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Hoosier Vagabond

By Ernie Pyle

SOMEWHERE IN NORMANDY (By Wireless).—An ordnance tank repair company gets some freakish jobs, indeed.

The other day the company I was with had a tank destroyer roll in. There was nothing whatever wrong with it except—the end of the gun barrel was corked tight with 2½ feet of wood.

What happened was they had been running along a hedgerow and as the turret operator swung his gun in a forward arc, they ran the end of the barrel smack into a big tree.

You would think the vehicle had to be going 100 miles an hour to plug the end of the barrel for 2½ feet simply by running into a tree. But it doesn't. This one was going only 20 miles an hour.

It took the ordnance boys four hours to dig the wood out with chisels and removers. The inside of the barrel wasn't hurt a bit and it went right back into action.

A 3-inch anti-tank gun was brought in with a hole in the barrel about six inches back from the muzzle. The hole came from the inside! What happened was this: A German bazooka gunner fired a rocket at the anti-tank gun. It made one of those freakish hole-in-one hits—went right smack into the muzzle of the big gun.

About six inches inside it went off and burned its way clear through the barrel. Nobody got hurt, but the barrel was unrepairable, and was sent back to England for salvage.

Shells Come Out at Same Place

A TANK was brought in that had been hit twice on the same side within a few seconds. The entrance holes were about two feet apart. But on the opposite side of the tank where the shells came out, there was only one hole. The angle of fire had been such that the second shell went right through the hole made by the first one.

In another case an 88 shell struck the thick steel apron that shields the breech of one of a tank's guns. The shell didn't go through. It hit at an angle and just scooped out a big chunk of steel about a foot long and six inches wide.

It's very improbable that in the whole war this same shell would get the same results twice.

Inside Indianapolis By Lowell Nussbaum

LEE SLINKARD, The Times' retail advertising manager, is about to realize the dream of newspapermen. He has resigned and leaves tomorrow to run his own newspaper. He has purchased the Camas Post-Record, a weekly at Camas, Wash. Camas is a town of a little more than 5000, on the Columbia river about 30 miles east of Portland. Lee has been with The Times the last nine years, coming here from Evansville. Good luck, Lee. . . . Clarence Sloo, operator of an E. 10th st. trawler trolley, performed a "boy scout" deed yesterday. When he stopped at 10th and Bosart to take on a passenger or two, he noticed a large moving van, a tractor-trailer, parked at the curb, and which had started rolling backward



down the slight grade at that point. The back wheels climbed over the curb, narrowly missing a utility pole. As the truck was starting to buckle, threatening to tip over, the trolley operator dashed to the rescue and jumped in the cab of the trolley, setting the brakes. Then he got back on his trolley, and went about his business. . . . Mary H. Nixon and Christine Bowden, an up and coming home town team of song writers, authored a song that was introduced over WLW and the Blue network last Saturday. It's titled: "Sycamore Lane."

A New Volunteer?

SOME VOLUNTEER civilian defense workers receive additional gasoline allowance because of the nature of their work. And it's the duty of Mrs. Chauncey H. Eno II, director of women's activities for the county civilian defense organization, to review the list of applicants. A list was sent to Ration Board I the other day. A short time later, Ruth Steinfeld, secretary to the chief clerk, phoned Mrs. Eno. "Who," asked Mrs. Steinfeld, "is Mary Allan Cochman?" Mrs. Eno didn't know. "You passed on her, didn't you," persisted Mrs. Steinfeld. Mrs. Eno

Dewey Technique By Thomas L. Stokes

WITH GOVERNOR DEWEY PARTY, Aug. 2.—Governor Thomas E. Dewey has contrived an interesting campaign technique to meet the war emphasis of the Democrats.

He is trying it out on his current midwestern trip which brings him to St. Louis today for a conference with the 25 other Republican governors, after his stop at Springfield, Ill.

