

COMBAT TROOPS MAY GET LEAVES AFTER V-E DAY

BY ELTON C. FAY
 Washington—(AP)—Many of the combat troops now in Europe probably will visit the folks at home before going to fight in the Orient, but such soldiers as engineers and service men won't.
 This prospect shaped up today from an address by Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell, chief of army service forces.
 The general, in discussing last night the job of redeploying forces after V-E day, mentioned the task of "moving troops back to this country, handling their furloughs, re-equipping them and shipping them to the Pacific." He said also there will be a movement of men and supply direct from Europe to the Orient. And he spoke of the necessity of providing new staging areas and port facilities in the Pacific.
 These references, taken together, apparently present this plan for V-E day: Combat troops generally will be shipped to the United States. If usual practices are followed, many will get about a three-week furlough, then begin moving to the Pacific.
Preparing for Troops
 The general mentioned getting ready to handle troops coming back from Europe "for redeployment or return to their homes."
 There has been speculation about the number of men to be discharged after V-E day, ranging from a 250,000-a-month figure through reports that 1,000 to 2,000 veterans from each division in Europe might be released.
 War department officials insisted today that until the situation in Europe, including the size of the occupation force, is known, it is impossible to make even a rough estimate of this total.
 On the basis of present Pacific battlefronts and apparent trends of the war in the future, it is presumed that combat troops moving out of the United States to fight Japan either in the home islands or on the Asiatic mainland will be staged through advanced Pacific areas, including the Philippines.
Facilities Inadequate
 Although the expanding area of American control in the Philippines provides considerable room into which to send more troops, the area and supply facilities would be inadequate to handle forces running into the millions. For this reason, the Philippines are considered more as a staging and final training area than as a huge base for a thorough re-training of troops.
 Somervell, in referring to the move out of Europe, said that "we must inventory and re-warehouse millions of tons of supplies and equipment."
 War department students of the problem interpret this to mean that except for food, a quantity of trucks and certain heavy engineering equipment, the army intends to pack up and move out a great part of the equipment now in Europe.



GERMANS SURRENDER TO HIM—Pvt. Floyd Smith, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Smith, 531 Birch street, recently told this story at his Sixth army group headquarters in France: "While leading trucks of lumber to a bridge site, I was confronted one day by 12 Germans wishing to surrender. At first I was undecided as to whether to stop or not for we were in a hurry. After going about 200 yards past them, I halted and so did the trucks behind, and we walked back to meet them as they came walking toward us hands raised. It was a pretty strange way to take prisoners." Private Smith usually drives a jeep, which he has named Shirley, in honor of somebody, no doubt. Latest word from him reveals that he is now in Germany, serving with a reconnaissance division of engineers. He has been in the army 19 months, 14 of which have been spent overseas. He wears the Distinguished Unit Badge and four battle stars.

OUR MEN IN SERVICE

Home on leave or furlough as announced by the war price and ration board:
 Pvt. Guy H. Clark, 241 Birch street; Herbert Ebsen, S 1-c, 1630 Eighth street south; William G. Goodness, 1511 Wylie street.

Pfc. Kenneth W. Erdman, whose wife resides at 231 Johnson street, is stationed with the Seventh army in Europe. He will have been overseas two years in June, serving with the 45th Thunderbird division in the field artillery. His mother, Mrs. C. Kronholm, lives at 340 Twelfth avenue north.

Pfc. Bertram Urban, whose wife, Margery, lives at Pittsville, writes that he is now located in Luxembourg, after having been in Belgium and France. He is in the same company as Pfc. Quentin Irwin of Wisconsin Rapids. He is the son of Elmer J. Urban, Wisconsin Rapids.

Pvt. John Barrette, son of Leo J. Barrette, 141 Third avenue north, has been in a hospital in France for the past several weeks. He landed in England last November and went to France about the 20th of January. In the Marianas—
 Pfc. Earl A. Behrend, whose wife, Lucille, lives at 2301 Eighth street south, is stationed with a B-29 force somewhere in the Marianas. He is in the 29th bomb group, Sixth bomb squadron.

Claude A. Wolcott, MM2/c, U.S.S. Peiffer, was recently promoted to that rank from third class machinists mate. He is in the Philippines and participated in the battle for Luzon.
 T/5 Harry J. Clark, son of Mrs. Georgia Clark, Reedsburg, is stationed in the Netherlands East Indies. His wife, Dorothy, lives at 1651 Apricot street.

