

Camp News

GRATIS TO H.M. FORCES **ARMY, NAVY & AIR FORCE WEEKLY** 8 PAGES PRICE . . 2d.

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Wellington, Friday, November 6, 1942

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 DIG.: At Crown and Anchor!

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AWARDS FOR BRAVERY

Secret Desert Operations

MEMBERS OF LONG RANGE GROUP

The following awards for gallantry
in secret desert operations have been
made to personnel of the N.Z.E.F., all
four being members of the Long Range
Desert Group:—

D.S.O.

Lieutenant (temporary Captain) N.
P. Wilder. Next-of-kin. Mr. R. P.
Wilder (father), Wallingford, Wai
pukurau.

M.M.

Corporal M. Crow. Next-of-kin, Mrs.
E. B. Crow (wife), 334 Ferguson
Street, Palmerston North.

Trooper T. B. Dobson. Next-of-kin,
Miss L. Dobson (sister), c/o Mr. N.
Forbes, Grady Street, Blenheim.

Corporal K. E. Tippett. Next-of-kin,
Mrs. P. L. Tippett (wife), c/o Mrs. H.
Blackburn, Mahoe Street, Te Awa-
mutu.

Captain Wilder went overseas in
April, 1940, with the Second Echelon,
and was promoted to the rank of
lieutenant in Egypt a year later. He
was wounded in September of this
year, and discharged from hospital
about three weeks ago. Captain Wilder
was engaged in farming in civil life,
and is a member of a well-known
Hawke's Bay family.

Corporal Crow sailed for the Middle
East with the Fourth Reinforcements
in December, 1940. He was promoted
to the rank of corporal this
year. Before the war he was engaged
in farming.

Trooper Dobson went overseas as a
member of the First Echelon in January,
1940. He was posted missing in
November, 1941, at Bardia, and was
released, together with a number of
other New Zealand troops, when our
forces captured Bardia in January of
this year. Farm work was his civil
occupation. He was wounded in the
Western Desert in September of this
year.

Corporal Tippett also left New Zea-
land with the First Echelon. His civil
ian occupation was car painter.

Camp News

As this is not an official publication of Army Headquarters of the New Zealand Military Forces, all matters intended for publication should be addressed to The Editor and reach this office not later than 2 p.m. Mondays. Correspondence is invited on topical items of interest. Only business communications should be addressed to the Manager. Extra copies of "Camp News" may be obtained on application to the Manager, "Camp News," 3rd Floor, Whitaker's Buildings, 11 Manners Street, Wellington.

VOL. 3. NO. 147 Wellington, Friday, November 6, 1942

There's not enough Team- work between our Fighting Forces . . .

TOM WINTRINGHAM ON THE WAR

From the "Daily Mirror," Sept., 1941.

An army is a team. The British Army is already a team; and, as each month goes by, it becomes less "wooden-soldier" and more like a good team.

Its forwards and halves work well together, know each others' jobs and "feed" each other.

But other parts of the team are a bit "sticky."

In July of last year I got the chance to see a good deal of the Army, and to talk with many officers and men.

Last month and this month, on a similar scale, I have had the chance to look at other units of the Army, visiting ten or a dozen in a week.

My main impression is that there has been an immense improvement.

Of course, there are more arms, more transport, and more of almost everything an army needs. But there is also a great deal more knowledge, skill and general idea of how to fight.

New ideas have been developed that are ahead of anything I was thinking or saying last year.

Take, for instance, the idea of battle drill, about which I wrote some weeks ago.

Essentially, the idea is that each "team" of infantry plays or practices together until each man knows his place in the team and how he fits in with his team-mates.

This battle-drill — like a football team's practice — starts off with each man in exactly his correct position.

The "forwards" are properly placed and the "halves" just behind them. But the men taking part in it are not held down to any rigid positions, or fixed relation to others; sometimes a "half back" will be up with his forwards, sometimes far back near his own goal.

Centre forward and inside right can swap places during a dash forward — and so on.

So far so good; now for the criticism.

A team that practises but never plays gets stale. The Army as a whole — or at any rate the bits of it I have seen or heard about — is fed up with inaction.