To counteract the war psychology being exploited by the Democrats, symbolized by President Roosevelt's assumption of the commander-in-chief role, Governor Dewey points out the job of the next President, which does not begin until next Jan. 20, will be largely a peacetime job. This argument is given added effect by the victorious push of the American forces in the Pacific and in France, and by the surge of the Russians toward Germany.

'Gratifying Progress'

WE ARE making "gratifying progress" in the fighting, he says, to point this out. Then he weans the big job after the war, which is to provide employment for everybody. Not enough attention, he holds, is being given to this, to the overhauling task of reconverting war industry to peace industry. He did not mention it, but the recent flurry of activity in Washington to hurry through needed legislation for reconversion would indicate that the administration feels the same way.

Pittsburgh, where the smoke of war industry almost shuts out the sun, offered Governor Dewey an opportunity to talk about reconversion. People toiling in that area, which has known the gnawing pinch of depression, could appreciate his statement that "it

My Day

HYDE PARK, Tuesday.—I think sometimes we are prone to forget, in the excitement of watching the fighting fronts, that much of great importance to the future is being done in other theaters of war. Men are going through and have been going through great hardships, sometimes just to protect an area which otherwise would make our positions hazardous. This is true, of late, in the whole Caribbean area, and in Greenland, Iceland and Newfoundland.



Sometimes they are not only protecting an area, after having fought hard to acquire it, but also are doing development work which is important from the transportation standpoint during the war, and may be important to our economic development in the future. In this category I think we can put the Aleutians and Alaska.

Someone kindly sent me a letter, written by a boy long ago, when the Alcan. highway was being built. The difficulties which the civilian workers and the soldiers encountered were not merely difficulties of terrain.

The cold and the loneliness must have been try-

ing experiences. The men must have felt, in addition, that they would get little or no glory for all the hardships and dangers which they went through.

We should be, as a nation, deeply grateful to these men, and so I am going to give you a few excerpts from this really remarkable letter.

... Leaving Washington, Dec. 11, 1942, and traveling via train through the good old United States and part of Canada and then by government freight trucks over the highway, I arrived here the day before Christmas.

"As time goes on, however, one gets used to the many changes from civilian to army life and grows accustomed to it. My days are completely full from morning until night. . . . I really feel that I have been fortunate in experiencing the trip over the new Alaskan highway while it is yet in its primitive stages.

"The road is broken through extending from the United States into Alaska, and transportation over the route is now moving; however, the fact remains that the road is yet to be improved, revised and advanced to an extent beyond our own thoughts. "Canadians and Americans have worked together, lived together and borne the same hardships side by side. . . . I sound like a salesman trying to sell my goods, but I guess I'm like all other soldiers, and am proud of the unit I'm in."

Reach Shop on Portable Staircase

THEY MOVE in three trucks. When they set up, the three are backed to each other to form a T, thus making a shop with three wings. You get up to it on a portable staircase.

Outside on the ground tires are stacked all around. One set of soldiers works all day with knives carving out the rubber around the damaged places. Then they take the tire inside, and a machine roughens the edges of the holes so the filling will stick.

Then they mould in fresh rubber and put the tire in one of three baking machines. It's hotter than blazes in there. It takes an hour and 45 minutes to bake each patch so you see they can't turn them out very fast.

They'll repair a tire that has up to six holes, but if it has more than that they send it back to England. A six-hole tire takes 10½ hours of baking. One unit can run off a maximum of about 65 tires daily.

The unit I saw was set up in a former orchard and was so thoroughly camouflaged with nets that you could hardly see it. The officer in charge was Lt. George Schuchardt who has "the Hawkinson tread service" in Nashville, Tenn. His partner is running it while he's away.

His first sergeant is Stephen Hudak of Akron, of all places. He used to work for Firestone. I've been finding more damned square pegs in square holes in this army.