On Escort Carrier—
 Robert L. Pfeiffer, son of A. L. Pfeiffer, Route 2, Wisconsin Rapids, is aboard the escort carrier U. S. S. Kalinin Bay in the Pacific. He left for overseas about six weeks ago.
 Sgt. Kenneth Keenan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Keenan, Pittsville, is on the island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands. His wife, Mary, lives in Milwaukee.

Sgt. (T/4) Raymond C. Kuehl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kuehl, Route 5, Wisconsin Rapids, has been stationed in the Marianas for the past seven and a half months. He was in the Hawaiians for seven months previous to being transferred to the Marianas. His wife,

Wastepaper Sale Receipts Will Be Used for Veterans

Washington—(AP)—A plan to use funds from wastepaper sales to comfort sick and wounded veterans returning at a rate of more than 30,000 a month was set in motion today.

Sponsored by the American Newspaper Publishers association, the plan is part of a "Double V" paper salvage drive announced last night by Edwin S. Friendly, chairman of the newspaper committee. It was endorsed at campaign-opening ceremonies by spokesmen for the army, navy, WPE, Red Cross, Boy Scouts and women's groups.

The serious threat to war production presented by the lag in paper collections of the last three months was emphasized by Hiland G. Battcheller, WPE's chief of operations, saying the bulk of this salvage goes into munitions containers.

The double-V program—"a V to speed victory and a V to aid veterans"—may prevent the shutdown of paperboard mills which now are running dangerously low on wastepaper stocks, Friendly said.

More than 1100 items used by the Army and Navy are made wholly or partially of wood.

of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Falkosky, 140 Eighteenth avenue south, is serving with a field artillery battalion with the 32nd division in the Philippines.
 Pfc. Fred E. Shidell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dixon Shidell, Vesper, has been transferred to a new base somewhere in the Pacific. He had previously been in the Netherlands East Indies.

Pvt. Earl Kawalske, whose wife, Mildred, lives at 541 Ninth street south, is at an observation post in Germany, where he repairs telephone lines on the fighting front. He is connected with the Ninth army.
 Sgt. Jesse N. Leiser, whose wife lives at 431 Third street south, is now somewhere in the vicinity of Manila. He left for overseas in January, 1944. He is the son of Norman Leiser, Route 3, Wisconsin Rapids. Serving in Belgium—

Pfc. Fred H. Ogden, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. McConville, 522 Fourth avenue north, is now located in Belgium with an engineering group.
 Albert A. Giese, MOMM 3/c, whose wife lives in Neokosa, took part in the battle at Lingayen Gulf in the Philippines in February.

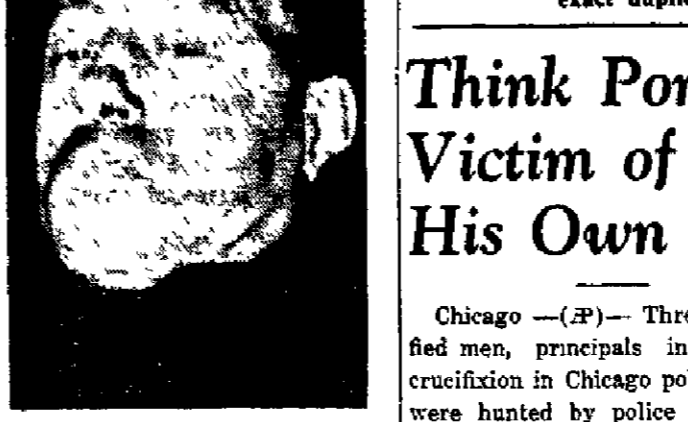
S/Sgt. Leslie A. Heath, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Heath, Babcock, is returning to Australia to attend school in the army transportation corps, following 34 months in Australia and New Guinea. His wife, Dorothy, lives in Babcock.
 Pvt. Charles Olinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Olinger, Sr., is now serving somewhere in France with an anti-aircraft artillery battalion. He has been overseas since June, 1943.

