brilliance in foot work and under-the-basket maneuvering. During the last nine games he has clipped the net for 136 points.

## The Wolf by Sansone



"He has a peculiar hold on women!"

## HAND BALL GAINS IN POPULARITY



The battle for handball supremacy raged on unabated this week. The vocabulary of the Base Officers and enlisted men are now flavored by such idioms of the sport as "killer," "block," "stumblebum" and "finger." The Tournament has slackened in intensity, however, with such power boys as Capt. Walsh and Dietrick, Sgt. Chico Juliat and Sgt. Mike Fuchs either home on leave or in the hospital. The game is capturing the imagination of many post athletes. Shown here in a hot scrimmage are Lt. Dan Eisenberg, Lt. Gunkelman, Lt. Sam Leppo and Capt. David I. Walsh.

## "FLYERS" TO OPEN FAF TOURNAMENT AGAINST DOVER

Millville Army Air Field's courtmen, the "Flyers," will face the Dover Air Field quintet December 29, at the Post Gym, in the opening tilt of the First Air Force Basketball Tournament.

The "Flyers," having won five games in nine starts, will have to dribble their way past the Dover clan to continue in the inter-base competition. A single set back, according to the rules, will eliminate the losing club from the running.

The court jousts consist of five geographic sections, and MAAF has been placed in the North Central group, along with Dover, Ft. Dix AAB, and Mitchel Field. Winner of the 18 team tourney will represent the First Air Force in the National Army Air Force Basketball contest, to be played off sometime in March, 1945.

## 536TH OFFICERS WIN THREE STRAIGHT; LEAD IN "HOOP" LEAGUE

As the Intra-mural Basketball League enters its fourth week, the fast moving, sharp eyed fly boys of the 536th are leading the tourney with three straight wins.

Edging out the Base Operations quintet by the close margin of 19-18 in a real thriller, the league leaders also took the Air Corps Supply courtmen for a ride to the tune of 34-20.

The "rag dragners" were riddled 34-31 by the 537th Staff Officers in their second game, and the same night Base Operations lost a hard fought tussle to the "Dots and Dashers," 21-17.

Other games during the week found Base Shops hammering out a 27-13 triumph over the "QM'ers" and the 537th Staff Officers jumping into four place by liquidating the Base Headquarters five 33-25.

Sgt. J. G. McCorkel, pacer for the Communications team, and Sgt. S. Reynolds, sharp shooter for Base Operations, are the leading scorers in the league.

TEAM STANDINGS		
	Won	Lost
536th Staff Officers	3	0
Ground Officers	2	0
Communications	2	0
537th Staff Officers	2	1
Tow Target	1	1
Base Shops	1	1
Base Operations	1	2
Quartermaster	0	2
Air Corps Supply	0	2
Base Headquarters	0	3

## Navy Sunk By Army Five 48-45

Before a spell bound throng, witnessing one of the most spine chilling tussles displayed on our court during the current basketball season, the "Flyers" sank the Navy from Cape May, Wednesday night, by the close margin of 48-45.

It was a nip and tuck struggle throughout the game, and when the whistle blew at the half, the sailors had dribbled and tallied up a 24-19 lead over the local dogfaces. During the third period, the "Flyers" opened up with a barrage of scoring that had the Navy flying their distress flag and tied up the ball game 35-35.

S/Sgt. C. Whetsel paced the GI's, and was high scorer for the evening with 16 points. It was Schwitter for the sailors, who clipped the nets for 6 field goals.

The "Flyers" will take a breather over Christmas, to resume hostilities on the local court the 29th of December against the Dover AAB quintet.

Box score:

Navy Base			
	G.	F.	Pts
Schwitter, F	4	5	13
Bowman, F	0	0	0
Jolliffe, C	3	0	2
Fuller, G	0	0	0
Barmak, G	2	0	4
Barber, F	3	2	8
Melnholt, G	4	3	11
Vandercloster, F	1	0	2
Hatcher, G	0	1	1
Totals	17	11	45

"Flyers"			
	G.	F.	Pts
Dickey, F	6	2	14
Urquhart, F	2	0	4
Whetsel, C	7	2	16
Freeman, G	3	3	9
Smith, G	2	1	5
Falatto, G	0	0	0
McCleaver, F	0	0	0
Gould, G	0	0	0
Wilkins, F	0	0	0
Totals	20	8	48

## New Sports Planned For Coming Season

If bowling enthusiasts will guarantee the payment of thirty five dollars to a local emporium, the Special Service Office will lay the ground work for the organization of a league, it was authoritatively learned this week by The Thunderbolt Sports Department.

As matters stand, there is no provision for the spending of unappropriated funds for this purpose. Bowling enthusiasts feel, however, that there are a sufficient number of personnel on the post willing to chip in the required amount. THUNDERBOLT will submit the rosters of interested parties to the Special Service Office. Drop in and leave your name.

### Boxing Classes

Millville Army Air Field may soon be known as cauliflower hollow if the plans flitting through Lt. Pishioneri's brain materialize. A new regulation size ring arrived at the Gym this week, and the Physical Training Director is flirting around with the idea of starting boxing classes and eventually run a tournament known as the "Mosquito Gulch Golden Gloves." If you have ever had your face patted in by a left hook or a right cross, see Lt. Pishioneri for further details.

### Ping Pong

For those who steadfastly maintain that one can get as much of a work out from table tennis as you do in hockey, here is an opportunity of putting up or apologizing. The PT boys are seeking names of ping pong athletes, and will thereafter announce the first date of the tournament.

## BASE THEATRE PROGRAM

SUNDAY, DEC. 24	HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN All-star Cast No. 33
MONDAY, DEC. 25	THREE IS A FAMILY Charles Ruggles, Marjorie Reynolds and Helen Broderick Special Pied Piper of Basin Street Swing
TUESDAY, DEC. 5	SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER John Hodiak, Anne Baxter and Charles Winninger Christmas Carols Merry Melody Sports Light
THURSDAY, DEC. 28	SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Vivian Blaine, Michael O'Shea Carmen Miranda and Phil Silvers Army, Navy Screen Magazine No. 2 RKO Pathe News No. 34