Some people say it needs more training before it tackles the Nazis. I would like to see a lot more training (and some altered training for some units).

But not now. More training, how-

ever good, will only make men more fed up, more "browned-off."

Next criticism: The Army is a team, but only within limits.

It trains in water-tight compartments too much. The forwards and halves train together, get to know each other, and co-operate; but they seldom see the full backs or the goalie.

One battalion, I found, could get tanks and artillery to "play" with it. Another week it would have a "scheme" with tanks and planes. A third week it would get together with planes and artillery.

It could quite often, in this way, practise war with two out of three of its supporting arms. But it had never once had the luck to practise with all three together.

I believe the need for action is, today, the British Army's greatest need.

But the next thing it needs — of almost equal importance — is that it should develop team-work to a higher level than most divisions have yet achieved.

And, particularly, team work between infantry units, of all sizes, and all the other arms that work with the infantry.

In this the Air Force are still the biggest difficulty. They are doing what they think of as "their own job" so supremely well that it is hard to write anything that sounds like a criticism of them.

But it is a fact that we shall never score the success that matters while the R.A.F. stick to "their own job" and treat co-operation with the Army as a side issue.

The Germans, everyone knows, have won in past campaigns largely because their air force acts like fast-raiding wing forwards in close partnership with their gunners and rifle-men and tanks — the rest of the team.

The British people have always been good at teamwork.

The Navy, in scores of expeditions throughout the whole world, has set an example for the last hundred and fifty years in the way one arm — independent, and proud of it — can serve and nurse and work with another arm, the Army.

It can do that again, and is doing it.

When we have all three arms working perfectly together, Navy, Army and Air Force, we shall be twice our present strength.



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BRITISH LEADERS WHO PLAN THE COMBINED OPERATIONS RAIDS ON ENEMY-OCCUPIED TERRITORY.—At Combined Operations Headquarters before a discussion of operation (L. to R.): Group Captain A. H. Willets, D.S.O., Rear-Admiral G. E. Horan, D.S.C., Major-General J. C. Haydon, D.S.O., O.B.E., Chief of Combined Operations, Lord Louis Mountbatten, G.C.V.O., D.S.O., Air Vice-Marshal J. M. Robb, C.B., D.S.O., D.F.C., A.F.C., Brigadier G. E. Wildman-Lushington (Royal Marines), and Commander R. M. Ellis, D.S.O.



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No. 8.

NAZI QUIZ

What did Hitler's parents say on the day he was born?
They didn't say anything—they just wagged their tails.

* * * * *

AID AND COMFORT

One of the mail censors in Bermuda examined a large envelope addressed to a lady in Berlin. He opened it and found a pair of silk panties. His superior officer ordered it to be confiscated immediately. An American observer suggested, "Why not let it go on to Lisbon? After all it's only a pair of panties." "This is total war," the officer explained, "and this comes under the heading of 'Aid and Comfort to the enemy'."

* * * * *

HUSH HUSH

Thirty days hath September,
Usually reliable sources report;
Also April June and November,
It is hinted in semi-official quarters.

All the rest, to-day's communique reveals,
Have thirty-one;
Save February, which
According to informants who cannot be named
But have hitherto proved trustworthy
Has (two words censored).

* * * * *

FROM THE INVERCARGILL FRONT
Extracts from a letter written in thanksgiving for a present:

"How extremely kind of you to send me that case of whiskey. I have never tasted such marvellous whiskey in my life. I have never tasted such marvellous whiskey and I keep on tasting it.

"The whiskey you sent me is marvellous, I keep tasting it, and how kind of you to send this wondrous whiskey which I keep taching.

"It's really mosh kind of you to keep sending me thish whiskey in cases which I keep tashing and tashing hie dock dickery dock.

"What kind whishky ole man how ex thash extremely marvellous to tash you greatt fine ud thathank you ole for extraeta estrem whwhaishy inin ain cashease 60&&&& XX kisses (4½ youfo C H eeri oo OOOO £%½8g."

* * * * *

CAUTIONARY TALE

The chief delight of Thomas Bunyan Is eating lots and lots of onion. And yet unlike his next-door neighbour, He thinks to grow them too much labour.