Among those graduating from an intensive course of fire controlman training at recent service schools exercises at Great Lakes, Ill., was Ernest August Kroll, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Kroll, 421 Adam street.
Three Sons in Service
 S-Sgt. R. W. Totzke, whose wife, Irene, resides at 950 Baker street, is now stationed somewhere in Italy. He entered service May 12, 1942 and went overseas in November, 1943, to spend a year in North Africa. A brother, Kenneth R. Totzke, MM 3-c, is now serving in the Philippines, after having been stationed in New Guinea. He entered service December 10, 1942. Still another brother, Harold D. Totzke, GM 3-c, is in the south Pacific. He entered service in November, 1941. All three are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Totzke, 211 Eighth street south.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Krubasek, 811 D street, have been notified by their son, Pvt. Henry Krubasek, that he is now in the Philippines.
 SS/Sgt. Clinton A. Falkosky, son



PORTER FOUND NAILED TO CROSS—Police Capt. Pat O'Connell inspects flag found in home of Fred Walcher, 44-year-old tavern porter discovered by policeman nailed and lashed to nine-foot cross (shown on right) beneath Chicago's "L." On table are crown of thorns found on the victim's head, the sign affixed to the cross and the ropes which lashed Walcher. Act was described as almost an exact duplication of the crucifixion of Christ.



PORTER CRUCIFIED—Fred Walcher on stretcher being taken to hospital after police found him nailed and lashed to cross in Chicago. Spikes were driven through each of his hands, and blood was streaming from a wound in left side.

Flashes of Life

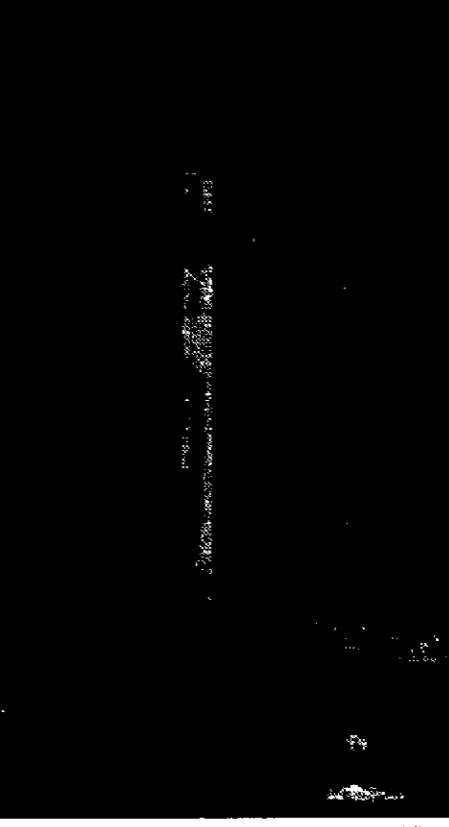
Better Than Golf
 Lockport, N. Y.—(AP)—Edward L. Brand, Buffalo, refused to take any money for speaking before the Lockport Industrial club. He jokingly said he would prefer cigarettes, butter or meat.
 After the meeting, the arrangements committee presented him with a carton of cigarettes, a pound of butter and a roast of beef.

Barking Bank
 Penn Yan, N. Y.—(AP)—"Baron," seven-and-one-year-old English setter pet of Dr. Lyndon W. Potter, veterinarian, has been serving as a canine blood bank for six years. He donates about three pints of blood a year to save the lives of patients ranging from Lap dogs to St. Bernards.

Accident Dividend
 Rockford, Ill.—(AP)—George Frey, Rockford newspaperman, tried but he wasn't successful in avoiding striking the animal which bounded out in front of his automobile on a country road. Further investigation disclosed the traffic victim was a fox, so Frey collected \$11 for the accident, \$5 bounty and \$6 for the pet.

DAVIS MAILED FLAG
 It was S/Sgt. Phillip Davis, rather than Phillip Pelot, who mailed a Nazi flag and some German money to his father, Ray Davis, Route 4, as stated in yesterday's Tribune.

A woodpecker's tongue is longer than its head.