Time to Get Busy

IF YOU HAVE a friend or relative in the armed forces and you intend sending him or her one of those official war ballot applications, you'd better get busy. Time's getting short. For some points in the far Pacific, and even England, there's barely time to complete two round trips—one for the application and the other for the ballot. The applications are obtainable at the secretary of state's office in the statehouse, or at state Republican or Democratic headquarters in the Claypool. However, the service man can obtain a ballot without a formal application. All he has to do is to write the secretary of state asking for a ballot, giving his name and present address, listing his home town voting address, and having the letter certified by a sergeant or a commissioned officer. . . . Arch Grossman tells us the Red Cross appeal for a couple of popcorn machines for Billings hospital at Ft. Harrison brought one very nice machine. It was loaned another for Marko Milatovich, 2501 W. 16th. They still need another for the wounded vets. . . . Lt. Col. Harold (Hap) Meek, Butler football player (end) back in the 'twenties, was in town the other day on business for the marine corps. He received a paper instructing him to designate someone to come to Indianapolis on business. On the paper he wrote his own name.

Crusade Against C. I. Q.

IT IS obvious, from Mr. Dewey's numerous conferences here with various groups, that Republicans will try to make a virtual crusade out of the C. I. Q.'s drive for political power within the framework of the Democratic party.

Governor Dewey drew a rather frightening picture of this political movement in a closed session with a hundred business and financial leaders representing steel, coal, aluminum, electrical equipment and banks. According to one man who was present, the Republican candidate pictured the C. I. Q. as planning to take over war plants after the war and gaining thereby such control that President Roosevelt, if re-elected, would be virtually their servant. This one man at least was horrified. The governor also held up the specter of increasing debt under continued New Deal management, with a consequent increase in taxes.

How far the Republicans still have to go in trying to wean away labor votes from the administration was indicated by the caliber of the labor representatives who were gathered to meet the governor in his general labor conference. They were mostly smaller fry, largely A. F. of L. with only three or four minor C. I. Q. representatives. Governor Dewey held a separate meeting with representatives of the United Mine Workers, John L. Lewis' union which is a powerful political factor in Pennsylvania.

War Front Troop Rotation Speedup Implied by Stimson

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Secretary of War Stimson yesterday spelled out the present war department plan for returning soldiers home from combat areas.

The program was outlined in a letter to Rep. Louis Ludlow (D. Ind.), author of a bill to return all soldiers on furloughs after 18 months service overseas. Pointing out that those soldiers who are returned here are selected by the commanding general in the theater of operations, Secretary Stimson wrote:

"I might observe, however, that there is no set period of duty on foreign service before a soldier may be returned to the United States, the governing criterion being military requirements, the nature of the soldier's duties and similar factors which are entirely local in character."

More Shipping Space

"It may be helpful to explain the procedures involved in the return of soldiers from overseas. As you know, the war department has never questioned the desirability of returning men to the United States who have served overseas for long periods. The fact is, the matter has been under constant study since the war began.

"Until recently, however, the lack of shipping space has been an insurmountable obstacle, but the shortage is now partially remedied and has permitted the liberalization of our rotation policies.

"Units and individuals within each overseas theater are constantly rotated from combat duty to rest areas, and subject to shipping limitations, theater commanders have authority to select individuals in their commands for return to the United States.

In Preferred Status

"Among the soldiers now being returned are battle-trained officers and enlisted men to act as instructors and aid in the formulation of new training doctrines and techniques; those who require medical attention unavailable overseas, or whose physical condition warrant their return; and those returned for emergency reasons.

"We also are implementing personnel rotation policies for most overseas areas and plan to extend and increase these rotations as rapidly as circumstances permit. However, it is impracticable, as well as incongruous from the instructional standpoint, to remove entire units from an active theater of war.

"As the situation now stands, soldiers in Alaska and the Carib-

The Indianapolis Times

SECOND SECTION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1944

PAGE 9

Hitler Fights Long-Time Plot by Army Leaders

The Corporal vs. The Generals . . .