Thus, as he treads his virgin lawns, The humble garden plot he scorns, While, mindful of his family's needs, His prudent neighbour tends his seeds.

When Jonesie Rode the Colonel's Mare

The Colonel's mare had thrown a shoe
So he called on Shorty Jones
To take her in and have her shod
Ere she brusied her feet with stones.

Now Shorty was a horsey man,
He'd ridden at many a fair;
But he'd never had the chance before
To ride a Colonel's mare.

So down he went to the vacant lot
Where the Colonel's mare is grazed;
He slipped the saddle and bridle on,
The boys just stood and gazed.

For they had come to see the fun,
As Shorty was aware,
And they weren't disappointed
When he rode the Colonel's mare.

Now "The Champ" she was a knowing horse,
For the Colonel trained her well,
She reads the morning paper
And the time of day can tell.

Sure she wouldn't move a single step,
Although she knew the route,
Till the boys came to attetnion,
And gave the correct salute.

Poor Jonesie he looked worried,
His nerves were in a state,
For once again the mare did stop
As they approached the gate.

He did his best to make her go
But she wouldn't move a yard,
And refused to pass the sentry box
'Till they turned out all the guard.

Well Shorty is quite satisfied
He'd rather tend the phone
Than take her to the blacksmith's shop,
And have to bring her home.

Except in a rocking chair,
He says he will not ride again,
'Cause you have to know your Army Regs.
To ride the Colonel's mare.

—J.P.

GRADE 3 SERVICEMEN Rehabilitation Benefits

The position of servicemen who are posted as Grade III and placed on leave without pay and their eligibility for rehabilitation benefits were discussed by the Dominion executive committee of the N.Z.R.S.A. at a recent meeting. It appeared that as Grade III service men were liable to be called up for further military duties, and that as considerable numbers, both from overseas and home defence, were in the Grade III category, injustice would be done unless rehabilitation benefits were made available to those men.

Advice had now been received, said the association yesterday, that the Rehabilitation Board would consider applications from Grade III men and that there was no difficulty in the way of such men receiving loans or grants under the Rehabilitation Act.

The Autumn comes; for weary weeks Poor Tom must be content with leeks, And onionless, in living death, Is taunted by his neighbour's breath.

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INCREASINGLY BUSY

A.N.A. Report Reveals Interesting Figures

Overwhelmingly large crowds of men and women of the forces made full use of the facilities offered at all the service clubs throughout the weekend. An essential service, that of providing a place where they can relax and feel at home when on leave in Wellington, is being furnished, and club committees, hostesses and cafeteria helpers are continually reorganizing and expanding activities to meet the heavy hospitality demands.

The Army, Navy and Air Force Club is an extremely busy centre, and a gratifying report has recently been received from the club's treasurer, Mr. C. G. Thomas. It discloses that during the past month 12,789 hot meals, 3204 teas, and 7142 suppers were served. No record is taken of Sunday suppers, as there is no charge on that night. The report also shows that the attendances are steadily increasing every succeeding month.

The ballroom and annexe were crowded on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. During the week voluntary musicians providing dance music were Sergeant Trevor Powell, Driver Walter Penman, Mesdames Allen and Dickson, Messrs. L. Chalker and L. Cunningham. The cafeteria committee wishes to thank the following donors:—Case of provisions, Women's Home Guard, Patea, per Mrs. F. Broker; fortnightly gift of ham, T. H. Walker and Sons, Hawera; box of jam, Timi W.D.F.U., per Mesdames E. F. Pain and Ashworth; carcasses of sheep, Te Aroha station, Havelock North, and Anonymous, Wellington; vegetables, Hutt Valley W.W.S.A., per Mrs. L. Pickard; monetary donation, A.N.A. helpers, Marton, per Mrs. S. Simpson.

Former guests of the British Sailors' Society have, on returning to England, been generous in their praise of the welcome accorded them when they were in the Dominion, and this week the society received a letter from its London headquarters expressing admiration for the work of Wellington members, and the promise of a cinesound film projector as a mark of appreciation. Thirty-four seamen were taken by ferry to Day's Bay on Saturday afternoon, and accommodation was taxed to capacity for the concert held on Saturday night. Items were given by Misses R. Thompson and D. Glenn, and Mr. Matheson, of the Tin Hat Club, and Mr. F. Rillstone contributed special numbers. Mr. L. Jackson took the Sunday service, and Misses M. McCallum and N. Fenton were the hostesses.