Sgt. James Kingston Back On Active Duty
 Joyce Kingston, Route 1, Wisconsin Rapids, received word yesterday that her husband, Sgt. James E. Kingston, returned to active duty in the European theater February 19. The sergeant had been wounded in the left arm on January 3, in France. He is with the Seventh army.

spikes and a hammer, spread his arms and nailed his hands to the cross. He was found by two passersby on the raised cross, his body supported with a rope lashing and a crown of rose stems on his head. At the county jail hospital attendants reported Walcher's condition as "fine," and said no complications had set in as yet. They expected a quick recovery.

didn't understand that he didn't intend to be the victim."
 Did Not Resist
 Crowley said Walcher told him he did not resist when three men came to his room yesterday morning and told him of the crucifixion. Walcher, said Crowley, had understood the experience was to be painless and one of the men, he said, whispered reassurance. Crowley said Walcher told him he did not know the three men.
 Walcher said he was not alarmed until the men produced two five inch

Think Porter Victim of His Own Idea
 Chicago—(AP)—Three unidentified men, principals in the first crucifixion in Chicago police history, were hunted by police and state's attorney's officers today as they sought to solve the mysterious and weird case.
 Police said they had evidence that Fred Walcher, 46, found yesterday nailed to a huge cross beneath an elevated railway structure, apparently was the victim of his own idea to gain attention for a world peace scheme.
 The officers, said assistant State's Attorney Wilbert F. Crowley, learned that Walcher, Austrian born lens grinder and porter, apparently had offered only "passive resistance" to being nailed to a cross and that he had known a crucifixion had been arranged.
 Utopian Plan
 Crowley said that Walcher related to him that he planned to gain publicity for a Utopian economic plan in which he was interested but he was surprised when he was selected for the role of a martyr to his suggestion of a crucifixion.
 A co-worker in Walcher's universal brotherhood plan, Dr. Emil Bronner, a chemist who was with police in their questioning of Walcher, said Walcher many times had said that a crucifixion was "desirable." Dr. Bronner said that Walcher, in talks at meetings, "always ended by saying that people were so stupid and ignorant that something violent was needed to awaken them. He said a crucifixion would do it."
 "I believe that some men who heard him say these things got so worked up they decided to crucify him. I don't mean they were angry with him; they were as much worked up as he was. They probably

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Retail Sales Volume Gains

New York—(AP)—Retail sales volume continued to expand last week with spring merchandise especially popular, Dun & Bradstreet reported today in its weekly trade review.
 "February business closed with a gain of about 15 to 20 percent above a year ago," the business research firm said. "Although many retailers complain that deliveries are slow, sufficient shipments arrive from day-to-day to maintain a high retail volume."
 Men's wear sales gained moderately even though inventories are about 10 percent below last year. Women's spring apparel volume was high with coats, dresses and sportswear attracting interest.
 Specialty shops had a favorable week. Included among popular items were higher priced dresses, blouses, millinery, shoes and lingerie. Accessories like handbags and gloves moved more slowly. Children's wear business was good.
 House furnishing sales were about even or slightly below a year earlier. Furniture volume declined because of low stocks.
 Food sales were about 5 percent above last year. Shortages, even in meat, do not appear to hold down sales.

Vergato Menaced By Fifth Army From Two Sides

Rome—(AP)—American Fifth army troops, closing in on the Nazi stronghold of Vergato southwest of Bologna, pushed to within a mile of the town from both sides today in gains along the banks of the Reno river.
 Quickly exploiting yesterday's capture of Carviano, the Americans moved north a mile to Sabbion, and got control of all the dominating high ground on the Reno east bank as far as a mile north of Vergato, which has been holding out four months.
 On the west side of the river the doughboys occupied high ground overlooking the town of Africa, one mile west of Vergato, and patrols stabbed into the village itself.
 Farther west, beyond the Bologna-Pistoia highway, troops of the U.S. 10th mountain division fanned out north of captured Monte Torracca but encountered little resistance.

Notice to Parents, Relatives and Friends of Men and Women in the Armed Forces Whose Residence is in The Town of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin

Section 11.90 of the statutes, as reenacted and amended by Chapter 1, Laws of 1945, provides that the clerk of each city, village and town shall compile and maintain an up to date list or register of electors therein who are serving in the armed forces. Such register shall contain the name of the elector and his latest known residence and mail addresses. It shall include all such electors who will become 21 years of age on or before April 3, 1945.
 If you have a son, daughter, husband, relative or friend in the armed forces kindly fill out completely the following form and mail it to the clerk of the town of Grand Rapids in which such a person is a legal voter or will be on April 3, 1945.

Ward _____

Name _____

Military Address _____

Local Address _____ Date of Birth _____

Information Furnished by _____

Address _____

Date _____ Telephone No. _____

WM. CORCORAN, Clerk, Town of Grand Rapids

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