Can Hitler stop . . .

By CURT REISS

Written for NEA Service

Whatever the final official version of the bomb assault against the fuhrer, whether or not he can prove that a clique of high-ranking officers was involved in a plot to kill him, one thing is certain; the military leaders of Germany have for a long time been opposed to Hitler, and Hitler has known all along of this opposition. This opposition began even before Hitler came to power. On the evening of

January 29, 1933, Hindenburg, president of the German republic, was consulting with a few party leaders of the extreme right to determine whether or not he should appoint Adolf Hitler, leader of the strongest party in the reichstag, as German chancellor.

Into this meeting, like a bombshell, fell the news that Gen. Kurt von Schleicher, army minister and at that time chancellor, had mobilized a number of regiments in Potsdam and was about to march on Berlin. It was an attempt to prevent Hitler's appointment, and it was said that a considerable number of generals were on the side of Schleicher.

March Frustrated
Hindenburg acted fast. Within a few hours he not only appointed Hitler chancellor, but saw to it that Gen. von Blomberg, a friend of the fuhrer, became army minister. Blomberg, in turn, immediately swore in a number

of high-ranking officers. Thus Schleicher's march against Berlin was frustrated. Hitler became chancellor of Germany, and the first collision between him and the army had been successfully avoided.

For more than a year the Nazis were drunk with triumph. In particular Hitler's storm troops, the S. A. acted as though the country belonged to them.

The leader of the S. A., Capt. Roehm, hoped that eventually the men would be incorporated into the army, with himself in a key post. Army leaders were definitely opposed to this, considering the storm troops gangsters. There was friction between these irregular troops and army units.

No Monocles Wanted

The army leaders were particularly angry when the chief of the Berlin S. S. Karl Ernst, told them that if the army wished to inspect the S. A., they should send an officer who did not wear a monocle. This was an intentional slap in the army's face. Most of the high-ranking officers, among them the commander-in-chief, Gen. von Fritsch, wore monocles.



... the high military caste that marches against him?

Curt Reiss forecast the present upheaval in Germany two years ago, in his book entitled "The Self-Betrayed: Glory and Doom of the German Generals." He formerly edited one of Berlin's leading dailies, and has written 15 books and hundreds of articles on Nazi Germany, all of them carefully documented by first-hand evidence that he and his well-trained research staff have obtained. In three revealing and dramatic articles, of which this is the first, he presents the truth behind the attempted assassination of Adolf Hitler.

Finally, the army demanded a showdown. Gen. Ludwig Beck, chief of the general staff and intellectual leader of the generals' clique, demanded that the S. A. disappear and its most prominent officers be thrown out.

At that time—it was in the spring of 1934—Hitler was still dependent on the good graces of the army. He had to give in. The result was the famous blood purge of June 30, 1934, in which Roehm and a large number of other S. A. officers were killed.

Double Cross Generals
But though Hitler had to accommodate the generals, he was able to double cross them in part and also revenge himself. For among those killed during the blood purge were Gen. von Schleicher, his old enemy, and Gen. von Bredow, chief of the army intelligence for his opposition to the Nazis.

Still, for almost four years following the blood purge, the army controlled Hitler almost completely. There was some friction.

Gen. von Rundstedt once, in May 1935, was about to lead a revolt against Hitler, but at the last minute thought better of it and had his co-conspirators arrested.

Gen. Beck was radically opposed to Hitler's invasion of the militarized Rhineland because he figured that, if the French marched, the German army could not possibly defend itself. But Hitler refused all these demands.

He had to let von Blomberg go, but used this to tighten his control of the army. He had no idea of letting the luftwaffe fall under the influence of the generals. He called their bluff, and when they walked out, let them go. He knew that if he called them back, they would come.

Hitler Refuses

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The only one he didn't want was his commander-in-chief, von Fritsch. The one he wanted back most, but had most difficulty in persuading to return was Gen. Beck, chief of the general staff.