The largest dance since the Victory Club's inception was held on Saturday night. M.C.'s were Staff-Sergeant R. Sloan and Gunner J. Marshall, and Messrs. Wade and Henderson were on duty. Miss K. McDonald entertained with a skipping dance, and Ngaire Slack and Jack Marshall played the extras. Prizes were won by Marjorie Pegrar and

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Saturdays 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Sundays 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Corporal L. Baird, Anne McCulloch and L/Ac. Ross Thornton, and Pamela Coxhead and C/O Ken Andrews. Official hostesses were Mrs. C. W. Anderson, Misses N. Sparkes, and May Morton. Servicemen expressed their appreciation of the delicious teas and savoury suppers served at the Cinderella Club. Mr. T. Duncan played for dancing on Sunday afternoon, and Mrs. Allan's orchestra supplied popular music in the evening. The club wishes to thank the Petone Land Group for gifts of vegetables, and would be grateful for the loan or gift of an electric fan for the summer months.

Instead of the usual Sunday concert, a social evening, combining music and community singing, was held yesterday at the Toc H Club. The lounge was decorated with flowers, given by club well-wishers, and supper was served by a team of voluntary helpers. Friday's dance drew guests from all branches of the services, many of whom took advantage of the dancing tuition given by the girls on duty. Others who did not dance found amusement in the lounge, where a variety of games were at their disposal. Thanks are extended to those who sent donations, and further contributions in the form of produce or flowers would be most acceptable.

More than 500 service people were present at a traditional Hallowe'en party and dance convened at the Y.W.C.A. on Friday by members of the Business Girls' Lyceum and the Old Collegians' Club, who wish to thank all the voluntary helpers who gave assistance. The Y.F.H. entertained on Saturday, and 60 men and girls went on a "mystery hike" in Wilton's bush yesterday morning. Cafeteria helpers included members of the Methodist Choir, and the Business and Professional Women's Club, supper being supplied by the Wadestown Presbyterian Church. The Rev. R. Thornley took the service, which was followed by the Young Pretenders' Drama Club programme, "Let the People Sing." Vegetables to help the weekend menus were gratefully received by the kitchen committee from the Karori, Lower Hutt, and Russell Terrace W.W.S.A. land groups.

LIFE AT EL ALAMEIN

Wellington Soldier's Pen Picture

Writing from the El Alamein line in August, Sergeant J. Armstrong, Wellington, gives a picture of life there before the present advance.

"We have now been here for eight weeks, a long time for front-line troops, and for the last fortnight or so it has been very quiet," he says. "We have advanced two or three times, and now hold high ground, but generally it is a bit of a stalemate. The infantry have done some marvellous

Everyman's Hut

THE PATHS OF YESTERDAY.

I trod again the paths of yesterday,
The paths I knew before I went away;
I walked once more the road I walked before;
But no one came to greet me as of yore,
For they had gone, my friends of other days,
And I was left to muse upon life's ways.

I saw again the scenes of long ago,
My yesterdays when I, with heart aglow,
Looked out upon the future, all unknown,
And felt the arm of God around me thrown;
When destiny called loudly at my door,
And I, responding, followed on before.

My dreams, ambitions, visions of the past,
Again they came and o'er my spirit cast
A spell of mystic sweetness, hope and love,
Like angels singing softly from above,
I saw the forms of those I used to know,
And heard again their voices, soft and low.

—Oswald J. Smith.

As we gaze at the distant views,
Their harsh features are smoothed and softened to a pleasing beauty, which gradually dispels as we come closer.

"Distance lends enchantment to the view," the poet has written, and those things which seem unattainable appear to be the most desirable. Forbid a child to touch green apples and to the young mind one bite of the hard green fruit seems more to be desired than the sweetest, juiciest one that can be had for the asking.