The chief of the general staff retired a second time, this time for good, after the Munich conference. Beck knew that Hitler would not keep the pact of Munich; that he would take Prague; would demand Polish territory; and that sooner or later a world war would be the consequence of the fuhrer's ever-increasing demands.

Beck, who had done more to build up the German army than any other general, who had devised most of the plans later used by Hitler, knew that the German army could not be victorious in a long-drawn-out war of attrition.

At first events seemed to prove that Hitler was right and Beck wrong. The German army overran half a dozen countries. On July 19, 1940, after the successful French campaign, Hitler made his leading generals field marshals, covering them with decorations—and it looked as though the peace between him and these generals would be a final one.

Russia Grew Stronger

But it only looked that way. Hardly 15 months later, on October 15, 1941, the leading German generals knew that they could not win the war.

They knew it that early because the time-table of the Russian conquest had not been kept.

The Russian army, far from being crushed, became stronger day by day. England's strength, too, was increasing and it was only a question of time until America entered the war. Something must be done, the generals decided.

The conspiracy against Hitler was on.

NEXT: Hitler's "Intuition" Is Put to Grim Test.

SUITS-DILLON POST RE-ELECTS FIELDS

Richard C. Fields has been re-elected commander of the Suits-Dillon Post 193, American legion of Monrovia, it was announced today. Others named on the election slate are:

Mr. Hinchaw, 1st vice commander; R. M. Ward, 2d vice commander; Joseph G. M. Ward, 3d vice commander; M. E. Fields, publicity; Morris Chouinard, world war II; Mr. Ward, athletic; Mr. Pointer, child welfare; Mr. Marley, membership; Mr. McCracken, oratorical; and Mr. Hinchaw, laws of legion. Richard Fields, Mr. Pointer and Mr. Marley will be the post's delegates to the state convention this month.

STAMP CLUB TO MEET

The Indiana Stamp club will meet at 7:45 p. m. Friday at the Antlers hotel.

Up Front With Mauldin

The policy will be liberalized as far as the fortunes of war, available shipping and other factors permit. Secretary Stimson said, and concluded:

Victory First Objective

"Our primary mission must continue to be the successful conclusion of the war as promptly as possible, with the least expenditure of life and property. Any fixed requirement which would affect the return of individuals or organizations to the United States after certain specified periods of service overseas would result only in the absorption of our facilities and manpower in the movement of large numbers of troops without compensating increases in effective strength through the various theaters."

"Moreover, the adverse effect of such a policy upon military strategy and projected tactical operations would result in an inexcusable and expensive delay in the date of final victory."

PENSION PARTY PLANNED

Indiana Old Age Pension Plan group 3, will sponsor a card party at 8 p. m. tomorrow at the McKinley clubhouse, 2217 E. Michigan st.

O. E. S. TO INITIATE

Lawrence chapter, 384, O. E. S., will hold a meeting and initiation at 8 o'clock tomorrow night. Mrs. Faye Reibel is worthy matron.

AUXILIARY TO MEET

The Ladies auxiliary and canton, Indianapolis 2, will meet at 8 o'clock tomorrow night at the I. O. O. F. hall, 437 Prospect st. Anna B. Gaynor is president and Everett E. Downey is captain.

PRICES TO RISE FOR POTATOES, SPINACH

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 (U. P.).—Housewives will pay more for potatoes and canned spinach as a result of two orders issued yesterday by the office of price administration.

The higher potato price, which will amount to about one cent a pound increase during August for potatoes produced in 16 states, was granted to compensate growers for the short crop resulting from drought.

Spinach prices were increased—by about one cent for a No. 2 can—under an initial pricing schedule for the 1944 pack of canned fruits and vegetables. The only other two items involved in the order—canned asparagus and red sour pitted cherries—will remain at the present price level.

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