And as our minds wander back over

work. They are the best in the world without a doubt. After we put down a barrage for them to go in under we hear what they have to advance against, yet they always get there. . . .

"Our biggest worry are the flies—millions of 'em. The ground we are on is very foul, through having been fought over for the last six days, and the dead bodies lying around helped the flies to breed. Sometimes they nearly drive one mad. We have been issued a special hood to wear over the face to keep the flies away. While one has to use one hand to eat with, the other goes into action to keep off the marauding flies. We have rigged up fly-traps, laid poison, and indulge in vigorous swatting, and believe that we are slowly getting them down. . . . We do a bit of digging to keep fit, and do some shelling periodically. The rumble of guns can be heard all the time up and down the line, and sometimes at night the whole line can be detected by the flicker of gunfire.

"We have the Maoris near us, great lads, who are having the time of their lives. They have captured a German gun, and blaze away with it when they can raise the ammunition. . . . One of the funniest things seen during a recent attack of infantry was an Italian, with a shirt on only, being chased by a Maori armed with a bayonet. Phar Lap could not have caught them. Being a gunner, the Maori did not know how to use a bayonet to the best advantage; so, when he got back, they handed him a Tommy gun. We can now look back and laugh at some of the incidents that happened, but actually these attacks are the most terrifying things one could wish to see.

"Our food is quite good, as fresh meat and vegetables are coming in now, and about three times a week we can buy a few cans of beer, so we are not doing so badly. Nights are the most pleasant time. We boil the billy just before dark, make a piece of toast, and sit round the fire to smoke and yarn. We never get a full night's sleep, as the guns have to be manned by one unit or other all through the night, so it is a matter of dropping off and waking up all the time, but it does not seem to affect us. . . . The mornings and evenings are the usual late periods when we fling a few shells at one another, but during the day, due to the heat haze, visibility is very poor, and we try to get some sleep."

the dead and gone years, the memories that revive, and the scenes which pass before us are more tender, more beautiful than ever they were in reality. The mellowing haze of time clothes that which was hard and unpleasant with a soft beauty which is pleasant to dwell upon. Now we look back from the vantage point of knowledge and we understand the meaning of many things which at the time was hidden from us. The fears and tears of childhood's days now fill us with quiet amusement as we see how groundless, how needless they were. Now we see all those things in their true perspective. What seemed such an important thing then, is now known to have been a very trivial affair after all. How much worry and anxiety we might have been spared if only we could have seen what the purpose of things was.

And have we not a lesson to learn from all this? "Men are but children of a larger growth." If we are spared for another generation, to see today's events in their true proportions and perspective, will we laugh at our many fears, will we marvel at our lack of understanding, our lack of faith which prevents us grasping the purpose behind all these events? Gold cannot be refined except it pass through the crucible. The dross in our natures cannot be eliminated except by purging. Is the purging to be of no effect? Are our crucible experiences going to refine us? If we will just leave ourselves in the Master's hand to be treated as He knows we need to be, then all will be well. The experiences will last just as long as is necessary for our good and no longer.

FREE FISHING

Servicemen In Rotorua For Treatment

Returned New Zealand servicemen receiving treatment for sickness or wounds in Rotorua have been granted free licences for the trout fishing season which opened in the lakes and streams of the Rotorua acclimatization district yesterday. The Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr. Parry, stated last night that a number of the men in the Rotorua hospital, whose condition of health had much improved, desired to indulge in the sport. A similar gesture last trout-fishing season was much availed of and appreciated.

Diner: Look here, miss! I had a portion of chicken, and I've been charged for a whole bird.

Waitress: I'm sorry, sir, but it's the custom in this establishment.

Diner: Then it's a good job I didn't order steak.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

Instructions as to the insertion or withdrawal of advertisements in the "Camp News" must be in writing. Advertisements received without such instructions will be inserted until countermanded and charged accordingly.

Alterations to standing advertisements should be handed in by 12 noon each Monday.

While every care is exercised in regard to the insertion of advertisements, the Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for errors or non-insertion through accident or from other causes.

All business communications should be addressed to the Manager. Letters to the Editor, News Items, etc., to the Editor.

We cannot be held responsible for errors in advertisements transmitted by telephone.

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